



ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 11, 2026

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM 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



John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

MATTHEW 3:14-15

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 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.

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 Night Bible Study will spend 16 weeks studying foundational teachings of the Catholic Church focused on the Creed and the Sacraments. They are more than words on a page...

They live, they grow, they beckon, they move! Study will begin January 26th at 6:30 pm. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Atrium if you plan to attend so Heather, our DRE, can be sure to have enough Participant's Guides for everyone. If possible, please give her \$35 to cover the cost of your Guide.

The Sunday Morning and Monday Morning Studies will be discussing and watching videos about topics in church history and catechesis. These topics will begin at a date TBD.

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



All studies meet in the Conference Room.

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.



Youth Ministry



EDGE & HSYG resumes Jan. 11th

SUNDAY IN THE YOUTH ROOM

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

CONFIRMATION

The next class will be on 1/11 - Lesson 5 1:30-3:30pm in the Youth Room It is mandatory for both the Catholic Parent and the Candidate to attend the sessions.

FIRST FRIDAYS

6th-12th grade Youth & Teens are invited for an evening together each month. The next SNYM First Friday will be on Feb. 13th.

*To view the SNYM (St. Nick's Youth Ministry) calendar, more information, and to RSVP for events, 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.

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.

STEWARDSHIP

OPERATING FUND STATUS

General Offerings as of 12/28/2025

Offering information will be available when staff return after January 11th.

We appreciate your patience.

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,

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Christ steps into the Jordan, and suddenly the hidden God is revealed. The church Fathers will say this is the feast where creation finally recognizes its Creator. It is a reminder of our own baptism into Christ.

Christ steps into the Jordan, and the river trembles with new creation. The Fathers say He enters the water not to be made holy, but to make the waters holy for us. St. Augustine reminds us that in baptism, "We become the Body of Christ, for we are made His members." We are not spectators to this feast, we are participants. Remember, we paid allegiance to God and rebuked the devil at our own baptism.

Today, the heavens open, the Spirit rests, the Father names His Beloved and in that echo, we hear our own name spoken. For in baptism, the old self sinks, the new self rises and grace clings to us like light on water. Let us walk this week as the newly illumined. Let us remember who we are: the baptized, the beloved, the claimed. And let us live this week as people who have stepped out of the river with Christ. May His light shine through us as we walk in newness of life.



Father Aiden

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

9:00 am | +Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

7:00 pm | Birthday of Ivy Nicholson

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00 am | Birthdays of Hope Moser and Jacob Piser

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

9:00 am | +Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

5:00 pm | For Pat Goble, for God's continued healing & support of her

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

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

PRAYERS FOR OUR YOUTH

Please keep our parish youth attending March for Life January 17-25 in your prayers:

Solomon Y., Magdalene Y., Delilah Y., Evelyynn Y., Caroline P., Michaela L., Josh H., Tammy B., and Nathan B.

DAILY READINGS

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

1 Sm 1:1-8 / Ps 116:12-13, 14-19 / Mk 1:14-20

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
1 Sm 1:9-20 / 1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd / Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 / Ps 40:2, 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 / Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

1 Sm 4:1-11 / Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 / Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a / Ps 89:16-19 / Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

St. Anthony, Abbot
1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a / Ps 21:2-7 / Mk 2:13-17

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 49:3, 5-6 / Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 / 1 Cor 1:1-3 / Jn 1:29-34

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.



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

From the Diocese

Diocese Soup Kitchen

Soup kitchen is in need of volunteers! Serving hours are Sat. & Sun. only, 1pm-3pm. 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

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

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.*



Paint Party Fundraiser, 7 pm NEXT SATURDAY

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 \$40 per painter with all proceeds going to benefit our parish youth attending the March for Life. Tickets on sale after Masses. *Please see Tiffany Piser for more info and questions.*



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



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://iccfairbanks.org/se>*

CATECHESIS: Why Did Jesus Need to Be Baptized?

Many have often wondered why Jesus needed to be baptized if he was without sin & the Son of God, particularly considering that John the Baptist administered "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin" (see Mark 1:4).

Simply put, Jesus did not need to be baptized. The baptism by John the Baptist was a baptism of repentance, & the sacrament of baptism removes original sin. Since Jesus had neither original sin nor actual sin, he did not need to undergo baptism. However, Jesus also had no need to be born, to suffer, or to die as a man. He did so out of love for humanity. Christian baptism not only forgives sins, but infuses the life of God into the soul, making us God's children. And the origin of this sacrament is Jesus' own baptism. Jesus had no need to be cleansed by the waters of baptism, for he had no sins to be washed away. Rather, he sanctified the waters by his descent into them. Pope Benedict XVI, in *Jesus of Nazareth*, offers some insights on this, with one chapter on Jesus' baptism. Here are a few of his thoughts.

First, in antiquity water conjured up two distinct images: death & life. "On the one hand, immersion into the waters is a symbol of death, which recalls the death symbolism of the

annihilating, destructive power of the ocean flood ... But the flowing waters of the river are above all a symbol of life (15-16)." Even the physical act of baptism, especially baptism by immersion, represents death & new life: the descent into the waters is a form of death & burial, the rising to a new life a resurrection. "Looking at Christ's baptism in light of the Cross & Resurrection, the Christian people realized what happened: Jesus [took] all mankind's guilt upon his shoulders; bore it down into the depths of the Jordan ... The baptism is an acceptance of death for humanity's sins, & the voice that calls out 'This is my beloved Son' over the baptismal waters [anticipates] the Resurrection. This also explains why ... Jesus uses the word 'baptism' to refer to his death (18)."

Jesus' baptism not only is deeply intertwined with the salvific events of the Passion & of Easter, but it reveals him to be a new, greater Moses. At the Easter Vigil, the paschal candle is plunged into the waters of the baptismal font, much as Moses stretched his staff over the waters of the Red Sea, which God parted (Ex. 14:21-31). St. Paul, looking back at this event, refers to it as [prefiguring] Christian baptism

(1 Cor. 10:2), which frees us from the rule of sin & death.

The baptism of the Lord also reminds us, of course, of our own baptism. The Church teaches that it not only lets us participate in Jesus' victory over sin & death but calls us to personal holiness & the sharing of our faith. This is the essence of how we fulfill our baptismal mandate to become saints, deriving from the Greek term *hagios*, meaning "the holy ones." Being a holy person means being, with God's considerable help, the person He created us to be. The Bible says, "without holiness no one will see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14, NIV). This is why we need to share our faith! If we want everyone we know & love to get to heaven, if we want them to see Jesus, they must become saints as well—no exceptions. This is the ultimate reason the Lord was baptized: to establish the sacrament & be drawn into deeper relationship with the Father, & it's why we are baptized, too.

For more information see:

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/why-jesus-was-baptized>, <https://www.catholic.com/qa/why-jesus-chose-to-be-baptized>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zh4q5b7c9Qc>, <https://catholicjournal.us/2019/01/09/why-jesus-was-baptized/>, <https://www.goodcatholic.com/why-was-jesus-baptized-if-he-was-sinless/>

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., +Daniel Rawson and the Rawson Family, Tamara Renner, +Rosie Shearer, Shearer Family, Matthew Smith, +Rose Marie Smith, +Nicki Snow, Snow Family, Stephanie, Racheal Stifford, Regis Swanson, Daranee Teaphong, Yingyos Teaphong, Maria Terch, Theo, Jim Took, Mike Wehner, Betty Wells, Bridget Wells, Harper Wicker, Mary Wing, Arthur & +Rose Wood, +Kaylynn Woody, The Woody Family.

WEEKLY GRATITUDE

Thank you to our Social Committee for putting on our Bingo Night last Saturday and to all who came out to play, contributed prizes, and partook in our First Saturday of the Month Potluck!



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

(907) 488-6600

Jackie
at
Hair Affair

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

Michael J. Schreder, General Contractor
Licensed, Bonded, Insured.

Schreder
Construction Specialties

PO Box 74945, Fairbanks, AK 99707-4945
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

INSTALLATION • MAINTENANCE • 24 HOUR SERVICE

488-8989

Daniel Parr, MD
Family Physician

907-322-8001
3405 Airport Way, Fairbanks
evergreenhealthak.com

Now accepting new patients!
Medicare and commercial insurance accepted.