

LUKE 1:35



Directory

Pastor

Fr. Michael Rudolph, frrudolph@stncc.net

Parish Admin. Asst. & Safe Environment Coordinator

Rochelle Ibarra, ribarra@stncc.net

Principal, Holy Cross Catholic School, 952-652-6100

Jim Grogan, jimg@holycrossschool.net

LNMV Religious Education

Mary Rose Rynda, maryroser@holycrossschool.net

Music Ministry

Ryan Flicek, ryan@mtzgeo.com (volunteer)

Youth Ministry

Angie Nicolai, angienshop@msn.com (volunteer)

Boiler Engineer

Greg Fischer

Custodians

Tim Capistrant, Church and Rectory Theresa Boyle, JPII Building

Communication & Mission Coordinator, Bookkeeper

Karen Johnson, kjohnson@stncc.net

Trustees

Kathy Chlan Marlin Hennen

Pastoral CouncilAnne FredricksonJackie BerryKelly HeseltonSara Bertram (Chair)Ed MeyerMike ColeMike MoellerRyan FlicekDirk Nicolai

Finance Council

Steve Addabbo Dan Huberty
Jake Benolkin Shawn Overgaard
Pat Berry Jenny Ward (Chair)

Todd Hertaus

Archdiocese Victim Assistance 651-291-4475

Eucharistic Adoration

Holiday Adoration Schedule

The Adoration Chapel will close on Thursday, December 21, at 4pm and re-open after morning Mass on Tuesday, January 2.

Adoration Hours

Sunday 4 pm to Monday midnight Monday 5 am to Wednesday midnight Wednesday 4 am to Thursday midnight Thursday 4 am to Friday midnight Friday 5 am to Saturday 8 am

Adorers are especially needed for the following hours:

Wednesdays at 10pm and Thursdays at 9am.

If you would like to be placed on the weekly adoration schedule, please contact Sherry Moening at smoenin1@gmail.com or sign up online at https://www.stncc.net/available-adoration-hours.

This week at St. Nicholas





24 Hour Towing 952-469-3182 Repair Shop: Monday- Friday 7:00- 5:30 20152 Kenrick Avenue

Lakeville, MN 55044 ww.MAREKSTOWINGANDREPAIR.COM

Mon Dec 25 (Christmas Eve Day	
Tue Dec 26	Christmas Eve Day Adoration Chapel closed 9:00am Mass (live streamed): Shelly Gifford♥ 10:30am Christmas decorating 4:00pm Mass: For the Parish 9:30pm Christmas Hymns with the St. Nicholas Choir 10:00pm Mass: For the Parish	
	Christmas Day Adoration Chapel Closed 9:00am Mass (live streamed): Adam Jandro & Family	
	Parish office closed Adoration Chapel closed 7:35am Rosary and confessions 8:00am Mass: Geralda Wagner 8:35am Fatima Rosary Group - all are welcome!	
	Adoration Chapel closed 7:35am Rosary and confessions 8:00am Mass: Stuart and Joyce Russell 합 4:45pm Confessions	
	Adoration Chapel closed 7:35am Rosary and confessions 8:00am Mass: Jean Marshall	
	Adoration Chapel closed 7:35am Rosary and confessions 8:00am Mass: Heather Idoni	
	Adoration Chapel closed 7:35am Rosary 8:00am Mass: Irene and Art Hinke 中中 8:35am Confessions 3:30 - 4:40pm Confessions 5:00pm Mass: For the Parish	
	New Year's Eve Day Adoration Chapel closed 8:00am Mass: Gretchen Rhein日 10:00am Mass (live stream): Verna Panka다	
9	New Year's Day Adoration Chapel closed 9:00am Mass (live streamed): For the Parish 5:00pm Mass: LeRoy and Mary Lou Thomas 유학	

Weekly Readings

Readings for the week of December 24, 2023

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18 Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

December 24, 2023 4th Sunday of Advent

General Information



St. Nicholas Catholic Church 51 Church Street Elko New Market, MN 55054 952-461-2403

Parish Office Hours Monday: Closed Tuesday—Friday: 7:45 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Lord's Day Mass

Saturday: 5:00 p.m., Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (Live streamed on our website and Facebook page.)

Daily Mass

Tuesday—Saturday: 8:00 a.m. Saturday morning Mass will be cancelled when there is a wedding or funeral.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday—Friday: 7:35—7:50 a.m. Wednesday: 4:45—5:30 p.m. Saturday: 8:35 a.m. and 3:30—4:40 p.m.

or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Pre-baptism meetings are held with the pastor. Please call for an appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made a minimum of six (6) months in advance.

Communion Call

If you or someone you care for must receive communion at home or in the hospital, please call the parish office.

Care Fund

Help is available for emergency situations & special needs. Please contact the parish office.

Prayer Line

This group is designed to help pray for specific concerns or special intentions. To add someone to the prayer line or if you are interested in becoming one of 45+ who pray, please contact Mary Zweber at 952-461-2366 or Sue Roufs at 612-759-9892.

Bulletin Guidelines

- Bulletin items are due on Tuesdays by 4 p.m.
- Email items to kjohnson@stncc.net.
- All bulletin content is approved by Fr. Rudolph.

From the desk of Father Rudolph

The Prince of Peace in the Middle of War...

Christmas this year has a somber tone if we think about what happened in the land of Jesus' birth on October 7, 2023. There are no adjectives strong enough to describe the horrors inflicted on Israeli women, children, and men by Hamas terrorists. Our hearts can also feel pain in empathy with Palestinians in Gaza who are not in cahoots with Hamas but are still suffering from the effects of the war going on there as part of Israel's understandable fight to survive as a nation. My guess is that this war will end up like all the previous wars Israel has had to fight with its neighbors since its founding in 1948 to avoid getting wiped off the map—with Israel winning. After all, the Jews are God's original chosen People. The Church now shares that role, but that doesn't mean that the first holders of that title have lost it. As Saint Paul wrote: "The gifts and the call of God are irrevocable" (Romans 11:29).

The most famous Jew of all time is Jesus Christ. As Sacred Scripture tells us, he is Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Holy One, Lamb of God, Prince of Life, Lord God Almighty, Lion of the Tribe of Judah, Root of David, Word of Life, Author and Finisher of our Faith, Advocate, the Way, Dayspring, Lord of All, I Am, Son of God, Shepherd and Bishop of Souls, Messiah, the Truth, Savior, Chief Cornerstone, King of Kings, Righteous Judge, Light of the World, Head of the Church, Morning Star, Sun of Righteousness, Lord Jesus Christ, Chief Shepherd, Resurrection and Life, Horn of Salvation, Governor, the Alpha and Omega, and Prince of Peace.

The Prince of Peace is the only one who can bring true peace, because it begins in the human heart, and is a gift of God. True peace is more than a cease fire between enemies. It is reconciliation between children of God who have become united in Christ and have had their hearts and minds transformed by him.

Peace is also the calm that descends when our minds have control over our passions instead of the other way around. It's what's in our soul when we are trying to do God's will, instead of our own. It's the harmony in a home when a family prays and works together. It's the fellowship within a parish where people share the same faith. It's the atmosphere in a school when everyone is seeking what is good, true, and beautiful. It's the camaraderie in a workplace when staff share the same goals. It's the comfortability of living in a city where people all strive for the common good. Are we all the way there yet? No. But Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem just over 2,000 years ago to start us on the way, and to be with us every step. And look how far he's helped us come.

That first Christmas, the angels sang: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14). This Christmas let's pray that people in every country, city, town, home, tent, car, trench, shelter, care center, hospital or prison—wherever we may live—may be completely open to Jesus Christ, who in his great love wants so much to fill us all with his peace.

Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent and a very merry Christmas to you all!

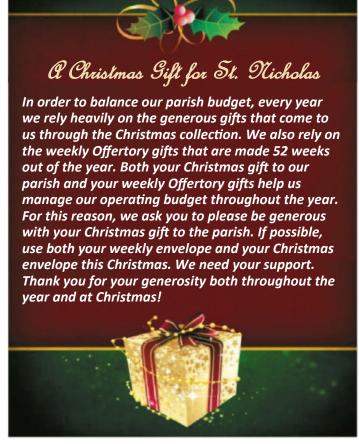


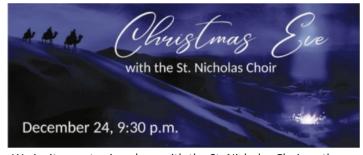
Father Rudolph

December 24, 2023 4th Sunday of Advent

St. Nicholas News & Events







We invite you to sing along with the St. Nicholas Choir as they present beautiful Christmas hymns before the 10pm Mass on Christmas Eve. Music begins at 9:30pm.

THANK YOU SHOUT OUT

Recently discovered volunteering at St. Nicholas:

Marion Hertaus organizing the Butter Braids sales. Rick Petersburg working on improvements in the JPII building lower level. Craig, Michael, Joseph and David Goblirsch installing new front doors on the church.

Our volunteers do a lot to maintain and enhance the life of our parish. – Fr. Rudolph

ST. NICHOLAS SEMINARIANS

We are greatly blessed to have two men from Saint Nicholas who are in formation for the priesthood. Deacon Michael Panka is in his final year at Saint Paul Seminary. Levi Meyer is a sophomore at Saint John Vianney College Seminary. We're also very blessed to be the teaching parish for another seminarian, Paul Zach, who is studying for the Diocese of Fargo and is in his first year at Saint Paul Seminary. I'm sure all three would welcome your prayers, letters, or encouraging and appreciative words when you see them. Father Rudolph.



Michael Panka 2260 Summit Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105



Levi Meyer 2115 Summit Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105



Paul Zach 2260 Summit Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105

St. Nicholas News & Events



YEAR END GIVING AND TAX BENEFITS

As the end of the year approaches, we begin to reflect upon the many blessings bestowed upon us. It also provides a great opportunity to thank God for these blessings.

This is a time of year when people consider giving charitable contributions to their favorite charities to reduce their tax liability of owing Federal income taxes. We hope that you consider St. Nicholas Catholic Church as one of your favorite charities as we always have a need for donations as they are what make the parish viable.

As you review your yearly tax plan to check to the possibility of owing Federal income tax this year, we hope you will consider making a gift to St. Nicholas Catholic Church. Your year-end gift might reduce your income taxes owed while providing a very meaningful support to our parish. Your charitable gifts make an important difference in what we are able to accomplish here at St. Nicholas; any amount you can shift to the parish is greatly needed and appreciated.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!

In order for your contribution to be considered a 2023 charitable tax deduction, please note:

- Contributions (if mailed) must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2023
- Contributions must be in the collection basket on or before December 31, 2023
- Contributions must be physically in the parish office or the parish drop box located on the porch of the parish house on or before December 31, 2023

Contributions received in the January 1, 2024, collections are considered 2024 contributions even if checks are dated for 2023.

For your convenience, St. Nicholas accepts online payments through our parish website, struct.net. You can make payments with your Debit card, Credit card, or through your bank account for your regular Sunday giving, for events or classes, and for donations such as year-end gifts to the parish.

Saint of the Day - Blessed Bartolomeo dal Monte

Bartolomeo was born in Bologna, Italy on November 3, 1726. His father, Orazio, was a wealthy banker. His mother, Anna Maria Basseni, had lost three children in infancy before giving birth to Bartolomeo when she was forty-three. He was confirmed at age seven and educated as a teenager by the Jesuits. His father tried to get Bartolomeo involved in the banking business, but a friend introduced him to a devout parish priest, Fr. Alessandro Zani, who had founded a Congregation to care for the young poor and sick. This priest became a major spiritual influence on Bartolomeo, who pursued a way of life that focused on self-control, long hours of prayer, and devotion to the Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In 1743, after going to hear a parish mission, Bartolomeo became convinced that he was called to be a priest and give missions himself. He was ordained at the age of 23 and went on to study for a doctorate, which he achieved in one year. He remained devoted to study for the rest of his life, leaving a library of over two thousand books. He also started preaching missions. To help him learn how to preach well, he travelled around Italy to hear the finest preachers of the time and take notes about both subject matter and style. His reputation grew, he preached in various cities and in the countryside, and many people came to his missions. These focused on the Four Last Things...death, judgment, hell, and heaven.

The missions were prepared well in advance. Their days were divided into preaching, catechesis for children and adults, confessions, Mass, and processions. Bartolomeo used theatrical aids, largely to influence audiences with images of the death of sinners and the consequences of sin, and to convince minds, stimulate wills and move hearts to conversion. The missions were very popular and achieved considerable long-term success. Bartolomeo also left a number of writings setting out his principles and practical guidelines for missions. His main message in them was "Jesus as the heart of the priest." Bartolomeo died on Dec. 24, 1778. Blessed Bartolomeo dal Monte, pray for us! (Excerpted and adapted with permission of the Publisher from Butler's Lives of the Saints, New Full Edition @Paul Burns 2003, Published by Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN)



USHERS NEEDED

Men and women, including young adults are needed for the important ministry of ushering at all weekend liturgies. Ushers help greet and seat parishioners. They collect the offerings, help direct the communion procession, and distribute bulletins at the conclusion of the liturgy. For more information, please text or call Ron Chlan at 952-212-7251.

4th Sunday of Advent December 24, 2023

St. Nicholas News & Events



SAVE THE DATES!

June 9 - 14, 2024

Learn about The Apostles Creed and the Glorious Mysteries of the rosary while growing in your relationship with the Lord!

Totus Tuus is a Catholic summer youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic Faith through catechesis, evangelization, Christian witness and Eucharistic worship. The goal of Totus Tuus is to help young people grow in the understanding of, and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ. It is only by establishing a real and personal relationship with Him that we can be led to love of the Father in the Spirit and so be made sharers in the life of the Holy Trinity.

Day Sessions: Students entering grades 1 - 6: Monday, June 10, Friday, June 14, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Evening Sessions: Students entering grades 7 - 12: Sunday, June 9, Thursday, June 13, 6:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

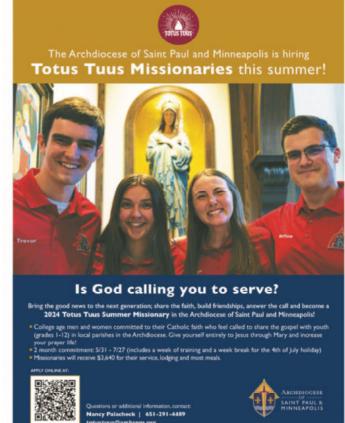
All sessions are held at Holy Cross Catholic School in Webster.



Website: stncc.net

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Twitter.com/Stnccnet





Our Parish School News



The staff and students at Holy Cross Catholic School thank everyone for their continued support and generosity throughout the year and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

May God bless you all!

2024-2025

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

If you have been considering Holy Cross for your family, now is the prime time to register.

To learn more about our beautiful school or to register, follow this link: https://www.holycrossschool.net/



OPEN HOUSE - JANUARY 12, 8 - 11:30AM

We invite you to come and see our Preschool through 8th grade programs;

- *Meet with the Principal
- *Tour the school
- *Sit in on classes
- *Special presentation for Kindergarten between 9:00 and 10:00am.

Measure of Our Treasure to the Lord December 10, 2023 - Week 24 in Fiscal Year Weekly Giving: Weekly Needed: Weekly Over/(Under):

December 1	December 10, 2025 Week 24 milliotal real		
Weekly Giving:	Weekly Needed:	Weekly Over/(Under):	
\$6,619	\$6,365	\$253	
YTD Giving:	YTD Needed:	YTD Over/(Under):	
\$148,647	\$152,769	(\$4,122)	



HOW WILL YOU REPAY THE LORD?

We appreciate your financial support. Every gift you make advances our mission of making Jesus Christ known and loved and enables us to continue our parish operations.

Here's how you can help:

- Text GIVE to 1-952-209-7799.
- Give Online: https://www.stncc.net/give-now
- Mail in your weekly contribution:
 - St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 51 Church St.



"At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that, by the words of Christ and the invocation of the Holy Spirit, become Christ's Body and Blood." - CCC #1333



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CORNER

As of 12/13/2023, the total pledged is \$981,662 less \$22,323 pledges withdrawn for a net of \$959,339 in pledges. The total payments received is \$906,202. **THANK YOU** to all who have made a commitment! **Pledges/donations can still be made and we welcome adoption of pledges that have been withdrawn.** Please consider supporting this campaign to enhance the life of our parish. Pledge cards are in the back of church or you can pledge online at structure.

To see all updates for the Faith in Our Future Campaign, please visit: https://www.stncc.net/capital-campaign-corner.



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