



ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 4, 2026

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

CONTACT US

ADDRESS: 707 Saint Nicholas Drive
North Pole, AK 99705
OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri, 9:45 am - 4:00 pm
PHONE: 907-488-2595
PARISH EMAIL: stnicks@cbna.org
WEBSITE: stnicholasnp.org
St. Nicholas Catholic Church North Pole, Alaska

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 5:00 pm
SUNDAY: 9:00 am & 12:00 pm
**MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY,
& *FRIDAY:** 9:00 am *Healing Mass on Fridays
WEDNESDAY: 7:00 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & MORNING PRAYER

MONDAY, TUESDAY, & THURSDAY: 8:00 am
FRIDAY: 7:30 am

CONFESSION

WEDNESDAY: 6:00 pm
FRIDAY: 7:40 am
SATURDAY: 4:00 pm
Available by appointment

CLERGY & STAFF

Fr. Yakubu Aiden | Pastor
yakubu@cbna.org, 907-888-2993

Rev. Chuck Bowman | Deacon
sbow36@hotmail.com

Katherine O'Brien | Parish Coordinator
stnicks@cbna.org

Heather Pariera Kimmerling | Dir. Religious Ed.
stnicksre@cbna.org

Beth Sauer | Youth Minister
stnicksym@cbna.org

Anne Armour | Finance Manager
stnicksfinance@cbna.org



*They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house
they saw the child with Mary his mother.
They prostrated themselves and did him homage.*

MATTHEW 2:10-11

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS:
Prearrangement required.
Please contact Fr. Aiden.

1st COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION:
Please contact Heather.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:
Please contact Fr. Aiden.

FUNERALS

Please contact Fr. Aiden

YOUTH GROUP

Sundays | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Every 1st Friday | 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

RELIGIOUS ED.

CHILDREN'S RE / EDGE:

Sundays | 10:30 am - 11:45 am

SACRAMENTAL PREP:

Saturdays | 9:00 am

OCIC:

Sundays | 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

OCIA:

Tuesdays | 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

BIBLE STUDY:

Sundays | 10:30 am - 11:45 am
Monday Morning | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Monday Evening | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

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

WELCOME!



St. Nicholas extends a warm welcome to those who have recently joined our parish, are visiting, or are new to the area. Please feel free to please stop by the church office and introduce yourself and your family.

If you are joining our parish, please register online:



fairbanks.parishsoftfamilysuite.com

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

CONNECT



St. Nicholas uses FlockNote to send parishioners updates on parish events. To join FlockNote, text the keyword 'Nicholas' to 84576, or contact the parish office.

Religious Education

RE Classes:

RE classes are Sundays 10:30 - 11:45 am.

See Heather for further information.

No classes during holiday break. Classes will resume Sunday, January 11th.

Sac Prep:

Next meeting is January 31st, from 9 am - 10:30 am.

OCIA / OCIC

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults & Children

OCIA meets every Tuesday, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

For adults in need of the Sacraments or inquiring about the faith. Please contact the Dir. of Religious Ed., Heather, for more info.

OCIC sessions are Sundays, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm.

Bible Study

The Monday evening study is 6:30 pm - 8:30pm and is studying the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. This is a parish-wide Advent study that all the bible study groups are doing. It's also available for individual study. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Atrium.

To preview the study, scan the QR Code or visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQjedJBd8jI



Please see Heather for more details.

Monday evening study will resume on January 5th.

All studies meet in the Conference Room.

For more information, scan this QR Code or visit www.stnicholasnp.org/faith-formation



Want to sign up for FORMED?

- Go to formed.org/signup
- Select your parish (using zip code)
- Register with your name and email address
- Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.



Formed.org is an online platform that offers a wide range of Catholic content, including movies, audio books, podcasts, and shows, aimed at deepening the spiritual journey of individuals and families.

Youth Ministry



EDGE & HSYG will not meet Jan. 4th for Christmas Break.

FIRST FRIDAYS

6th-12th grade Youth & Teens are invited for an evening together each month.

The next SNYM First Friday will be on Jan. 9th.

Please RSVP by January 8th to attend

SUNDAY IN THE YOUTH ROOM

Classes will resume January 11th

- EDGE (6th-8th grade) - 10:30-11:45am
- HSYG (9th-12th grade) - 4-6pm

CONFIRMATION

The next class will be on Jan. 11th

*To RSVP, view the SNYM calendar, and for more information, scan the QR Code above or visit www.stnicholasnp.org/youth-ministry.

Young Adults



GATHER•CONNECT•GROW

GCG will meet for our next gathering on Tuesday, January 27th.

*Please RSVP to attend by Jan. 25th.

Scan the QR Code above or visit www.stnicholasnp.org/young-adults

Adults ages 18-39 are invited to share an evening together, 6-8pm on the last Tuesday of each month at St. Nick's.

STEWARDSHIP

OPERATING FUND STATUS

General Offerings as of 12/28/2025

Weekly Budget	\$ 7,283
Actual Collection	\$ 10,830
Over/(under) Weekly Budget	\$ 3,547
Year-to-date Budget	\$188,144
Year-to-Date Actual Collection	\$234,499
Over/(under) Yearly Budget	\$ 46,355
Expenses Budgeted for the FY26	\$519,979
Expenses Year-to-Date	\$265,977

Thank you for your generosity!

3% Sunday Collection Contributions

Last Month: Retirement Fund for Religious - total coming soon

Dec. 8 - Immaculate Conception Total Donations to Interior Right to Life was \$1,530

This Month: KQHE 92.7FM Little Flower Ministries Radio <https://www.kqhe.org/>

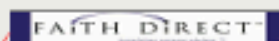
January 1 - Mary, the Holy Mother of God collection will go to St. Nicholas General Fund

Next Month: Black & Indian Missions <https://blackandindianmission.org>

February 18, 2026 - Ash Wednesday collection will be for the ICC Soup Kitchen

HOW CAN I SUPPORT?

Thank you for prayerfully considering these opportunities to support our church.



*Faith Direct is now upgraded to ParishSOFT Giving

UPDATE for all Faith Direct Contributors:

Please sign into your Faith Direct account to verify that the transfer of your account went smoothly into the ParishSoft Giving upgrade. You will be redirected to the new site if you type in faith.direct/ak237. Log in with your Faith Direct credentials and you should see your account. New donors can also use the site to start contributing electronically. Please let our Finance Manager, Anne, know if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support of St. Nicholas Parish.



Scan the QR Code and follow the instructions using KD433 for St Nicholas Catholic Church.



Donations to St. Nicholas Catholic Church can also be made at any time via PayPal.

2026 Offertory Envelopes are now available for pickup. Envelopes can be picked up at the parish office during the week.

If you would like a 2025 Contribution Statement, please email Anne at stnicksfinance@cbna.org.

From the Pastor

Brothers and Sisters,



Christmas is about God coming to us and today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The Epiphany is about the world coming to God. The star, the journey, the gifts, and the Magi's worship all symbolize humanity's search for truth and God's guidance toward Christ. Epiphany highlights that the Child in the manger is **King** (gold), **God** (frankincense), and **Savior** who will suffer (myrrh). This is why Epiphany is sometimes called a "second Christmas" because it reveals who Jesus truly is.

The Epiphany is God's reminder that revelation comes to those who seek with open eyes and humble hearts. Wisdom didn't come from staying home – it came from the journey, the questions, and the willingness to follow light wherever it led.

Knowledge without movement becomes spiritual paralysis. Herod gathers the chief priests and scribes, who correctly cite Micah 5:2 "the Messiah will come from Bethlehem." Ironically, the religious experts know the Scriptures but do not go to see the Messiah themselves.

When life feels like a long desert road, trust the star. God's navigation system never loses signal. As we celebrate Epiphany, may we have the Magi's persistence, the joy that erupts when Christ is found, and the good sense to change direction when God says, "Maybe try another way."

Father Aidan

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 am | +Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

9:00 am | Healing for Kathleen Johnson

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

7:00 pm | Special Intentions of Katherine O'Brien

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 am | For Marie & Philip, for God's continued healing and support of them

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

9:00 am | For Pat Goble, for God's continued healing and support of her

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

5:00 pm | +Wanda Byerly

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

9:00 am | People of the Parish
12:00 pm | +Harry B. Niehaus

Mass intentions may be submitted directly through the parish office or via an envelope. Envelopes are available on the bulletin board in the atrium. Suggested donation is \$20 per intention.

WEEKLY ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

IN HONOR OF

The Families of
St. Nicholas Parish



To make a flower dedication, please fill out an envelope or contact the parish office. Suggested donation is \$55.

DAILY READINGS

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

St. John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn 3:22–4:6 / Ps 2:7bc–8, 10–12a / Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

Tuesday after Epiphany

St. André Bessette, Religious (USA)

1 Jn 4:7–10 / Ps 72:1–2, 3–4, 7–8 / Mk 6:34–44

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

Wednesday after Epiphany

1 Jn 4:11–18 / Ps 72:1–2, 10, 12–13 / Mk 6:45–52

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

Thursday after Epiphany

1 Jn 4:19–5:4 / Ps 72:1–2, 14, 15bc, 17 / Lk 4:14–22a

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

Friday after Epiphany

1 Jn 5:5–13 / Ps 147:12–15, 19–20 / Lk 5:12–16

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

Saturday after Epiphany

1 Jn 5:14–21 / Ps 149:1–2, 3–4, 5 and 6a and 9b / Jn 3:22–30

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1–4, 6–7 / Ps 29:1–2, 3–4, 3, 9–10 / Acts 10:34–38 / Mt 3:13–17

REGULAR MEETINGS & TIMES

PARISH POTLUCK:

Every 1st Saturday | 6:00 pm

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Meets 3rd Wednesday | 7:30 pm

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Meets 2nd Wednesday | 7:30 pm

CHOIR PRACTICE:

Tuesdays | 6:00 pm

CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP:

Wednesdays | 10:00 am

This Month and Upcoming at St. Nicholas



Sponsor to support the St. Nick's

Youth attending the March for Life

Proceeds of \$150 donations from 24 sponsors will offset the cost of attendance for **EIGHT** St. Nick's Youth. Upon their return from the March for Life, the youth will host a private dinner for the sponsors. *To become a sponsor please contact Jeff Hayes at 910-813-3118 or jeffreyrhayes@yahoo.com.*



Catholic Engaged Encounter at

St. Nicholas, Feb. 6-8

The spring diocesan Engaged Encounter retreat is scheduled for February 6-8 at St. Nicholas. Couples discerning marriage and those preparing for a sacramental marriage can register online at: <https://fairbanks.engagedencounter.com/> Registration deadline is Jan 30th. For more information, contact 907-388-3408 or fairbanks@engagedencounter.com



Paint Party Fundraiser, 7:00 pm Jan. 17

Join us in the Social Hall on Jan. 17 for a Paint Party! This event will guide participants in painting the Holy Family all while enjoying an evening of fun, fellowship, and relaxation. Tickets are required for this event with all proceeds going to benefit our parish youth attending the March for Life. *Please see Tiffany Piser for more info and questions.*

From the Diocese

Diocese Soup Kitchen

Soup kitchen is in need of volunteers!

If you'd like to volunteer to help with the Soup Kitchen, please contact ICC at 907-452-3533 ext. 1003, or iccsoupkitchen@cbna.org *Serving hours are Sat. & Sun. only, 10m-3pm.*

Requested Donations for Soup Kitchen

OTHER ITEMS: Warm socks (men's and women's), long Johns & Janes, knitted hats, scarves, mittens/gloves, travel sized soap, shampoo, conditioner, & tissues

FOOD ITEMS: Bottles of water, dry creamer, coffee, sugar, grocery bags, fruit, protein bars, peanut butter, jelly



Spiritual Exercises

Feb 19-22 (Thursday Evening to Sunday) for **MEN**

Feb 26-Mar 1 (Thursday Evening to Sunday) for **WOMEN**

Mar 5-8 (Thursday Evening to Sunday) in **SPANISH** for **MEN**

All these weekends will be at Chena Camp (facility in Fairbanks) and the cost is \$200. *To register go to <https://liccfairbanks.org/se>*

CATECHESIS: Things to know about Epiphany

1. What does the word "Epiphany" mean?

"Epiphany" means "manifestation." It comes from Greek roots that mean "to show, to display" (phainein) and "on, to" (epi-). An epiphany is thus a time when something is shown, displayed, or manifested to an audience.

2. What is the feast of the Epiphany about?

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: the Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East. In the magi, the Gospel sees the first fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning towards the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament. The Epiphany shows that "the full number of the nations" now takes its "place in the family of the patriarchs" and acquires Israelitic dignitas (is made "worthy of the heritage of Israel") [CCC 528].

3. Why is Epiphany connected with Jan. 6?

PRAYER REQUESTS

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

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, +Michael Goble, 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, David Peissner, 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, +Kaylynn Woody, The Woody Family.

Pope Benedict explains: It is hard to say how far back the beginnings of the Christmas feast go. It assumed its definitive form in the third century. At about the same time the feast of the Epiphany emerged in the East on January 6 and the feast of Christmas in the West on December 25. The two feasts had different emphases because of the different religious and cultural contexts in which they arose, but essentially their meaning was the same: the celebration of the birth of Christ as the dawning of the new light, the true sun, of history [The Spirit of the Liturgy, pp. 106-107].

4. Who were the Magi? Pope Benedict explains: ... the concept of Magi (mágoi) encompasses a wide range of meanings. The one that applies here is that Magi are understood to be members of the Persian priestly caste per Matthew 2. Even if they were not exactly members of the Persian priesthood, they were nevertheless custodians of religious and philosophical knowledge that had developed in that area and continued to be cultivated there [Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives].

5. Why did the magi come to see Jesus? They apparently had material of a prophetic nature that allowed them to identify the birth of the new "king of the Jews" astronomically. They may have been especially motivated to come see this king of the Jews since there was an expectation at the time

that a universal ruler would shortly come from Israel.

6. Why did they go to Herod? Pope Benedict comments: It is quite natural that their search for the newborn king of the Jews should take them to Israel's royal city and to the king's palace. That, surely, is where the future king must have been born [Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives].

7. What was the star? Some question whether the star was a natural phenomenon, pointing out that it seems to lead the magi to Jerusalem, disappear, and then reappear and hover over the house in Bethlehem. In Matthew, they merely report that they had seen the new king's star "in the east" (Matthew 2:2; that is, back in their homeland), which is why they came to Jerusalem. Pope Benedict remarks: Regardless of whether or not this was an astronomically identifiable and classifiable celestial apparition, it would be wrong to dismiss it on account of the theological character of the story. With the emergence of modern astronomy, developed by believing Christians, the question of this star has been revisited [Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives]. For more information see: <https://www.ncregister.com/thing-you-need-to-know-about-epiphany>, <https://www.catholic.org/advent/indvst.php?id=10>, <https://www.catholic.com/tract/epiphany-2026-catholic-answers-guide>, <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/35171/the-history-of-the-epiphany-heres-what-you-need-to-know>, <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/liturgical-holidays/solemnity-of-the-epiphany-of-the-lord.html>.

WEEKLY GRATITUDE

Thank you so much to our snow plowers and sidewalk shovelers for always taking such great care of our church yard (even on Christmas Eve!) so our parishioners can attend Mass safely. Your sacrifice and hard work are greatly appreciated!



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

(907) 488-6600

Jackie
Hair at Affair

North Pole Plaza
301 N Santa Claus Ln # 301
North Pole, AK 99705

Michael J. Schreder, General Contractor
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Schreder
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SCS

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schrederconst@gmail.com
907.488.6909 | Cell: 907.378.6360

★ 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

KRAFT HEATING INC.
INSTALLATION - MAINTENANCE - 24 HOUR SERVICE

488-8989

EVERGREEN HEALTH

Daniel Parr, MD
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evergreenhealthak.com

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