

This Week's Events: SUNDAY: Immaculate Conception Mass 4:00 pm MONDAY: Immaculate Conception Mass 8:00 am & 7:00 pm TUESDAY: Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm WEDNESDAY: 6-7:30 F.F. Classes Mass for grades 7, 8, & 9 THURSDAY: AA Meeting in Parish Center FRIDAY: Prayer Group 7:15 pm COUNTERS: Barry & Mike	Sunday Giving - November 30, 2008 Children 22.20 Adult Envelopes & Plate..... 2193.25 Collected to date 52,544.34 Budgeted to date 56,502.00 Net (Loss).....(1,629.91)	
	Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Mass Servers, please see your schedule or contact your coordinator for this week's schedule. We were unable to include this information due to space limitations. Sorry!	Mass Intentions: Dec 13 4:00 pm Elected Officials 7:00 pm Ervin Poppler Dec 14 8:00 am Gerald Jacob's Family 10:00 am Our 140 th Anniversary Celebration

We are still in need of ushers for all of the Masses (4 pm, 7 pm, 8 am & 10 am). If you are able to help with this ministry, please call Madonna Grapentine at 952-448-2474. If we have several people, each person would only need to usher once a month.


The St. Vincent de Paul Society will have its first meeting on December 8th at 7 p.m. in the parish center. Please join us and learn more about this new organization at St. Nicholas.

GA in Chaska will have a Dad's Belgian Waffle breakfast in the school gym on December 14th from 8 a.m. to noon. All proceeds go to GA school. \$7 Adults, \$5 6-12 grade & 5 and under FREE. All you can eat!!!

ATTENTION YOUTH 7-12 GRADE: Please attend the Youth Group meeting on December 14th at 5:30 p.m. at Rick & Laura Vogel's home. Please bring a snack to share – you can include healthy snacks too! This will be our Christmas Celebration and include prayer, socializing, & games. We will also organize our leadership for the program. Please RSVP by December 10th to ckozarstnicholas@embarqmail.com.

St. Nicholas Catholic 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

Father's Cell **507-339-8244**
frthomasstnicholas@embarqmail.com

Fr. Thomas with parishoners Madeline Bruckner (oldest) & Natalie Anderson (youngest) with Fr. Magnus Mayr (first pastor of St. Nicholas) in the background.



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	Parish office.....448-2345
Director of Faith Formation	Char Kozar448-6181 ckozar@embarqmail.com
Maintenance	Lester Wickenhauser.....448-7657
Cemetery	JoAnn Hasse.....612-708-4118

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

Daily Masses
 Rosary ½ hr. before Mass
Monday: Mass/Communion Service 6:45 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday: 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday & Friday: 6:45 p.m.

COUNCIL AND BOARD

<i>Parish Pastoral Council</i>	
Pres. : Tom Kozar.....	448-6181
<i>Finance and Property Board</i>	
Chair: Candis Wickenhauser.....	448-7657
<i>Faith Formation Board</i>	
Chair: Sue Bolland.....	448-2721
COORDINATORS	
<i>Lectors</i> - Mitch Perrine.....	448-7535
<i>Servers</i> - Jennifer Szaroletta.....	466-5578
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i> - Nancy Ludouissie.....	448-4266
<i>Sacristan</i> - Terri Schuster.....	448-5256
<i>Funeral</i> - Darlene Mahowald.....	448-4464
<i>Prayer Chain</i> - Darlene Mahowald.....	448-4464
Mercedes Lano.....	448-4798
<i>Environment & Decorating</i> - Tammy Castanias.....	448-7345
<i>Church Cleaning</i> - Nancy Ludouissie.....	448-4266
<i>Welcoming Committee</i> - Kathy Dempsey.....	612-987-1617
<i>Council of Catholic Women</i> - Bonnie Hays.....	361-3496
<i>Bible Study</i> - Mary Perrine.....	448-7535
<i>Evangelization</i> - Jacquelyn Christianson.....	448-9861
<i>Youth Ministry</i> - Jeremy Rich.....	361-0297
<i>Ushers</i> - Madonna Grapentine.....	448-2474
<i>Vincent de Paul Society</i> - Sue Bolland.....	448-2721
<i>"That Man is You"</i> - Tom Kozar.....	448-6181
<i>Sunday School for Children</i> - Tamara Anderson.....	361-6773
<i>Music Ministry</i> - Barry StreLOW.....	448-4363

"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

 <p style="text-align: center;">Brenngman Printing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">206 Chestnut St, Chaska Daryl Brenngman 448-3575</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">It's time to put your life on a brand new frequency</p> <p style="text-align: center;">relevant radio 1330 AM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Relevant Radio™ is dedicated to bridging the gap between faith and everyday life Visit www.relevantradio.com for a complete programming schedule or to listen on-line</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Bobcat Backhoe • Additions • Trucking • Landscaping Snowplowing • Concrete Tearout • Demolition</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chuck's EXCAVATING</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Chuck Worm • (952) 496-2874 760 W. 96th Street • Chanhassen, MN 55317</p>	<p style="font-size: large;"><i>Please support these businesses... they are an asset to our community.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Chaska Floral & Gifts</i></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Roman Symanitz - Parishoner www.chaskafloreal.net 208 Chestnut Street • Chaska 952-448-6691</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Life Insurance, Annuities & Benefits</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CATHOLIC AID ASSOCIATION PHILIP "SAM" WELTER Field Representative, Member of the President's Club (952) 448-4865 • PO Box 296 • Carver, MN 55315 www.catholicaid.org • Lic. #654197</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lions Tap</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Famous Hamburgers Hwy. 169 & Cty. Rd. 4 Eden Prairie Bert & Bonnie Notermann West of Flying Cloud Airport 934-5299</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">OTB OHNSORG TRUCK BODIES, Inc.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Manufacturing Quality Truck Bodies since 1934</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">860 Commerce Dr. E. Belle Plaine, MN 56011 otbmf.com 952-873-2250</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PLEHAL BLACKTOPPING INC.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">13060 Dem Con Drive P.O. Box 317 Shakopee, MN 55379 www.plehal.com Jack Van Remortel President Full Service Asphalt Work Since 1949 Driveways • Tennis Courts Parking Areas • Seal Coating Office (952) 445-7676 Fax (952) 445-7682 Direct (952) 224-7140</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TUPY TREE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">4975 Le Sueur Ave PO Box 308 New Prague, MN 56071 952-758-4658</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">T.J. Replacement Windows</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Windows • Doors • Siding TOM GESTACH (952) 448-4312 Carver, MN</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RALPH W. BAILEY & ASSOC.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Tax and Accounting Services IT Support Friendly, Customized Service 612-743-7439 Phone 116 2nd Street East Carver, MN 55318 952-448-9939 Home Chaska, MN 55318 E-mail: warm4h2c@comcast.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Get a FREE Market Analysis!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BARRY STRELOW REALTOR® Direct: 952-496-5236 Cell: 651-753-0417 Fax: 952-445-8252 barrystreLOW@edinarealty.com Edina Realty 1228 Vierling Drive Shakopee, MN 55379</p>
<p>TO PLACE AN AD, call the St. Nicholas office: (952) 448-2345</p>	<p style="font-size: large;">+</p> <p style="font-size: large;"><i>Pray for Vocations</i></p> <p style="font-size: large;">✋</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Carver Country Flowers & Gifts</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Floral Studio inside Treasure Chest Antiques 109 3rd Street East Carver, MN 55315 B: 952-681-7582 C: 952-270-2717 CarverFlowers@gmail.com Annette & Al Hentz, Owners <i>Distinctive floral creations with an informal charm.</i></p>

+
Sitio

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

St. Paul! The Archbishop in his Advent homily pointed out to us that church is about both **mission and communion**. In other words, it is not enough that we do good things on our own. Rather, we are called to be connected to Rome, to the Holy Father. St. Paul whose 2000th birthday we celebrate this year is a perfect example of this. He was not only busy preaching about Jesus while traveling all over the world on his three missionary journeys. He also made a point to come up to Jerusalem, the headquarters of the Church at that time, to check with Peter, the prince of the apostles and others. (...it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and presbyters about this question. Acts 15:2) He shared with them all about his mission and visibly expressed his communion, his unity with Peter, the first Pope. In the same way, it is good that we too are passionate in spreading the name of Jesus and spreading His mission. However, our mission becomes real only when we are in communion with our Holy Father, with our bishops, and priests. Let us remember that mission and communion are two sides of the same coin.



Happy 140th Anniversary St. Nicholas Catholic Church! St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Carver has stood the test of time through natural disasters, wars, floods and a variety of renovations. The original church, which is still in use, was dedicated on December 6th, 1868, on the Feast of St Nicholas. Minnesota had become a state a mere ten years before the early settlers under the direction of Father Magnus Mayr built and dedicated their church on a bluff overlooking the Minnesota River Valley. Father Mayr O.S.B. was here from 1868-1872 when Father Lette, a Diocesan priest, took over as pastor from 1872-1876. Afterwards, for almost 111 years the parish was served by the Franciscans until Father Rowan, the second Diocesan priest became the pastor of St. Nicholas followed by Fr. Bill Parron and Fr. Thomas Joseph who came on September 1st, 2008. The children (both American Indian and of European descent) of Carver were taught downtown at the Steger home until 1876. The parish school (current rectory) was funded by the Zanger family. Three Benedictine nuns taught from 1876-1879 and cared for cows, chickens and a large garden. Lay teachers were employed from 1879 until 1917 when the school closed. Over the years, changes have taken place as improvements to the buildings and grounds have been done. Around 1880 a donation from Genovifa Ohnsorg Kimmerl funded the addition of the bell tower. The cement steps and walk leading up the hill were constructed in 1912 and sometime in the 1940's an oil burning furnace was added so that the communion wine wouldn't freeze in the winter. There are stories of how before the furnace was improved, people would go to Mass early to get the warmest places to sit. The hands of the priest would become so

numb that he would have to look at his hands to make sure he was holding the host. Asphalt floors, Nu-Wood wall coverings, dark paneling and more have been a part of the renovation of the church over time. The parish center, built in 1973, continues to be used for various functions. The space is no longer big enough and plans to add on are moving ahead. With a deep respect and affection for those early settlers, we hope to continue their legacy of faith, hope, and love to serve the people of God and bring Jesus to Carver and to the wider world. (History partially taken from the Chaska Herald article of Nov 27, 2008 by Shelly Coenen and church anniversary booklets.)

Welcome to our Archbishop John Nienstedt! Since you heard the Archbishop was coming to the 140th celebration you shared with me how excited you are to have the Archbishop here and that it's been a long time since an Archbishop has come to St. Nicholas Catholic Church. I thought I would take this opportunity to write a little about the bishop's role. The word "bishop" comes from the Greek word *episcopos*, which means "overseer". A bishop is the one who oversees his diocese. Then, what is an archbishop, like the Archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis? As the Pocket Catholic Dictionary points out an archbishop is, "...one who presides over one or more dioceses. He may call the bishops to a provincial council, having the right duty to do so, and he may act as first judge of appeal over a decision of one of his bishops. His immediate jurisdiction [overseeing], however, pertains solely to his own diocese. He is often styled "metropolitan" because of the importance of his see city or ecclesiastical province. [In our case St. Paul and Minneapolis being the significant cities with large populations in this part of the USA]. He is to be vigilant that the faith and ecclesiastical discipline are carefully preserved." As we know from the gospels, Jesus our Lord had 12 Apostles. Jesus Christ desired that after the death of his Apostles, they would be succeeded by bishops. In other words, thousands of bishops, archbishops and cardinals throughout the world take the place of Jesus' 12 Apostles. Of the 12 Apostles, Jesus chose Peter as the head of the Apostles. Jesus said to Peter, "You are Peter and upon this rock ..." (Matt. 16: 18) In the same way, today our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI takes the place of Peter, the prince/head of the apostles. The rest of the bishops, together as a body, work with him. That is why we often hear the phrase, "college of bishops," which refers to their unity/collegiality with the bishop of Rome (the Holy Father) and their fellow bishops. In a simplistic sense, no bishop is on his own, rather, he works with the Holy Father and his fellow bishops. Every bishop has three main duties; teaching, shepherding and sanctifying. Let us pray for Archbishop Nienstedt, who is our shepherd, that we may always support and encourage him as he continues to lead us to the truth who is Jesus Christ. Following is the message Archbishop Nienstedt sends to the Church of St. Nicholas on its anniversary:

Dear Friends in Christ (Reverend Thomas Joseph and Parishioners),

It is with great joy that I write to extend to you all my sincerest congratulations on this one hundred and forty year anniversary of faithful service to Jesus Christ and His Holy Church. I know Father Magnus Mayr, O.S.B. would be proud to know that one hundred and forty years after the dedication of Saint Nicholas in 1868, the community he founded continues to gather to offer God praise and thanks for the many good things He lavishes on those who love Him.

Please know of my deep gratitude to God for the gift that Saint Nicholas is to the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. In this sesquicentennial year of our great state, in the Jubilee Year of Saint Paul, I cordially impart to you all my blessing, and pray that God "who has begun the good work within you, will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians, 1:6)

Cordially yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend John C. Nienstedt, D.D., S.T.D.
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis



Happy Feast of St. Nicholas the Bishop! St. Nicholas, a third century bishop was known as a miracle worker and a giver of secret gifts. In some northern European countries, children put their shoes by the door the night before the feast of St. Nicholas. They wake the next morning to find sweets and small toys were left by the great saint. Cookies are traditional treats on St. Nicholas Day. (*From Our Sunday Visitor, November 2008*) Let us pray that St. Nicholas may continue to perform sweet miracles in our lives and the lives of our children.

Immaculate Conception! On the 8th of December, we will celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception was defined and proclaimed by Pope Pius IX in the year 1854. Through this feast of the Immaculate Conception, we confirm our belief and celebrate that Mary was born without original sin, whereas every other human being was born with original sin. How is it possible for a human being like Mary to be born without original sin? It is possible, because the focus here is not Mary, but the God-Man Jesus Christ. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, "The nearer you come to a furnace, the more you feel the heat which radiates from it." In other words, Mary was the closest human being to Jesus Christ because Mary carried Jesus in her womb. For this reason it was not sufficient that she was just a good and holy person, rather, she had to be holy and 100 percent good. She who gave birth to grace (Jesus) had to be full of grace. For this reason, it was important that Mary had to be born without original sin and so we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 8, 2008

A Holy Day of Obligation

Sunday 4:00 p.m., Monday 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Congratulations, St. Nicholas Parishioners! The Civil War ... the massive immigration of German and Dutch settlers ... the cultivation of the land ... the First World War ... the Roaring 20s ... the Great Depression ... the Second World War ... post-war prosperity ... the Korean War ... the Cold War ... the Second Vatican Council Reforms ... the Vietnam War ... the confusing 60s and 70s ... the Second Millennium ... 9/11 ... Like siblings, we have gone through *so much* together, St. Nicholas and Guardian Angels parishioners! Sister-parishes for 140 years! Sister-parishes cultivated and nurtured by our beloved Benedictine and Franciscan and diocesan priests. We could only have made it through all the ups and the downs, the innovations, the changes, and the economic swings *together* ... both within our interconnected families as well as within our two interconnected parish-families. Isn't our journey with Jesus Christ really about such fraternal togetherness? A journey in "The Way" ... in the way from "me" to "WE"! All of us at Guardian Angels Church wish to congratulate you, our Catholic Christian brothers and sisters at venerable St. Nicholas Parish, on your 140th anniversary. Not only for what you will be doing this year – with all your excellent anniversary plans -- but for all that you have done for God each of the previous one hundred and forty years. So much has happened that you can take great pride in. So much to be thankful for – thanking both God and ancestors. We, at G.A, certainly appreciated your participation in our own recent anniversary, and we hope to join you in your parish's incredible plans over the next year. Just let us know when to come over. Furthermore, congratulations on your dynamic new pastor. We are already hearing from extended family here at Guardian Angels and elsewhere just how vibrant your parish is, and how packed the pews are. Wonderful! Your blessings are our blessings.



In Christ!

Fr. Paul Jarvis
Guardian Angels pastor

P.S. Personally, I don't think your parish looks a day over 29. ;)

Sunday Reflection: When I was in the Holy Land, I was blessed with the opportunity to go to the very house where John the Baptist was born. According to the gospels, John the Baptist wore a garment of camel's hair with a leather belt and ate locusts and honey. Even though his words sometimes seemed harsh, people from Jerusalem and the Judean region came flocking to him. Why? Because the truth he spoke was attractive. Dear brothers and sisters let us always speak the truth, unafraid, like John the Baptist, remembering that although we might hurt someone by speaking the truth, eventually they will be grateful because we truly cared about them and led them to the attractive truth who is Jesus Christ.

As we continue the Advent season, let us pray that just as we focused on **hope** the first week of Advent, during the second week we will focus on **peace**. Pray as you light the two purple candles this week, "Dear God, help each person in our family experience wonder and awe as we await the coming of the Christ Child. Fill us with a deep sense of peace. Amen."

In Christ Jesus,

Fr. Thomas Joseph