

ST. NICHOLAS PARISH

24252 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637 www.st-nicholaschurch.org Parish office (949) 837-1090 • School of Religious Education (949) 837-7676

Our Parish Mission Statement

St. Nicholas Parish is a Catholic community, celebrating our faith through the Sacraments, Liturgy, Prayer and Service. We strive to nurture family life and to create one body out of many in the Lord.

We share the Good News with people of all ages, cultures and faith backgrounds.

Adopted July, 1996

CLERGY

Parochial Administrator Rev. Martin Bui

Parochial Vicar Rev. Phuong Nguyen In-Residence Bishop Thanh Nguyen Visiting Priest Rev. Chin Dang

Deacon Gerardo de Santos Deacon Carlos Pineda

Deacon Chau Tran

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 9AM (English)

Saturday: 8:30AM (English)

Saturday Vigil: 4PM (English), 6PM (Spanish)

Sunday: 7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM (English)

5PM (Vietnamese)

Holy Day Vigil: 4PM (English), 6PM (Spanish)

Holy Days: 7AM, 9AM,12PM (English)

7PM (Vietnamese)

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Wednesdays 6:00 PM Saturdays 9:00 AM

BAPTISM

Contact the Parish Office for Baptism scheduling and information.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements must begin at least six months in advance with a priest of the parish.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call Parish Office in an emergency. Special Service celebrated in fall/spring as announced.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

At the death of a family member, please call the Parish Office at your earliest convenience to plan for the Mass of Christian Burial.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Sunday: 8:30AM - 12:30PM; Monday - Friday: 8:30AM - 12:00PM, 1:00PM - 5:00PM

Parochial Administrator's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

There have always been two views of the Church: one exclusive, the other inclusive. The exclusive view holds that the Church is for good people, for the fully committed. In the inclusive view, the Church must be open to all, to the hot, the cold and the lukewarm, to saints and sinners. For some, the presence of sinners in the Church is a cause of scandal. If they had their way, only saints would be admitted. The issue of sinners in the Church was a big one for the early Church too. So how did they approach it? Some were for weeding sinners out. But others turned to the example of Jesus for guidance.

First of all, they had his practice to guide them. Not only did he not exclude sinners, he welcomed them. He declared that he had come, not to call the just, but sinners to repentance. Then they had his teaching to guide them. The parable about the field in which wheat and weeds grow together until the harvest was a response to this very question. Human beings are complex. They can't be divided into the good and the bad, as though they were two completely separate classes of people. There is no line you can draw which would neatly separate the good from the bad. Any such line would go right through each human heart, for there is good and evil in every heart.

All of us are a mixture of good and bad. The people we call "good" may have terrible things in the-mood swing of recklessness, assertion, jealousy, sin. And so-called 'bad' people may have in them sorrow, repentance, pity, and sacrifice. So what should we do? As far as for ourselves are concerned, the best thing we can do is to take a good look into our own field. If we find some weeds there, and no doubt we will, there is no law that says we cannot get rid of them. If we try to do so, we will discover what a painful process this is. As far as for others are concerned, we should try to act towards them as Jesus acted. Isn't it strange that Jesus who had no trace of weed in him could be so understanding towards those who failed to measure up? Why didn't he weed out Judas? And why didn't he weed out Peter? He saw the weeds in Peter's life, but he saw the wheat too, the goodness. Jesus knew that with encouragement the wheat would prevail. And sure it did.

The Church can do no better than to imitate her Founder. It has to be big enough and loving enough to hold sinners in the fold. If it did not do so, it would not be the Church of Christ. A Church that admitted only saints would make about as much sense as a hospital that admitted only people who are well, or a repair shop that accepted only things that are whole. The Church is not a museum for saints, but a school for sinners. The Church is a temple with a hundred gates, and pilgrims enter from every angle. Through every door, and from all kinds of paths, we enter the house of God every Sunday. Ours is not a Church for those who feel good, but for those who know they are not. God is a lot more tolerant than we are. Today's first reading says of God, "You are lenient to all... mild in your judgment... you govern with great lenience." While we distinguish clearly between good and evil, we must aim at being as understanding and tolerant as God is. The time for judgment is not yet. The Kingdom of God is still at the growing stage. Now is the time for conversion. People can change. We can change too.

Fr. Martin Bui, Parochial Administrator

WEEKLY DONATIONS SUMMARY

	Week of	Week of	
	July 10-16, 2023	July 10-16, 2022	
Envelopes	\$9,355.00	\$8,414.53	
Loose	\$3,816.00	\$3,490.50	
Electronic	\$2,573.76	\$2,459.96	
Total	\$15,744.76	\$14,364.99	

We invite you to consider using electronic/online giving, a convenient and secure way to make your donations. To do so, you may go to the parish website or call the office for assistance in setting it up. Thank you for supporting our parish!

PASTORAL SERVICES APPEAL 2023 UPDATE

Congratulations, again, on reaching our Diocesan assigned PSA goal of \$110,000! Any pledge moving forward will be returned to St. Nicholas as a rebate. We received our first rebate check in June. As previously announced, our plan for the rebate funds is to do a major upgrade to our church sound system, which is old and faulty. Our hope is to take in a total of \$210,000, which would be \$100,000 above the Diocesan goal, thereby providing sufficient funds to pay for the sound system project. For those who have not yet pledged, know that your donations will come directly to St. Nicholas and will be used for this project. Thank you for your generosity!

UPDATED PSA NUMBERS: Number of donors: 244 Amount pledged: \$161,566 Amount received: \$143,859

Mass Intentions for the Week			
Sunday: 7:30 AM	Bernadita Bagnol	(D)	
9:00 AM	Emmanuel Aquino Virginia & Adolfe Ernestine Mercier Russell Oey	(L) (L) (D) (D)	
11:00 AM	For the Parish		
Monday: 9:00 AM	Robert Tawara	(D)	
<u>Tuesday</u> : 9:00 AM	Robert Allingham	(D)	
<u>Wednesday</u> : 9:00 AM	Alex Almeda Eryka Williams Bo Nguyen Vu Shelli Jeanne Rycraft-Strizzi	(L) (L) (D) (D)	
Thursday: 9:00 AM	Julia Rodriguez & Marcela Magan	(D) (D)	
Friday: 9:00 AM	Ted & Bea Chrisman	(D)	
Saturday: 8:30 AM	Tess Gargantiel	(D)	
4:00 PM 6:00 PM	Coleman Wallace Renty Rita Fuentes	(D) (D)	

We remember all our recently deceased who have entered their new and eternal life in Christ, especially Santina "Tina" Ciminio. Grant to all our dearly departed, eternal rest, O Lord, and may your light shine on them forever.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Monday: St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest

Tuesday: St. James, Apostle

Wednesday: Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of

the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday: Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading: And you taught your people, by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind; and you gave your children good ground for hope that you would permit repentance for their sins. (Wis 12:19)

Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving. (Ps 86)

Second Reading: The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. (Rom 8:26)

Gospel: "Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, 'First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn." (Mt 13:30)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-

10, 15-16 (5a)/Rom 8:26-27/

Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4,

5-6/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab,

2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19,

23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9

Thursday: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn

3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-

17

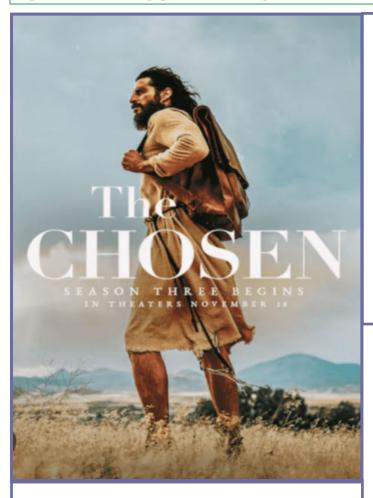
Friday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/

Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-

15/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 (97a)/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46



A MUST-SEE SERIES!

Tuesdays, August 1 - September 19 9:45am -11:30am, Rm. 201 - Parish Center

This summer, Adult Faith Formation invites everyone to view *Season 1 of The Chosen (8 episodes)*, followed by discussion. Join us on Tuesdays after the 9:00am Mass, upstairs in the Parish Center.

The series is about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the 1st century, the series centers on Jesus and the different people who met and followed or otherwise interacted with him.

The Chosen stays true to the details that are in the text of the New Testament but takes artistic license to fill in the many blanks where the text does not go into detail, but this artistic license is all feasible considering the details that are provided. NO NEED TO PREREGISTER, JUST SHOW UP.

UNA SERIE QUE NO SE DEBE DE PERDER LO INVITAMOS A VERLA!

Este verano la oficina de Formación de Fe para Adultos invita a todos a mirar la serie de "Los Elegidos". Después participaremos en una discusión sobre el episodio con grupos pequeños. La serie trata sobre la vida y el ministerio de Jesús de Nazaret. Ambientada principalmente en Judea y Galilea en el siglo I. La serie se centra en Jesús y las diferentes personas que lo conocieron y siguieron o interactuaron con él.

Acompáñenos los sábados después de la Santa Misa de 6pm el 5,12,19 de agosto y el 2,16, 30 de septiembre, salón 201, 7pm. Todos son bienvenidos, los esperamos.



Direction for Our Times (A.k.a. ~ A.R.K.)

The Rescue Mission

Welcome to the Lay Apostolate of Jesus Christ the Returning King. We serve Jesus by saying "yes" to Him each day in our duties. We serve Jesus by cooperating with Him in process of personal holiness. Jesus never leaves us but sometimes we leave Him. We, as lay apostles, strive to remain with Jesus more completely in each moment so that He can use us to bring light to others.

If you struggle with any of a number of human challenges, and you want guidance, please check out the pamphlets in the main vestibule.

A.R.K. INVITATION

A.R.K. (Apostles of the Returning King) invites you to be part of the "Rescue Mission for Souls", helping Catholic-Christians to find peace and guidance during these turbulent times.

We will gather monthly to share the rosary and review guidance messages here at the parish, which is a potent form of "small-church community". We will meet on the first Friday each month at 10am, Room C (library). For more information about resources for A.R.K., call Peggy O'Donnell, 949-500-0826; or Anne Timossi at 949-294-3215 or go to www.directionforourtimes.com

Parents, sign up your children to learn about God with great music and fun activities. **SIGN UP NOW, SPACE LIMITED!**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) 2023

St. Nicholas Church, July 31, August 1, 2, 3, 4

8:45 am – 12 Noon, breakfast provided.

Great for children, age 6 –12 years old.

Registration forms available in the Parish Office or SRE Office.

REGISTRATION FOR 2023-24 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES, BEGINS MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2023. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL AL LOPEZ AT 949-837-7676.

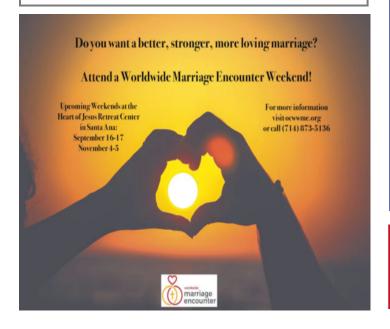
Confirmation & Youth Ministry



Classes for 2023-24 begin in October.

OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGINS AUGUST 7, 2023

Please stay tuned for information on summer events & registration for next year's classes or feel free to check the Ministry's Google Calendar (link available on the parish website).



Children's Sunday Liturgy St. Nicholas Parish Sunday, July 23 - 9am Mass



Parents, sign up your children for Children's Liturgy

Children ages 5 to 11 are welcome to join us at the 9am Sunday Children's Mass. If your child would like to attend, sign-ups will be accepted before and after the 9am Mass outside the church, near the garden area alongside the large parking lot area or at the Parish Office.

Looking for a volunteer opportunity? Volunteers are needed to assist the coordinator with Children's Liturgy on Sundays. Please call the Parish Office at 949-837-1090 if you are interested.

Website Bulletin: St. Nicholas news continues after the ads, on page 8. Please scroll down.

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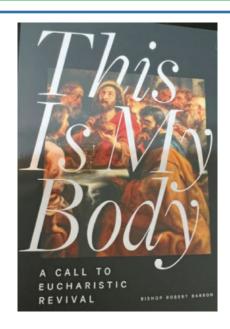
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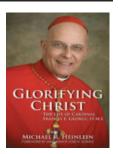


Join us on Tuesday, July 25 for the last session of the book study of Bishop Robert Baron's new book This is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival.

9:30am in the Parish Hall, Room 201. No need to sign up, just show up. Everyone is welcome.

Please mark your calendar! Coming in September, 2023 a group study of the book <u>Jesus and the Eucharist</u>, sponsored by St. Nicholas Adult Faith Formation Ministry.

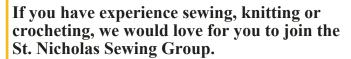
Glorifying Christ: The Life of Cardinal Francis E. George, O.M.I



Author Michael R. Heinlein will share the fascinating story of the heroic disciple of Christ, Cardinal Francis E. George, O.M.I., on **August 1** at the Freed Theater on the Christ Cathedral campus.

It will start at **6 p.m.** with a reception and the talk begins at **6:30 p.m.**, with an audience Q&A and book signing to follow. **Registration is \$10**. There will also be a raffle for two free books. Register by visiting https://Cardinal Francis.eventbrite.com

SEWING GROUP WILL RECONVENE, Monday, July 31 8am-12 noon, Small Hall



We have the machines, yarn, and materials -- just come and enjoy the fellowship.

If you have any questions, call the Parish Office at 949-837-1090 and ask for Cate, the Sewing Director, to contact you.

Parish Library

The Parish library will be closed during the months of June through August. It will re-open on the 1st Sunday of September. *Please return borrowed books to the Parish Office. HAPPY SUMMER!*

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THE MASSES.

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake and sausage breakfast after the 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses on **Sunday, August 6, 2023**. This is the major event for the Knights of Columbus and your patronage would be most appreciated. Please plan to attend with your family and friends.