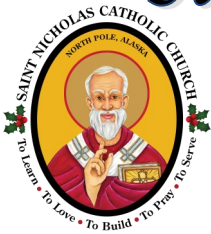


St. Nicholas Catholic Church



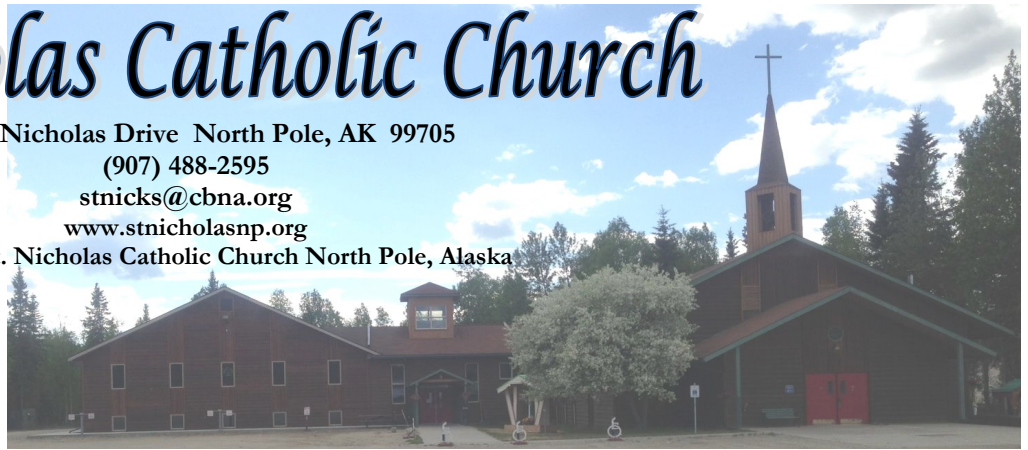
707 St. Nicholas Drive North Pole, AK 99705

(907) 488-2595

stnicks@cbna.org

www.stnicholasnp.org

Facebook: St. Nicholas Catholic Church North Pole, Alaska



Your Church

A place for everyone to gather at the table of the Lord.

Our Vision

A community centered on the light of Christ through word, works, and worship.

Regular Liturgical Schedule

Confession:

Wednesday 6 PM

Saturday 4 PM

Holy Mass Schedule:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ... 9 AM

Wednesday 7 PM

Saturday 5 PM

Sunday 9 AM & Noon

Eucharistic Adoration:

(with Morning Prayer)

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8 AM to 9 AM

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Yakubu Aiden

yakubu@cbna.org

907-888-2993

Deacon: Chuck Bowman

sbow36@hotmail.com

907-687-3940

Parish Coordinator:

Katherine O'Brien

stnicks@cbna.org

Finance Manager:

Anne Armour

stnicksfinance@cbna.org

Director of Religious Education:

Heather Pariera Kimmerling

stnicksre@cbna.org

Youth Minister:

Beth Sauer

stnicksym@cbna.org

Councils

Pastoral Council:

Leigh Scarboro, Chair

stnickspsc@cbna.org

Finance Council:

Jill Woster, Chair

stnicksfc@cbna.org

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

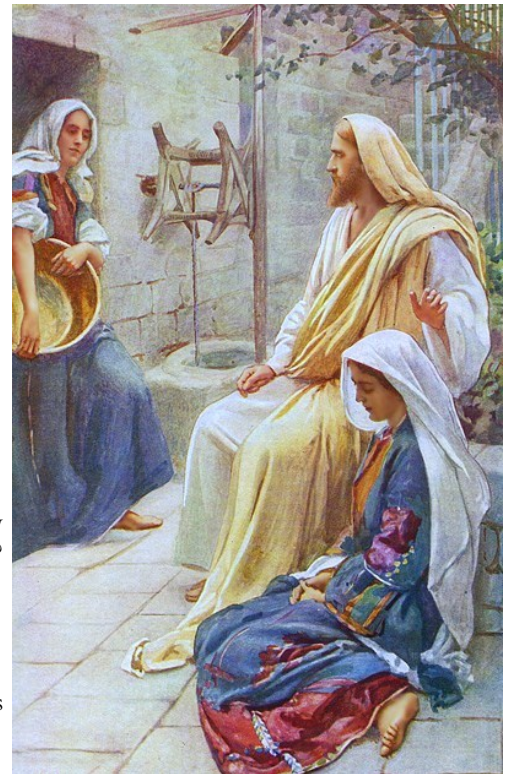
Gayle Somers

Today, Jesus visits the home of two sisters and causes an upheaval. Why?

Gospel (Read Lk 10:38-42)

St. Luke tells us of a visit Jesus made to a village where “a woman whose name was Martha welcomed Him.” It must have been a comfort to Jesus to receive a welcome like this. He met many different responses on His journey from Galilee to Jerusalem—some not so warm (see Lk 9:52-53; 10:13-16, 25). Perhaps He was relieved at the prospect of a cordial home visit.

However, rather than the presence of Jesus bringing a blessing to Martha's home, there was trouble right away. When Jesus arrived, Mary, Martha's sister, simply “sat beside the Lord at His feet listening to Him speak.” It was probably the custom to spring into action upon receiving a guest in the home in that time and place—offering water to clean feet dirty from desert dust, preparing a meal, etc. Why did Mary choose, instead, to drop everything and be quiet? Was there something about Jesus that assured her He was no ordinary guest? Were His words so compelling that she didn't want to miss a single one of them? Did she sense immediately that the first priority in His visit to her home was to pay attention to everything He wanted to say to the people in the room (assuming His disciples were with Him)?



Martha became very upset, because she launched into all the requisite activity of showing hospitality to guests by herself. She became so provoked in this fevered work that she faulted both Jesus and her sister for making her life difficult: “Lord, do You not

Continued on Page 2

Anne, Katherine, Heather and Beth are available to assist you during the week:

- * Anne is working from home. Email or call her at 907-322-1901
- * Katherine's hours are Monday through Friday 9:45am to 4pm
- * Heather is out during the summer but will be checking email periodically
- * Beth's office hours fluctuate - Please call, text, or email for appt, 907-978-4786

Heather's and Beth's hours are subject to change depending on ministerial duties.

If you have a question about ...	Please contact...	907-488-2595	Ext #
FINANCES	Anne	call 907-322-1901	
RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTS	Heather		22
YOUTH MINISTRY	Beth		23
ALL OTHER INQUIRIES	Katherine		20

care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving?” She believed that others had caused the isolation she felt in her labors. She blamed them for her unhappiness—always a bad sign. Sorely frustrated, Martha tries to take charge of the situation, since others were failing her: “Tell her to help me.”

Are we surprised by this boldness? Imagine telling Jesus, the Guest, what He ought to do for Martha, the hostess. As inappropriate as this was, Jesus’ response to the harried woman is full of tenderness: “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things.” Jesus is more concerned for her than He is about the service she was attempting to offer Him. He diagnosed the heart of her problem— anxiety and worry. She was entirely focused on the project at hand, the work she thought was expected of her. It filled her with distress and then with fault-finding. She wanted to do something for Jesus, but perhaps it came out of a sense of duty, or self-regard, or just habit. Whatever the source, Jesus needed to help her out of it. What would have been a better way for Martha to receive this visit from Jesus?

He tells her quite directly: “There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.” When Jesus comes to visit, when we invite Him into our lives as Martha invited Him into her home, the best response is to stop, be still, and listen carefully to what He has to say. The Guest gets all the attention first. There will be time to do something for Him, of course, but first He must do something for us. Mary understood that right away. We can assume that after Jesus’ gentle correction, Martha did, too.

Do we?

Continued on Page 3



If you want to have something placed in the bulletin, please leave it in Katherine’s mailbox by the **Monday prior to the weekend you want it posted in the bulletin.** Thank you!

Liturgical Ministers: July 26 & 27

5 PM	Altar Servers: Bryler B., Bentley B., Brayden B., & Brielle B.. Lectors: Nick S. & Elizabeth T.-P. EMHC: Greg C. & John M. Counters: Nick S. & Rochelle R.
9 AM	Altar Servers: Elena G., Volunteer, Volunteer, & Volunteer Lectors: Francine B. & Lois A. EMHC: Barb S. & Deb M. Counters: Delmar L. & Larry B.
Noon	Altar Servers: Paul B., Levi S., Luke S., & Sam P. Lectors: Bill S. & Tiffany P. EMHC: Lorrie B. & Robin R. Counters: Tiffany P. & Jessica D..

SACRAMENTS AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Baptism contact Fr. Aiden
1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist contact Heather
Confirmation contact Heather or Beth
Marriage contact Fr. Aiden
Anointing of the Sick contact Fr. Aiden
Vocations contact the Chancery 907-374-9500
OCIA/OCIC contact Fr. Aiden or Heather
Children’s Religious Ed contact Heather
Youth Ministry contact Beth

Day	Date	Intention	Feast Day	Readings
Monday	07/21	†Paul Dapore	<i>St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest & Doctor of the Church</i>	Ex 14:5–18 • Ex 15:1bc–2, 3–4, 5–6 • Mt 12:38–42
Tuesday	07/22	Birthday of Katerianne Renner	Feast of St. Mary Magdalene	Sg 3:1–4b or 2 Cor 5:14–17 • Ps 63:2, 3–6, 8–9 • Jn 20:1–2, 11–18
Wednesday	07/23	For Marie & Philip, for God’s continued healing & support of them	<i>St. Bridget, Religious</i>	Ex 16:1–5, 9–15 • Ps 78:18–19, 23–24, 25–26, 27–28 • Mt 13:1–9
Thursday	07/24	Special intentions of Leigh Scarboro	<i>St. Scharbel Makhluf, Priest</i>	Ex 19:1–2, 9–11, 16–20b • Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 • Mt 13:10–17
Friday	07/25	†Nicki Snow	Feast of St. James, Apostle	2 Cor 4:7–15 • Ps 126:1bc–2ab, 2cd–3, 4–5, 6 • Mt 20:20–28
Saturday	07/26	Safety & return of Fr. Alphonsus Afina	Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Ex 24:3–8 • Ps 50:1b–2, 5–6, 14–15 • Mt 13:24–30
Sunday	07/27	People of the Parish Anniversary of Eric & Amanda Downing	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gn 18:20–32 • Ps 138:1–3, 6–8 • Col 2:12–14 • Lk 11:1–13

Possible response: Lord Jesus, anxiety and worry are always signs that I have forgotten the one thing needful. Please help me remember this.

First Reading (Read Gen 18:1-10a)

Here we have a story of the patriarch, Abraham, offering energetic hospitality to three mysterious visitors—clearly a divine visitation. This story was well-known to the Jews and very likely helped form the tradition of hospitality among them even down to Jesus' day, as we see reflected in the Epistle to the Hebrews: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (Heb 13:2). Was Abraham's response to his visitors any different from Martha's? Well, we can see that Abraham was entirely focused on his guests. Notice that first he asked their permission to offer them the usual services of hospitality, including the preparation of a meal. Then "the men replied, 'Very well, do as you have said.'" Would Jesus' visit to Martha and Mary have turned out differently if Martha had first asked Jesus if He wanted anything from her household? Perhaps He would have told her right away to simply sit with Mary and listen for awhile. The mistake she made was taking charge of the situation, forgetting to focus on her Guest.

Thus, Abraham becomes an excellent example of how to receive a Divine Visitor. Even though he bustled around in lots of activity, he did it with the approval of his guests. Humility and hospitality should never be separated.

Possible response: Heavenly Father, please help me have the focus, humility, and then the energy of Abraham when I am in Your presence.

Psalm (Read Ps 15:2-5)

The psalm extols the life of justice, and, as we read it, we can see something of how Martha, in our Gospel, became misguided in her hospitality. The just man "thinks truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue." We remember the bitterness in Martha's heart over the work she undertook when Jesus visited her. It led to harsh words about both Jesus and her sister. This was not what His visit was supposed to do. She completely lost sight of the fact that Jesus was present in her own home. He called her back to reality, however. We can perhaps imagine Martha then wanting to sing with joy with the psalmist: "He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord."

Possible response: The psalm is, itself, a response to our other readings. Read it again prayerfully to make it your own.

Second Reading (Read Col 1:24-28)

St. Paul gives us a wonderful perspective on the sufferings we will experience as we serve the Lord. Had Martha been asked by Jesus to work hard on her hospitality, she could have responded to the burden of it in the same way St. Paul did to his sufferings: "I rejoice in my sufferings." How could he do this? He understood the glorious mystery of the Gospel: "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Whatever we do for Him in our bodies that results in suffering is how we fill up in our flesh "what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of His Body, which is the Church." All that is "lacking" in Christ's afflictions is the part He asked us to share when He invited us to take up our cross daily and follow Him.

What a difference this makes in our bodily suffering! Of course we can rejoice.

Possible response: Lord Jesus, to rejoice in my sufferings seems so otherworldly. I will need your help every single day to do it.

View this bulletin online and in color at stnicholasnp.org

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

St. Nicholas extends a warm welcome to those who have recently joined our parish family, are visiting, or are new to the area.

If you are interested in our parish, please stop by the Office and introduce yourself and your family.

Registration is Easy

If you are new, please register online at fairbanks.parishsoftfamilysuite.com

If you are leaving our community, please let us know so we can update your record to keep our database current



"Are any of you sick?..."

James 5:14-15



The Sacraments of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and the Eucharist celebrated together provide spiritual strength and nourishment to the sick.

If you are expecting a surgery, procedure or entering the hospital or nursing home for any reason, you should receive these sacraments *before you go to the hospital or nursing home.*

If you are ill or care for the sick it is very reasonable to request these sacraments.

Please contact the priest for this.



If you previously signed up for FlockNote but have not been receiving texts or emails from St Nick's, please contact Katherine to verify or update your FlockNote contact info.

To join FlockNote, text the keyword 'Nicholas' to 84576, or email Katherine with your name, cell number and email and she will get you enrolled.

Want to sign up for FORMED?

Go to formed.org/signup

*Select your parish (using zip code is easiest)

*Register with your name and email address

*Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, formerly known as RCIA)

Classes will resume in September. If interested in learning more about OCIA and/ or Catholicism, please contact Heather, the DRE, at stnicksre@cbna.org or 907-488-2595, ext. 22

BIBLE STUDY / DISCUSSION GROUPS

Sunday & Monday Morning Catholic Discussions

We have paused our Sunday and Monday morning Catholic Discussions.

Date of resumption TBA.

Monday Night Bible Study

Will resume this fall.

"Pray without ceasing."
1 Thessalonians 5:17



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for: Francisco A. & Family, Janelle Allen & Family, Lois Armentor, Aletia Atkinson, Morgan Atkinson, Fred Austin & Family, Callie Jo, C. Bowman & Family, †Patricia Barth, Christopher Brown, Katrina Butler, †Wanda Byerly, Amanda Byrd, Terry & Beverly Cannon, †Marietta Castillo, Chip Channa, Jean Erickson, Bob and Anna Fath, †Tony Fazio, Mary Fish, †Wyatt Fleming & Family, Christina Fortenberry, Frazier Family, Kat Gannon, Pat Goble, Cody Gorrell, Lois Gould, †Ashley Groholski, Michael J. Guadagnoli, †Adolfo Guadiz, †Lori Harrand, Harvey Family, Fr. Gerardus Hauwert, Fr. Joe Hemmer, Nathan Horne, John, Donald Jones, Joan Jones, Josh & Lauren & Family, Cynthia Julien, Eve Karczmarczyk, Kim, Kraft Family, Tom Laridaen, Brian Lashinski Family, †Maxwell Lashinski, †Eleanor LeBeau, †Chelsey Luker, Casey McKee, Deshawn Miranda, Moon Family, Ron Murray, Nathalie, †Ann Nickerson, Doris Noblet, Evette Odhiambo, Bob Okri, Parr Family, Heather Patterson, Tom Pendergast, Powers Family, †Sunday Powers, Gwen Price, Larry Purbis, Rob R., Tamara Renner, †Rosie Shearer, Shearer Family, Matthew Smith, †Rose Marie Smith, †Nicki Snow, Snow Family, Stephanie, Racheal Stifford, Regis Swanson, Daranee Teapthong, Yingyos Teapthong, Maria Terch, Theo, Jim Took, Mike Wehner, Betty Wells, Bridget Wells, Harper Wicker, Mary Wing, Arthur & †Rose Wood
Pray for: For the Holy Souls in Purgatory. For the Holy Father Pope Leo XIV. For the Most Reverend Steven Maekawa, the priests serving our diocese, for an increase in vocations for Fairbanks, For our elected officials, especially President Donald Trump. For our country. For the protection of the unborn. For those most alone. For those grieving. For a just and peaceful resolution to conflicts in areas of the world where military troops are deployed. For all our service members. For healthcare workers, and all the sick.

YOUTH MINISTRY

SNYM SCHEDULE

(St. Nicks Youth Ministry)

<https://www.stnicholasnp.org/youth-ministry>

SUMMER SUNDAYS

7/20 - 4-6pm, Youth Room

7/27 - 4-6pm, Youth Room

Youth & Teens entering grades 7-12

in Fall 2025 are welcome to attend.

The Youth Room will be open on specified Sundays this Summer for Free Time and Fellowship.

FIRST FRIDAYS

The next SNYM First Friday will be on Aug. 8th.

Youth & Teens entering grades 7-12 in Fall 2025 are invited for an evening together on the First Friday of each month



Scan this QR Code using a smartphone camera to view the Youth Ministry webpage for information, calendar, and events.

"But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance."
Luke 8:15

Vocations

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken from her."



Consider prioritizing time with God, following Mary's example. Are you being called to dedicate your life to prayer and service in the Church as a consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 907) 374-9504.

HAIL
HOLY QUEEN



THE HOLY FATHER'S JULY ROSARY INTENTIONS: For formation in discernment

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

*THIS WEEK AT ST NICKS...

MONDAY

July 21

8 AM - Adoration & Morning Prayer
9 AM - Mass

TUESDAY

July 22

8 AM - Adoration & Morning Prayer
9 AM - Mass
6 PM - Choir Practice

WEDNESDAY

July 23

10:30 AM - Moms Group at Parks
6 PM - Confession
7 PM - Mass

THURSDAY

July 24

8 AM - Adoration & Morning Prayer
9 AM - Mass

FRIDAY

July 25

8 AM - Adoration & Morning Prayer
9 AM - Mass

SATURDAY

July 26

4 PM - Confession
5 PM - Mass

SUNDAY

July 27

9 AM - Mass
Noon - Mass
3 PM - Mass at Harding Lake
4 PM - SNYM Summer Sunday



Altar Flowers

To make an Altar Flower dedication, fill out a donation envelope, located on the bulletin board, and drop it in the collection basket.

Suggested donation is \$55.



50th ANNIVERSARY Celebration

In honor of our 50th Anniversary of St. Nicholas parish, come celebrate with us at the Grange Hall where our parish was established! On Friday, 26 September 2025 at 6pm, we will be hosting previous pastors and deacons to share their stories about serving our parish community. Tickets will go on sale at our parish picnic on July 20th for \$30 per person. Come share this milestone anniversary with us!

26 Friday, September at the Grange Hall, 6 PM

- Heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer will be served
- Tickets \$30 per person
Tickets are limited!

THANK YOU CORNER

Thank you so much to all of our Liturgical Ministers for graciously serving during Mass!

VOLUNTEER



How can I get involved in my parish?

If you are looking to get involved in your parish, we invite you to attend an in person Safe Environment training to start your volunteer experience!

August 9th from 9am – noon
at St Nicholas Church in North Pole

For more information on the training, please contact the parish office or the safe environment office at the Diocese of Fairbanks – jniedziela@cbna.org or 907-374-9511



SPONSORED BY CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP

SUMMER PARK-A-PALOOZA

Meet other moms and TONS of kids for weekly casual hangouts. Bring your lunch, have fun and build relationships

WEDNESDAYS
TERRY MILLER PARK

1030-1230  Bring lunch

CONTACT LISA AT 907-347-2462

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE INFO AND PARK SCHEDULE:

ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP

St. Nick's Youth Ministry is in urgent need of Adult Assistants at our Summer programs for the following dates and times:

SNYM SUMMER SUNDAYS	JULY	AUG	SEPT
	• 20 th • 27 th	• 3 rd • 10 th • 17 th • 24 th	• 7 th Sundays 4-6 PM

SNYM First FRIDAYS

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

- Aug. 8th
- Sept. 5th

5:30-8:30 PM on Fridays

Contact St. Nick's Youth Minister, Beth Sauer with any questions, concerns, or to volunteer.
Email: stnicksym@cbna.org • Text or Call: 907-978-4786

Your support will ensure that our Parish can continue offering programs for our Youth & Teens throughout the Summer!

thank you!

Diocesan JOB OPENINGS

The Diocese of Fairbanks is now hiring a Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

This is a full-time, exempt position with benefits.

To apply, submit a cover letter, résumé, and three references to humanresources@cbna.org.

For a detailed list of job duties and other information, please visit <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/job-postings>



Young Adult Hike to Angel Rocks

Come and join us on a hike out to Angel Rocks in the Chena River State Recreation Area next Saturday, July 19th at noon! We will be meeting at the Angel Rocks Trailhead. Parking will be paid for by the Diocese. Make sure to bring good hiking clothes, shoes, sunscreen, and plenty of water! Scan the QR code for more information! Must be 18-35 to join.



Reflections on Stewardship

In today's Gospel reading from St. Luke, we receive a reminder about the proper use of the gift of time, a fundamental aspect of a stewardship way of life. Our passage highlights one of the most famous dinner parties ever thrown, recalling the day that Martha and Mary hosted our Lord in their home. We are told that Martha, as a good steward, welcomes Christ in but then becomes "burdened with much serving" while her sister and fellow hostess chooses to simply sit with Jesus, listening to Him speak.

Martha becomes indignant at Mary's behavior and complains to Jesus, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me." But Jesus, in His infinite wisdom, refuses to get pulled into this sisterly spat. Instead, He offers Martha a fresh way to look at the situation. "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing."

What is that one thing? It is to put Jesus first in our lives and above all other things; to "sit at his feet" and listen as Mary did, giving Him the priority of our time no matter how busy we think we are. When we truly commit to putting Christ first in our daily lives through a regular time of prayer and frequent participation in the sacraments, we will find that all our other concerns become less pressing, less overwhelming.

Why is this so? Because the time we invest in our relationship with God saturates all aspects of our lives with His grace. And because God cannot be outdone in generosity. He will abundantly reward any sacrifice we make to spend time with Him.

©Catholic Stewardship Consultants



Our parish ministries depend on the steady, consistent support provided by monthly givers. It is a lifeline that sustains us year-round when summer vacations, holiday travels, inclement weather, and other forces keep people away from services. Plus, it eases the workload on our hardworking staff (who also want to take vacations!), since they have less cash and check donations to process.

Getting started with eGiving is easy.

**Sign up today by visiting
faith.direct/AK237 or call their
Customer Service team at 866-507-8757.**



Want to help raise money for St Nicks?

Sign up for this great NO COST TO YOU way to help

St Nicks earn money! Go to:

<https://www.fredmeyer.com/i/community/community-rewards>

Follow the instructions using KD433 for St Nicholas Catholic Church.

Earn money for St Nick while still earning rewards for yourself.

**Soup Kitchen serving hours
are Saturday & Sunday only,
1pm-3pm.**

***Soup kitchen is in need of
volunteers!*** If you'd like to
volunteer to help with the
Soup Kitchen, please contact
Immaculate Conception at
907-452-3533 ext. 1003, or
iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org

**Requested Donations for
Soup Kitchen**

CLOTHING ITEMS:

Baseball caps, new socks (men's
and women's), toothpaste

FOOD ITEMS THAT ARE NEEDED:

Bottles of water, grocery bags,
salad dressing, coffee, fruit,
protein bars, peanut butter, jelly

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

*"Love alone have I ever given to the good God; with love He
will repay me." - St. Therese of Lisieux*

ADORATION TIMES

St. Nicholas Church

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:00AM - 9AM Adoration with Morning Prayer

Sacred Heart Cathedral

Thursday 8:00AM—12:00 PM, Saturday 3:00PM-4:00PM

Immaculate Conception Church

Sun 11AM—7PM

Mon—Thurs. 7AM - 7PM

Fri. 7AM—11PM

Sat.. 12AM—4PM

St. Raphael Catholic Church

Tues. 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM, Wed. 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Thurs. 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM, Fri. 7 AM - 6 PM

Road System Holy Mass Times

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Fairbanks

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm (Spanish)

Weekday: M - F 7:30 am

Tridentine Mass of

the Roman Rite

(Latin Mass)

Held at Immaculate

Conception

JULY SCHEDULE

TBA

Saint Mark University Parish, Fairbanks

Sunday: 5:30 pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral

Immaculate Conception, Fairbanks (452-3533)

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 10:00 am

Weekday: M 8:30 am, T-F 12:10 pm & W 12:10 pm & 7pm

Saint Raphael, Fairbanks (457-6603)

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 9:30 am

Weekday Masses: T & Th 9:30 am &

W 5:30 pm

Our Lady of the Snows, Eielson AFB

Sunday: 10:30 am

Weekday: T, W & TH 11:30 am

Good Shepherd, Ft. Wainwright

Sunday: 9:00 am



Sung Vespers

Sundays at **4:45pm** | Sacred Heart Cathedral

Evening Prayer (or *Vespers*) is one of the hours of
the Liturgy of the hours.

Consists of praying the psalms put to traditional
chant tones.

Prayer and Worship

"For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy."

—CCC, no. 2558, citing *St. Therese of Lisieux, Manuscripts Autobiographiques, C 25rr*

Descriptions of prayer are abundant throughout Christian history. "True prayer," wrote St. Augustine, "is nothing but love." Prayer should arise from the heart. "Prayer," said St. John Vianney, "is the inner bath of love into which the soul plunges itself." "Everyone of us needs half an hour of prayer each day," remarked St. Francis de Sales, "except when we are busy—then we need an hour." Definitions of prayer are important, but insufficient. There is a huge difference between knowing about prayer and praying. On this issue, the Rule of St. Benedict is clear, "If a man wants to pray, let him go and pray."

St. John Damascene gave a classic definition of prayer: "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God" (CCC, no. 2559, citing St. John Damascene, *De Fide Orth.* 3, 24).

The Catechism clearly defines prayer as a "vital and personal relationship with the living and true God" (CCC, no. 2558). Prayer is Christian "insofar as it is communion with Christ" (CCC, no. 2565), and a "covenant relationship between God and man in Christ" (CCC, no. 2564).

It is important to remember that we understand prayer through our celebration of the Sacraments and in the Liturgy of the Hours. The word liturgy comes from a Greek term meaning "public work or work done on behalf of the people."

A work, then, done by an individual or a group was a liturgy on behalf of the larger community. All the worshipers are expected to participate actively in each liturgy, for this is holy "work," not entertainment or a spectator event. Every liturgical celebration is an action of Christ the High Priest and of his Mystical Body, which is the Church. It therefore requires the participation of the People of God in the work of God.

Liturgy is centered on the Holy Trinity. At every liturgy the action of worship is directed to the Father, from whom all blessings come, through the Son in the unity of the Holy Spirit. We praise the Father who first called us to be his people by sending us his Son as our Redeemer and giving us the Holy Spirit so that we can continue to gather, to remember what God has done for us, and to share in the blessings of salvation.

From the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

Do you have a business to promote or know someone who does?
Please consider advertising in the bulletin.

Ads are just \$25 per month!
Parishioners love supporting other parishioners and their friends.
Home businesses are welcome

If interested, please contact Anne:
Email: snicksfinance@cna.org
Phone: (907) 322-1901

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Donations to St. Nicholas Catholic Church can be made at any time via PayPal by scanning the QR Code.

Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity to support our church.



Volunteers are always appreciated and there are many ways to help at St. Nicholas.

Please contact the Parish Coordinator's office to inquire about opportunities.

+ MyCatholicDoctor



Daniel Parr, MD
Family Physician
314-888-5233 ext 1242
Telemedicine and House Calls



Accepting direct group and out-of-network insurance.
Self pay with discounted rates.
In-network will become available later in 2025.

Parish Finances

Thank you for being as generous as your means allow.

GENERAL OFFERINGS as of 07/13/25

General offerings	\$ 8,628
Budgeted weekly need	<u>(7,283)</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 1,345

Restricted: Building Fund YTD: \$ 1,425

Thank you for your continued contributions.

The **50th Anniversary Committee** is selling mugs, magnets, and ornaments featuring the artwork of one of our parishioners, Ruth Segler. Please fill out an order form available on the tables to make a purchase. Proceeds from the sale will go towards the expenses of our 50th Anniversary celebration.

\$1,150 was donated for the **Peter's Pence** collection in June. Thank you for your generosity!

July's 3% will go to Fairbanks Rescue Mission. To learn more about this community outreach go to www.fairbanksrescuemission.org

The Mission works to meet both the physical and spiritual needs of those who come to our doors. We operate the only overnight emergency shelter for men, women, and children in Interior Alaska, and, therefore, we play a key role in the life of our community.



Fairbanks
Rescue Mission
shelter, safety, transformation

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