

TUESDAY October 14<sup>th</sup>  
Parish Council Meeting @  
7:00pm.

WEDNESDAY October 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm. No Faith Formation

THURSDAY October 16<sup>th</sup>  
A.A Meeting

FRIDAY October 17<sup>th</sup>  
Prayer Group @ 7:15PM.

Sunday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> Counter  
Mike Shelly & Barb Swanson

**Sunday Giving September 28,2008**

Children.....32.16  
Adult Envelopes & Plate.....2652.00  
Collected to date.....32,562.74  
Budgeted to date.....35,550.00  
Net (Loss).....(2,987.26)

Lectors  
Saturday.....Oct 18<sup>th</sup>  
7:00p.....Cathy Pass  
Sunday.....Oct 19<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am.....Mike Fahey  
10:00am.....Sam Welter

**MASS SERVERS:**

Saturday .....Oct 18<sup>th</sup>  
7:00.....Mike Szaroletta  
.....Christopher Walters  
Sunday..... Oct 19<sup>th</sup>  
8:00am.....Jennifer Castanias  
.....Emily Castanias  
10:00am..... Tyler Fisher  
.....Mary Welter

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Saturday .....Oct 18<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm..... Cathy Pass  
.....Ed & Jean Poppler  
Sunday.....Michael Swirtz  
8:00am.....Mary Poppler  
.....Sharon Hartung  
10am.....Teresa Thiede  
.....Madonna Grapentine  
.....Victoria Forner

# St. Nicholas Church

A community committed to welcoming, stewardship and evangelizing since 1868



**Fr. Thomas Joseph**  
412 W. 4th Street • P.O. Box 133  
Carver, MN 55315

**952-448-2345**  
[www.stnicholascarver.org](http://www.stnicholascarver.org)

Father's Cell **507-339-8244**  
[frthomasstnicholas@embarqmail.com](mailto:frthomasstnicholas@embarqmail.com)



Fr. Thomas with Kayla Fahey on her birthday

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

## Staff

**Parish Secretary**

Gail Johnson.....448-2345 (wk)  
gailstnicholas@embarqmail.com...448-6580 (hm)

**Director of Faith Formation**

Char Kozar.....448-6181  
ckozar@embarqmail.com

**Maintenance**

Lester Wickenhauser.....448-7657

## Weekend Masses

**Saturday:** 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.  
**Wednesday & Friday:** 6:45 p.m.

**"Coffee & Rolls with the Priest"**  
Tuesdays after 8:00 a.m. Mass

## Adoration

**Every Friday:** 6:00-6:45 p.m.  
**1st Friday of each month:** 3:00-6:45 p.m.

## Reception of the Sacraments

**BAPTISM:**

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

**PENANCE (RECONCILIATION):**

Saturdays 6:00-7:00 p.m.  
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 (Rights of Christian Initiation for Adults):**

Please call the parish office for more information

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**Edina Realty**  
1228 Vierling Drive  
Shakopee, MN 55379

TO PLACE AN AD, call Gail at St. Nicholas: (952) 448-6580  
or E-mail information to: [gailstnicholas@embarqmail.com](mailto:gailstnicholas@embarqmail.com)

CHURCH WEBSITE: [www.stnicholascarver.org](http://www.stnicholascarver.org)

## Organization

**Parish Pastoral Council:**

Pres.: Tom Kozar.....448-6181

**Finance and Property Board**

Chair: Candis Wickenhauser.....448-7657

**Faith Formation Board**

Chair: Sue Bolland.....448-2721

**Liturgical Coodinators**

Lectors - Tammy Castanias.....448-7345

Servers - Jennifer Szaroletta.....466-5578

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Nancy Ludouissie.....448-4266

**Sacristans**

Tammy Castanias.....448-7345

**Funeral Committee**

Darlene Mahowald.....448-4464

**Prayer Chain**

Mercedes Lano.....448-4798

**Cemetery Coordinator**

JoAnn Hasse.....612-708-4118

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TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Is 25:6-10a Ps. 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20 Matt 22:1-14

**Welcome New Parishioners!** We have registered a number of new parishioners in the past weeks. Their names will be in the bulletin next week. We are glad and grateful to carry on the welcoming tradition of this community that began in 1868.

**Year of St. Paul continues!** St. Paul in his letter to the Romans writes, "The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words." (Romans 8:26). Yes, dear brothers and sisters, the Holy Spirit is willing to help us to pray. Do we listen to the Holy Spirit?

**India's (my home country) Newest Martyrs!** An armed mob landed at the house of Samuel and Daniel Nayak on the 25th of August 2008 with an ultimatum: Denounce the faith or die. "Do you want Christ or your life?" The family members together in one voice replied, "Christ is everything for us." Enraged, the mob brutally killed them one by one. Meanwhile the family members stood firm and raised their hands in prayer. The house was set on fire, reducing all seven members of the family to ashes. The way these Christians from the state of Orissa, India died for their faith is no different from the first Christians of the early Church who suffered persecution under the Roman emperors. We in Carver, Minnesota may not suffer the red martyrdom (death by blood), but we do suffer the white martyrdom of our daily lives. Let us offer all of our suffering in solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the world who undergo sufferings because they believe in Jesus.

**Michaela Shelley**, a six year old little girl, daughter of Michael and Joan Shelley, is indeed God's messenger to all of us! If you remember last Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Mass, the Shelley family came forward and Joan shared a story with us about her little Michaela. Early in the morning, Michaela came to her mother and gave her a plastic bag that held \$1.30. "Mom, this is for the poor," Michaela said. When her mother asked her, "What made you do this?" Michaela said, "Because the poor do not have as much as we do." What an incredible lesson this little girl teaches us. Yes, dear friends, "for the people of faith everything is a providence and for those who do not have faith, everything is an accident." The generosity of little Michaela is a miracle right here in Carver. When you observe your children and spend enough time with them, you will see how God works miracles through them in so many ways.

**"That Man is You"** The kick off of our men's program went very well and exceeded all of our expectations! I was so thrilled and humbled to have eighteen men in the house last Saturday for breakfast, video, group sharing, fellowship and prayer. I was told that we could expect to have 25 men attend this Saturday. Thank you men for choosing to be witnesses. We admire your sacrifices; we admire your willingness to take time and make this happen. Please keep inviting other men. Remember – this is for men of all ages.

**CCW (Council of Catholic Women):** We hope to start this program for women in our parish very soon. Bonnie Hays is working on this. Details to follow.

**Have you made your Commitment as a family?** Have you thought about making a commitment to bring your children to Saturday morning Mass once a month in addition to Sunday Mass? As parents you desire the best for your children. You go to their Christmas concerts; you are at the football or baseball field to cheer them on; you attend volleyball and basketball games. All of these are great. Amidst all the good things you do, I gently encourage you to bring your children at least once a month for the Saturday morning Mass; once a month for time with Jesus in the Eucharist. As you know, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed every Friday 6:00-6:45 p.m. and every first Friday of the month 3:00-6:45 p.m. Jesus asked His disciples to watch with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane when He said "stay here and watch with me." Matthew 26:38. The same Jesus is asking us to come to the Eucharist and spend time with Him.



**10 Hail Marys a day!** One of the good things that I learned from Mother Teresa is to pray at least 10 Hail Marys before going to bed. If you are able to pray the rosary every day, that is wonderful. If not, I invite you to make a promise to Mary our mother that you will not go to bed before having prayed at least 10 Hail Marys every day.

**Have you invited someone to St. Nicholas?** We are glad to have so many new parishioners coming to Church. We could do an even better job; we could fill up the church. As the saying goes, "drops make the ocean." If each of us does our part, we can make this an even more dynamic community. During this week, could you consider inviting someone to come to Mass?

**Going high-tech!** As you know, technology is no longer a luxury of the few. It has become a way of life. I have seen children and grandchildren give a laptop as a birthday gift to a 75-year-old grandma. And grandma loved it so much because she was able to keep in touch with her grandchildren through emails. No doubt, we at St. Nicholas needed high-speed Internet. We now have it and it works well. Next week, we hope to update our website with some useful links like those of the Vatican, the archdiocese, EWTN and other helpful tools. Once the update is completed, I strongly encourage you to go to the St. Nicholas website and use these resources as much as you can.

**Tammy Castanias** has given so much to this community and she will continue to do so. As you know Paul and Tammy Castanias and their children love St. Nicholas dearly and they will always be strong supporters of the parish. As the community continues to grow, Tammy has generously agreed to share her commitment of service to the parish. Tammy will take care of the environmental needs of the church, like decorations, plants, flowers, etc. Tammy is so knowledgeable with liturgy that I asked her to be my right hand in making our liturgical worship all the more beautiful. We can always count on her generosity. As Tammy is taking leave of some of the things she has been doing, we need new faces for the following tasks: a head sacristan to make things ready for Mass, a head lector, a head person to make sure all the linen in the church is clean and a head person to sign up families for cleaning the church. If you are interested in any of these ministries, please let me know. Jennifer Szaroletta has generously agreed to take care of the altar servers. We need your help to continue the growth of St. Nicholas.

**Saturday, October 25th**, we will celebrate our first 4.30 p.m. Mass. Please spread the word. Tell everyone that you talk to on the phone, in the grocery store or that you meet during the coming weeks that we will have 4.30 p.m. Mass beginning the 25th of October. Could you help get the word out so everyone knows about this additional Mass? Could you?

**Halloween Party is coming up!** Please bring your children to the priest's house on the 31st of October between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. for 'trick or treat.'

**Christmas is coming!** Before we know it, it will be Christmas Eve. In addition to the 4:00 p.m. children's Mass we will also have a 10:30 p.m. Mass this year on Christmas Eve. And of course we will have Mass on Christmas day at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

**Faith Formation!** I can certainly testify that we have a wonderful faith formation program. Thank you parents for all of your support.

**Sunday Reflection:** In the Gospel of Matthew 22:1-14 Jesus gives us another parable. In this parable Jesus compares the Kingdom of heaven to a king who threw a party for his son's wedding. Those invited ignored the king's invitation. Becoming enraged, the king ordered his servants to go into the streets and invite any one whom they could find. As a result, the hall was filled. When the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there that was not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said to his servants, "Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth." Isn't Jesus so mean to tell such a story? Certainly not. Not being dressed properly for the wedding was His message. It shows that even though the man was present at the wedding physically, his mind was somewhere else. Jesus asks that we come to church not only with our bodies, but also with our minds - prepared for the Mass.

In Christ Jesus,

Fr. Thomas Joseph

There is altar server training the weekend of October 18<sup>th</sup> as well as November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00–10:30 a.m. at the church. We are in serious need of students willing to commit to this volunteer position. With an additional Mass it now takes 8 altar servers each weekend and currently we only have a total of 17 servers. Please contact Jennifer Szaroletta at 952-466-5578 or email her at [JNIFSZA@aol.com](mailto:JNIFSZA@aol.com) if interested.

Dear Parishioners!

We are in the beginning stages of getting our Youth Group together. We have a gentleman and hopefully another couple to lead our youth. Currently, the plan is to meet two Sundays a month. There will be social time and discussion time. Right now we are asking for donations of a used Ping-Pong table or a foosball table. We're also looking for beanbag chairs and smaller sofas. We are planning a coffeehouse setting where we can sit around and be comfy. We are open to ideas! We plan on setting up an area in the parish center for the kids to play games, socialize or have a meal together. They could also bring unfinished homework and possibly get help from their friends. We hope to have a hayride and bonfire soon just to get the kids fired up! Call Char Kozar with questions 952-448-6181