

<b>This Week's Events:</b> SUNDAY: 6:30 PM Fall Festival Meeting in Parish Center MONDAY: 7 PM CCW/SVDPS Meeting in Parish Center TUESDAY: 7 PM Parish Council THURSDAY: 7 PM AA Meeting in Parish Center FRIDAY: 7:15 PM Prayer Group COUNTERS: July 19 Candis & Tim	<b>Sunday Giving July 5, 2009</b>	
	Children ..... 89 Adult Envelopes & Plate..... 2,098.70 Collected to date ..... 2,099.59 Budgeted to date ..... 2,303.85 Net (loss).....(204.26)	<b>Lectors:</b> Saturday.....July 18 4:00pm....Nancy Ludovissie 7:00pm....Christine Castanias Sunday..... July 19 8:00am....Cathy Pass 10:00am...Sam Welter
<b>MASS SERVERS:</b> Saturday ..... July 18 4:00pm.....Mike Szaroletta ..... Tony Szaroletta 7:00pm.....Jennifer Castanias ..... Emily Castanias Sunday..... July 19 8:00am.....Katarina Christianson ..... Connor Christianson 10:00am.....Mary Welter ..... Sam Wickenhauser	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:</b> Saturday ..... July 18 4:00 pm ..... Nancy Ludovissie, Mary ..... Omollo & Margaret Knutson 7:00 pm ..... Paul & Tammy Castanias ..... Help Needed Sunday ..... July 19 8:00am.....Cathy Pass ..... Help Needed (2) 10am.....Teresa Theide, Richard ..... Kvitik & Madonna Grapentine	

# St. Nicholas Catholic Church

A community committed to welcoming, stewardship and evangelizing since 1868



Father Thomas on a fishing trip with Darrel & Barb Swanson



**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)

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

**Administrative Assistant**  
 Jodee Korkowski .....448-2345  
[jodeestnicholas@embarqmail.com](mailto:jodeestnicholas@embarqmail.com)  
**Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry**  
 Jacquelyn Christianson.....448-9861  
**Maintenance**  
 Lester Wickenhauser.....448-7657

Mother Teresa said, "Ask and seek and your heart will be big enough to receive Him (God) and keep Him as your own." 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.  
**Wednesday & Friday:** 6:45 p.m.

### 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  
**CONFESSION (RECONCILIATION):**  
 Saturdays 8:30-9:00 a.m., 3:30-4:00 p.m., 6:15-7:00 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

### COUNCIL AND BOARD

**Finance and Property Board**  
 Chair: Tim Jones.....952-212-6587  
**Faith Formation Board**  
 Chair: Amy Roble.....448-5336

### COORDINATORS

**Cemetery** - JoAnn Hasse .....612-708-4118  
**Lectors** - Sue Stromberg .....952-686-3128  
**Servers** - Jennifer Szaroletta .....466-5578  
**Eucharistic Minister** - Jacquelyn Christianson.....448-9861  
**Sacristan** - Terri Schuster.....448-5256  
**Funeral** - Darlene Mahowald.....448-4464  
**Prayer Chain** - Darlene Mahowald.....448-4464  
**Environment & Decorating** - Tammy Castanias.....448-7345  
**Church Cleaning** - Nancy Ludouissie.....448-4266  
**Welcoming Committee** -  
 Michael & Stephanie Griesinger .....479-7690  
 Bonnie Hays .....bhays02@yahoo.com  
**Evangelization** - Jacquelyn Christianson .....448-9861  
**Youth Ministry** - Jeremy Rich .....361-0297  
**Ushers** - Madonna Grapentine .....448-2474  
**Vincent de Paul Society** - Sue Bolland .....448-2721  
**"That Man is You"** - Bill Hays .....bhays02@yahoo.com  
**Sunday School for Children** - Tamara Anderson .....361-6773  
**Music Ministry** - Barry Strelow.....448-4363  
**Pastoral Care** - Nancy Ludouissie.....448-4266  
**Landscaping** - Annette and Al Hentz .....952-270-2717  
**Children's Choir** - Linda Monsen.....466-2089

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<p><b>T.J. Replacement Windows</b>        Windows • Doors • Siding  <b>TOM GESTACH</b>        (952) 448-4312 Carver, MN</p>	<p><b>RALPH W. BAILEY, C.P.A.</b>        Tax and Accounting Services        Form 1040 &amp; State Returns        COMPILATION AND REVIEW SERVICES        Courteous • Skillful • Timely</p> <p>612-743-7439 (Cell) 116 2nd Street East        952-448-9939 (Home) Chaska, MN 55318        E-mail: <a href="mailto:rwbtax@gmail.com">rwbtax@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Get a FREE Market Analysis!</p> <p><b>BARRY STRELOW</b>        REALTOR®        Direct: 952-496-5236        Cell: 651-753-0417        Fax: 952-445-8252  <a href="mailto:barrystrelow@edinarealty.com">barrystrelow@edinarealty.com</a>  <b>Edina Realty</b>        1228 Vierling Drive        Shakopee, MN 55379</p>
<p>TO PLACE AN AD, call the St. Nicholas office: (952) 448-2345</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  Pray for Vocations  </p>		



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JULY 12, 2009 – 15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; Eph 1:3-14 or Eph 1:3-10; Mk 6:7-13



**Happy Year of Priests!** On June 19th which was the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, our Holy Father prayerfully declared a "Year of Priests." Just as July 2008 - June 2009 was the year of St. Paul, so too will July 2009 - June 2010 be the "Year of Priests." Our Holy Father inaugurated this year long celebration on the 150th death anniversary of St. Jean Marie Vianney, who is the role model for all priests--a priest of great holiness who spent hours in confession. Please pray for all our priests including your priest--an unworthy servant of God like myself. Prayer for Priests: *O Jesus, our great High Priest, hear my humble prayers on behalf of Thy servants. Give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope, and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of their life. In their loneliness, comfort them. In their sorrows, strengthen them. In their frustrations, point out to them that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show them that they are needed by the Church; they are needed by souls; they are needed for the work of redemption.*

*O Loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests and religious, take to your heart your children who are close to you because of the power which they have received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs them so much. Be their comfort, be their joy, be their strength, and especially help them to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy. AMEN*

**Bless so that we may be Blessed!** The word Bless, or Blessed is very dear to the Bible. In today's Second reading St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians exhorts, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens." St. Paul reminds us that just as God has blessed us through Jesus Christ, in the same way we are called to bless each other--spouse to spouse, parents to children, friend to friend, neighbor to neighbor, even stranger to stranger. Parents and grandparents, how often do you mark the sign of the Cross on the forehead of your children and grandchildren and blessed them? Let us ask ourselves, is my life a life of blessing--blessing myself and others untiringly?

**Summer Bible School Changes!** To meet the needs of more families, we are changing VBS to the week of August 10-14 and holding it in the evening from 5:30-7:30 pm. The theme and cost will stay the same. Revised registration forms are available in back of church, on the website or at the parish office. Please register as soon as possible!



**Archdiocesan Planning Process Update!** We received another update from the taskforce on the planning process talking about the future growth of the Archdiocese, the socio-economic & ethnic diversity of the Catholic population, parish finances and catholic education. There is a copy on the bulletin board in back of church and on our parish website. You can also request a paper copy from the parish office. Please continue to stay informed on this important project.

**Dear Padre Question!** "Was Jesus crucified on a Cross or on a 'Piece of Wood'?" The simplest answer to this question is Jesus was crucified on a Cross—even though we do not know the exact shape, size, height, weight, or color of the cross. When we read the four Gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, we realize that all four gospels narrate to us the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. They tell us that Jesus was crucified on the Cross- even though the gospels do not give us the exact description of what the cross looked like. Matthew 27:32 reads, "As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian



named Simon; this man they pressed into service to carry his [Jesus'] **cross**." Mark 15:21 reads, "They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his **cross**." Luke 23:26 reads, "As they led him away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country, and after laying the **cross** on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus." John 19:17 reads, "So they took Jesus, and carrying the **cross** himself he went out to what is called the place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha." Thus, it is crystal clear that all four Gospels narrate the crucifixion; and indicated that Jesus carried the **Cross**, even though none of the

gospels give us the exact description of the Cross on which Jesus was crucified. Based on the reference to 'Cross' from the gospels, we can assume that Jesus was crucified on a "T" shaped cross, an "X" shaped cross, or that Jesus carried a 'wooden beam,' which was then attached to upright stake thus converted into a cross in which He was crucified.

It is not just in the gospels. We also find evidence that Jesus carried and was crucified on the Cross in non-Christian sources as well:

"Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestions of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the **cross**, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, is not extinct at this day." – Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews- XVIII*, 3: 8-10

"On the eve of the Passover **Yeshu was hanged**. For forty days before the execution took place, a herald went forth and cried, 'He is going forth to be stoned because he has practiced sorcery and enticed Israel to apostasy. Anyone who can say anything in his favor, let him come forward and plead on his behalf.' But since nothing was brought forth in his favor **he was hanged** on the eve of the Passover." – Soncino English Translation of the Babylonian Talmud.

Again, both of the above non-Christian resources give us testimony that Jesus was crucified on the Cross.

Fr. Raymon Brown in his book, *Death of the Messiah*, vol. 2, page 947-952, citing from the source named Seneca States (De consolation ad Marciam) quotes the words of the one who in Jesus' time witnessed various crucifixions: "I see crosses there, not just of one kind but fashioned in many different ways: some have their victims with head down toward the ground...others stretch out their arms on the crossbeam." He continues, however, to say of Jesus that this was not the case. That is to say, according to Josephus, Jesus carried a **cross [beam]** to the place of execution. Here we have an eyewitness who gave us the description of the Cross that Jesus carried.

The book of Deuteronomy 21:22-23 reads, "And if a man has committed a crime punishable by death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his body shall not remain all night upon the tree..." St. Paul in his letter to the Galatians 3:13 writes, "Christ ransomed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written, 'cursed be everyone who hangs on a tree.'" The point St. Paul is trying to make is that Jesus saved us from the curse by becoming a curse for us—by dying on the Tree/Cross. Do we know exactly what that tree/cross looked like? Not really.

To conclude, evidences from the gospels and non-Christian resources tell us that Jesus was crucified on a Cross/Tree. It may have been a Cross that was "T" or "X" shaped. Jesus may have carried a 'wooden beam,' which was attached to an upright stake that was already standing at the place of Jesus' crucifixion. The fact of the matter is, Jesus was crucified on a Cross, and it does not matter to us what the shape or color of the Cross was— Jesus died on the Cross for you and me.

**Sunday Reflection!** In this weekend's Gospel, from Mark 6:7-13, we learn about Jesus instructing His disciples to go in 'two by two.' "He summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits." Mother Teresa sent her sisters at least two by two when they went to a home visit or to pick up a starving or dying person from the streets around the world. The action of Jesus and Mother Teresa of Calcutta, sending disciples 'two by two' reminds us that we are called to work as a team in doing good. Are we willing to invite others to work on our team so that we too can walk 'two by two,' or do we want to live as a lone ranger doing our own thing?

In Christ Jesus,

Fr. Thomas Joseph

Thank you for your donations for the food shelf last weekend. We donated 27# of food to the CAP Agency. Thank you for your continued support of those in need.

**MANY THANKS from** Fr. Pascal Bigirimana, Coordinator of Mission Appeals for Butare Diocese - Rwanda: We are deeply grateful for your wonderful generosity toward the youth of the diocese of Butare-Rwanda. Your financial help and prayerful support of the diocese of Butare-Rwanda will make it possible for us to continue building up the Kingdom of God in some of the difficult areas of our world. We are only able to spread the Good News with your prayers and generous support. We want to thank you for your warm welcome to Fr. Honoratus Mwageni on July 4-5. May God continue to bless all of you! Let us remember to pray for each other.