


This Week's Events: TUESDAY: 8:00 AM Mass 7:00 PM Prayer Shawl in Parish Center WEDNESDAY: 6:00 – 7:30 PM Faith Formation Classes THURSDAY: 8:00 AM Mass 7:00 PM AA Meeting in Parish Center FRIDAY: 6:45 PM Mass 7:15 PM Prayer Group SATURDAY: 7:00 AM Men's Group Meeting in Parish Center 8:00 AM Mass	Sunday Giving December 26, 2010 Children 2.00 Adult Envelopes & Plate 3,174.00 Collected to date 50,778.50 Budgeted to date 59,900.00 Net (Loss) (9,121.50) COUNTERS: January 9 - Steve R. & Bill H.	
	Love INC Volunteers/Donations Needed Need someone to help install some software Need a flat screen monitor & keyboard for a family Need someone to walk a dog every evening around 5:00 Need transportation for a 3 year old to school Need help paying utility bill Need drivers during the day Need interior plastic for 12 windows and installation Need weather stripping & caulking for windows & install Need some personal items for a young mom, socks, etc. Need working refrigerators Need a bassinette & a safe clean crib Need Pull-ups size 3T - 4T - 5T	Mass Intentions Jan 4 8:00 am †Joseph Mahowald (Florida) Jan 6 8:00 am †Rev Msgr James Namie Jan 8 4:00 pm †Henry, Delores & Michael Schutrop 7:00 pm †Joseph & Viona Anderson Jan 9 8:00 am St. Nicholas 10:00 am Those in the Military

MASS SERVERS: SaturdayJanuary 8 4:00pm..... Mike Szaroletta Tony Szaroletta 7:00pm.....Christopher Walters Help Needed SundayJanuary 9 8:00am.....Sam Wickenhauser Tyler Fisher 10:00am...Thomas Roble Sam Roble	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: SaturdayJanuary 8 4:00pm....Char Weber Charles Mahowald 7:00pm....Frank & Gail Ruhland SundayJanuary 9 8:00am...Kate Harmon, Sharon Hartung and Cathy Pass 10:00am...Steve & Amy Roble Jon Kellen	Lectors: SaturdayJanuary 8 4:00pm.....Help Needed 7:00pm.....Patrick Dempsey SundayJanuary 9 8:00am.....Cathy Pass 10:00am.....Jon Kellen
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St. Nicholas Catholic Church


A community committed to welcoming, stewardship and evangelizing since 1868



We are glad to have you here today! If you wish to register at St. Nicholas, please call the church or Father's cell.

Fr. Thomas Joseph
 412 W. 4th Street • P.O. Box 133
 Carver, MN 55315
952-448-2345
www.stnicholascarver.org
 Father's Cell **507-339-8244**
frthomasstnicholas@embarqmail.com

Peruvian dancers at the Children's Christmas Eve Mass.





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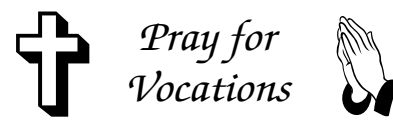
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TO PLACE AN AD, call the
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 Pray for Vocations

STAFF

Business Administrator
 Jodee Korkowski448-2345
jodeestnicholas@embarqmail.com
Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
 Sharon Menden448-2345
sharonstnicholas@embarqmail.com

COUNCIL AND BOARD

Finance and Property Board
 Chair: Steve Carlson448-4861

Faith Formation Board
 Chair: Amy Roble448-5336

COORDINATORS

Cemetery - JoAnn Hasse612-708-4118
Lectors - Kelly Spartz605-360-0959
Servers - Jennifer Szaroletta466-5578
Eucharistic Minister - Kelly Spartz605-360-0959
Sacristan - Terri Schuster448-5256
Funeral - Darlene Mahowald448-4464
Prayer Chain - Darlene Mahowald448-4464
Church Cleaning - Nancy Ludovissie448-4266
Welcoming Committee - Help Needed
Women's Group - Rita Buesgens466-5667
Ushers - Chris Konechne808-291-2346
Vincent de Paul Society & Love INC
 Sue Bolland448-2721
 Char Weber448-3650
"That Man is You" - Bill Haysbhays02@yahoo.com
Sunday School for Children - Tamara Anderson361-6773
Music Ministry - Help Needed Church Office 448-2345
Pastoral Care - Nancy Ludovissie448-4266
Landscaping - Annette and Al Hentz952-270-2717
Children's Choir - Helena Howard952-334-9962
Prolife Ministry Coordinator - Barb Swanson448-2830
Webmaster - Nancy Tuma448-2456

"One who prays is a full man; one who prays now and then is a half man; one who prays never is an animal." ~ Anonymous
 At St. Nicholas we are blessed with an active prayer chain team. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please call Darlene at (952) 448-4464.

Weekend Masses
Saturday: 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Daily Masses
 Rosary ½ hr. before Mass
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday: 8:00 a.m.
Friday during Lent: Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m.
 Mass following at approx. 7:15 p.m.

Adoration
Every Friday: 6:00-7:00 p.m.
1st Friday of each month: 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Reception of the Sacraments

BAPTISM:
 Time & date as requested by the Family -
 Call for Pre-Baptismal program

CONFESSION (RECONCILIATION):
 Saturdays after the 8:00 am Mass, 3:45-4:00 pm &
 6:45-7:00 pm, Sundays 7:45-8:00 & 9:45-10:00 am,
 or **anytime as requested**

MARRIAGE:
 Call the parish office to make arrangements

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:
 Anytime, call Fr. Thomas at 448-2345 or 507-339-8244

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):
 Please call the parish office for more information



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JANUARY 2, 2011 – SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Happy New Year!

Christmas Joy! Is it not wonderful to know that the Christmas story is relevant to this day? No matter how many opinions there are out there—the Christmas story is still relevant, Christianity is still relevant. So too, our coming to Church is relevant, our support for the Church in whatever ways possible is relevant. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." These words of Jesus (Matthew 11: 28) remind us that Christmas is relevant, Christ is relevant. Jesus can celebrate with us, eat with us, cry with us, and He can be the 'all in all' of our lives here on earth and beyond. For this reason, the Christmas story is relevant to this day.

Thank You! Thanks to all of you who helped in any way for the Christmas story to be repeated from the hills of Carver, 'a city set on the hill.' I am very grateful to all of you for the cards, letters, pictures and gifts that you sent me. Thank you to all of you who helped with setting up the Nativity, removing the walls in the parish center, cleaning, decorating, setting up chairs, helping in the office, clearing and shoveling snow and all of the other preparations for Christmas. Thank you to our dedicated Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, Ushers, Sacristans, Sound Technicians and Coordinators. Many of you did multiple Masses or put in extra time to make our Christmas liturgies beautiful. We are especially grateful to our dedicated choir and the leadership of Rita Poppitz, our organist for all they did.

Christmas Flowers! We appreciate the generosity of the following families who made a donation towards our Christmas flowers: Butch & Dottie Illig, Skip Low, Chuck & Darlene Mahowald, the Jim Poppler Family, Darrel & Barb Swanson and Doug & Mary Schoen (In Memory of Lorraine Degnan, Margaret Gussenhoven & Barbara Mueller.)

Statewide Immigration Sunday! The Bishops throughout Minnesota ask us to remember our immigrant brothers and sisters this weekend on the Feast of Our Lord's Epiphany as we also celebrate Statewide Immigration Sunday. As the Magi found themselves welcomed in a foreign land, we too, must offer hospitality to the stranger in our midst. In doing so, we strengthen the unity of the human family, making us one body, one in communion with God, our creator.

Church Roof Construction Update! The electricians were busy doing their part this week. We are going to put the four main hanging lights back in with three new ceiling fans. We are going to add some recessed lighting in the choir loft. We are still in the process of selecting some wall sconces and lights for under the balcony. Next week the remainder of the ceiling will be sheet rocked and taped. The attic will also be insulated. With the current schedule we hope to complete all of the work by the end of January.

Stewardship Update! As you can see on the back page, we are making great progress in reducing our net loss by over \$3,000 in just three weeks! Thank you good people for responding to our stewardship appeal. Please continue to do whatever you can support your church. Our Christmas collection so far is \$3,771.26. If you were out of town for Christmas, it is not too late to help us reach our goal of \$6,000.

Faith Formation Classes Resume! I hope all the students and teachers enjoyed the Christmas break. We will resume classes this coming Wednesday, January 5 from 6 – 7:30 pm. We will have a parish packing session at Feed My Starving Children on Tuesday, January 18 from 6 – 7:30 pm, all ages (third grade and above) are welcome to come and join us. We will have a sign up sheet in the parish center or you can register to join our group at www.fmsc.org. This is an excellent service project for our Faith Formation families to participate in.

During 2011 let us consecrate ourselves to Mary! As we begin 2011, let us consecrate ourselves to Mary our Mother. St. Athanasius (297-373) wrote, "If the Son is King, the Mother who begot Him is rightly and truly considered a Queen and Sovereign." Yes, we can to easily go to Jesus through Mary. Jesus will be pleased that we are nice to His Mother, that we confide in her, that we turn to her protection, especially in 2011. Please take some time to consecrate yourself to Mary, Mother of God during this New Year 2011:

O Immaculata, Queen of Heaven and earth, refuge of sinners and our most loving Mother, God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to thee. I, N___, a repentant sinner, cast myself at thy feet humbly imploring thee to take me with all that I am and have, wholly to thyself as thy possession and property. Please make of me, of all my powers of soul and body, of my whole life, death and eternity, whatever most pleases thee. If it pleases thee, use all that I am and have without reserve, wholly to accomplish what was said of thee: "She will crush your head," and, "Thou alone have destroyed all heresies in the whole world."

Let me be a fit instrument in thine Immaculate and merciful hands for introducing and increasing the maximum in all the many strayed and indifferent souls,

and thus help extend as far as possible the blessed Kingdom of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. For wherever thou enters, one obtains the grace of conversion and growth in holiness, since it is through thy hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

*V. Allow me to praise thee O Sacred Virgin.
R. Give me strength against thy enemies.*

Prayer Shawl! Our next Prayer Shawl get together will be on Tuesday, January 4, 2011 in the Parish Center. The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides handmade shawls that are knitted or crocheted to be given to parishioners/family members/friends who are in need of prayers for comfort, love, hope, warmth and healing. We will pray, knit or crochet, and enjoy some fellowship. We could always use more donations of yarn. (6 skeins of the same color or colors that go together are preferred.) A big thank you for the donations we have already received. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon at sharonstnicholas@embarqmail.com or 952-496-3443.

Dear Padre Question! The following question was taken from [Catholic Questions, Catholic Answers](#) by Fr. Kenneth Ryan. Q. Are we to believe that Jesus as a child had to learn his ABC's like other children? Since He was God as well as a man wasn't he born knowing all things?

A. Yes, but things like the ABC's were learned as part of what is called His "experimental knowledge." The Epistle to the Hebrews says He "learned obedience through what he suffered." Christ knew what obedience was, but He added practical human experience to the theoretical knowledge He already had. Another name for His theoretical knowledge is "infused knowledge." Christ had knowledge of things like matrix algebra, propositional calculus, and atomic physics, but not the experience of using it. Had the occasion arisen His human mind could have invented the music of Bach, the mathematics of Einstein, or the artificial intelligence of the computer. In addition to experimental and theoretical (infused) knowledge, He had the Beatific Vision of God, the supreme knowledge which other men and women can attain only after death.

How and on exactly what these various kinds of knowledge operated will remain forever mysterious to us. We can say that His teaching in the Temple at the age of twelve was merely the action of a bright boy, but such claims as His "I and the Father are one" are not the result of any human knowledge. Modernistic Christian theologians who preach such things as that Christ did not know He was the Messiah until His baptism by John, do not begin with the belief that He was God and had the Beatific Vision from the instance of His human conception. It is true that in His ordinary actions there was nothing to indicate His possession of

divine knowledge. But we know it was there from His extraordinary actions, such as the predictions of the manner of His death and His resurrection. [Ryan, Kenneth, Father. [Catholic Questions, Catholic Answers](#). Ann Arbor: Servant Publications, 1990. Print. Pg. 29]

Sunday Reflection! Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. Psalm 72 The Gospel for today is from Matthew 2 in which we learn about the Magi from the east, following a star, arriving at the place that Jesus was born; and bringing with them the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. By manifesting Himself to the three Kings, who were non-Jews, the Baby Jesus sent the message that He came for all. This Jesus who came for all, is capable of understanding every circumstance of our lives; is interested in being part of everything we do. Dear people of St. Nicholas and everyone, now that Christmas is over; the message of Christmas still has to be carried out. May the following words by an unknown Christian be our inspiration:

*"When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with the flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoners,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among brothers,
to make music with the heart."*

In Christ Jesus,

Fr. Thomas Joseph

Fr. Thomas Joseph

Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.

Remember the fun we had with Chocolate & Chuckles last year? This year we are inviting any married or engaged couples to a Marriage Enrichment Seminar on Sat. Jan. 29th, 2011 at Pax Christi in Eden Prairie. It will run from 9am - 4pm. Mark Gunger's own team will be here!!! The day will include the wildly funny videos-Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage, presentations by Mark's team and lunch/beverages. Register as soon as possible online at: WWW.LAUGHYOURWAY.COM There is room for only 120 couples for this unique opportunity. So register early! For more information or questions contact: Dennis & Jane Hively @ [952-448-6702](tel:952-448-6702). Sponsored by Twin Cities WorldWide Marriage Encounter.

On January 8, at 8 am St. Victoria will host the annual Men Building Bridges Prayer Breakfast for fathers, sons, grandfathers, uncles, friends, etc. Jon Melander will be the guest speaker and tickets are \$10. If you are interested in attending, please call [952-443-2661](tel:952-443-2661) for tickets and/or more information.

Come join the Christian communities of the Minnesota River Valley at the Rev. Martin Luther King Celebration at Shepherd of the Hill Church, on Monday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m., at 145 Engler Boulevard, Chaska. Rev. Gordon Stewart (Shepherd of the Hill), & Fr. Paul Jarvis (Guardian Angels) will speak with music by Momoh Freeman. All Christians and people of good will are invited.