

This Week's Events: SUNDAY: 6:30 PM Fall Festival Meeting in office 7 PM Youth Group meeting in Parish Center MONDAY: 6:30 PM Faith Formation Board Meeting in PC THURSDAY: 7 PM AA Meeting in Parish Center FRIDAY: 7:15 PM Prayer Group COUNTERS: August 9 Bill & Candis	Sunday Giving July 26, 2009 Children 8.84 Adult Envelopes & Plate..... 1,646.52 Collected to date 7,942.79 Budgeted to date 9,215.39 Net (loss).....(1,272.60)	
	Lectors: Saturday..... Aug 8 4:00pm.....Nancy Ludovissie 7:00pm.....Help Needed Sunday..... Aug 9 8:00am...Candis Wickenhauser 10:00am..Suzanne Stromberg	Mass Intentions: Aug 8 4:00 pm Deacon Richard Broich 7:00 pm All Priests & Deacons Aug 9 8:00 am Living & deceased members of St. Nicholas 10:00 am Jean Laumann
MASS SERVERS: Saturday Aug 8 4:00pm.....Katarina ChristiansonConnor Christianson 7:00pm.....Mike SzarolettaTony Szaroletta Sunday..... Aug 9 8:00am.....Brooke WickenhauserMitchell Wickenhauser 10:00am.....Tyler FisherSam Wickenhauser	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Saturday Aug 8 4:00 pmMargaret Knutson, MaryOmollo, Nancy Ludovissie 7:00 pmHelp Needed Sunday Aug 9 8:00am.....Candis Wickenhauser,Jane Hanson, Sharon Hartung 10am.....Amy & Steve Roble,Richard Kvittek	

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

Fr. Thomas with Julie Van Remortal and her granddaughter as they care for the new plants in front of church.



Father's Cell **507-339-8244**
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

Business Administrator
 Jodee Korkowski448-2345
jodeestnicholas@embarqmail.com
Coordinator of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
 Jacquelyn Christianson.....448-9861
jackiestnicholas@embarqmail.com
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 Hasse612-708-4118
Lectors - Sue Stromberg952-686-3128
Servers - Jennifer Szaroletta466-5578
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 Griesinger479-7690
Council of Catholic Women -
 Bonnie Haysbhays02@yahoo.com
Evangelization - Jacquelyn Christianson448-9861
Youth Ministry - Jeremy Rich361-0297
Ushers - Madonna Grapentine448-2474
Vincent de Paul Society - Sue Bolland448-2721
"That Man is You" - Bill Haysbhays02@yahoo.com
Sunday School for Children - Tamara Anderson361-6773
Music Ministry - Barry Strelow.....448-4363
Pastoral Care - Nancy Ludouissie.....448-4266
Landscaping - Annette and Al Hentz952-270-2717
Children's Choir - Linda Monsen.....466-2089
Prolife Ministry Coordinator - Barb Swanson.....448-2830

<p>Brenzman Printing 206 Chestnut St, Chaska Daryl Brenzman 448-3575</p>	<p>It's time to put your life on a brand new frequency</p> <p>relevant radio 1330 AM 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>Bobcat Backhoe • Additions • Trucking • Landscaping Snowplowing • Concrete Tearout • Demolition</p> <p>Chuck's EXCAVATING Chuck Worm • (952) 496-2874 760 W. 96th Street • Chanhassen, MN 55317</p>	<p>Please support these businesses... they are an asset to our community.</p>
<p>Carver Country Flowers & Gifts Floral Studio Inside Treasure Chest Antiques www.carverflowers.com Shop (952) 681-7582 Cell (952) 270-2717 109 3rd St East Carver, Minnesota 55315</p>	<p>Life Insurance, Annuities & Benefits</p> <p>CATHOLIC AID 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>Lions Tap Famous Hamburgers Hwy. 169 & Cty. Rd. 4 Eden Prairie Bert & Bonnie Notermann West of Flying Cloud Airport 934-5299</p>
<p>OTB OHNSORG TRUCK BODIES, Inc. Manufacturing Quality Truck Bodies since 1934</p> <p>860 Commerce Dr. E. Belle Plaine, MN 56011 otbmf.com 952-873-2250</p>	<p>PLEHAL BLACKTOPPING Full Service Asphalt Work Since 1949 Driveways • Tennis Courts Parking Areas • Seal Coating</p> <p>13060 Dem Con Drive P.O. Box 317 Shakopee, MN 55379 www.plehal.com Jack Van Remortel President Office (952) 445-7676 Fax (952) 445-7682 Direct (952) 224-7140</p>	<p>TUPY TREE SERVICE 4975 Le Sueur Ave PO Box 308 New Prague, MN 56071 952-758-4658</p>
<p>T.J. Replacement Windows Windows • Doors • Siding TOM GESTACH (952) 448-4312 Carver, MN</p>	<p>RALPH W. BAILEY, C.P.A. Tax and Accounting Services Form 1040 & 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: rwbtax@gmail.com</p>	<p>Get a FREE Market Analysis!</p> <p>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>Pray for Vocations</p>



Sitio

AUGUST 2, 2009 – 18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35

Prayerful Farewell to Jean Laumann! The people of God came together in hundreds to show their love and prayers for our sister Jean. It was a moment of grace for me to watch hundreds of people coming to the wake vigil as well as the funeral Mass. We pray for God's continual healing and support for Jean's family. As I mentioned at the wake vigil, Jean lived the words, "Don't curse the darkness, but light a candle." Like Jean, let us keep lighting candles; keep lighting the light of Jesus Christ--no matter how challenging life might be.

Pastoral Care! Special thanks to Nancy Ludovissie and Mary Omollo who regularly distributed communion and visited with Jean Laumann and other homebound parishioners. Thanks also to Darlene Mahowald who coordinates our prayer chain and also visits with parishioners from time to time. We are still looking for a volunteer(s) to expand our pastoral care ministry by starting a BeFriender program. Please contact me or the parish office if you would like more information or are interested in this wonderful opportunity.

Dear Padre Question! "Why are some Marian shrines more powerful/popular than the others?" Before answering this question, let me share with you some information about the major shrines of the world. The following information was taken from the Encyclopedia of Catholicism, 1995.

Our Lady of Guadalupe: "On December 9, 1531, an Aztec Indian named Juan Diego was traveling to the Catholic Church, about five miles north of Mexico city. As he neared the hill consecrated to the Mother Goddess of the Aztecs, he heard music and then an unnerving silence. The silence was broken when the maiden called Juan Diego, identifying herself as, 'ever virgin, Mary, Mother of the true God who gives life and maintains it in existence.' She expressed her desire for a little house to be built in her honor and sent Juan Diego to the local bishop who had the authority to accomplish this goal. Historically speaking, at that time being a man of low status, he needed proof from the Lady to take to the bishop--so the lady provided fresh roses, which Juan Diego collected in his cloak, took them to the bishop, opened it and the roses fell on the ground. At that moment a beautiful image of the Lady appeared on the tilma which is venerated in Mexico City to this day with great love and devotion. This apparition happened barely ten years after the conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards. According to historical sources, nine million natives were baptized within six years time."

Our Lady of La Salette: "On September 19, 1846 two young herders from France came home with a story that they saw a beautiful lady. The lady appeared within a circle of brilliant light and the woman was weeping. The lady asked the herders (Melanie and Maxim) to come near and spoke to them in French—since they seemed confused, she began to speak to them in their dialect. The lady asked them to make this encounter made known to all people. Eventually many cures were reported at the spot. The two herders Melanie and Maxim were interrogated to test their stories. In 1851 the bishop laid the cornerstone for the basilica to our Lady which he termed as, 'the cult of Our Lady of La Salette.'"

Our Lady of Lourdes: "The site of Our Lady of Lourdes which is now world famous, once was a very grotto in the foothills of France. As young girl, Bernadette Soubirous, with her sister and a friend; went out to gather firewood. At the time Bernadette saw a golden-colored cloud enveloping a beautiful lady. The lady with a rosary in her hand asked Bernadette to begin praying the rosary. After praying the rosary the lady disappeared into the grotto. The lady continued to appear to Bernadette several times and gave her three secrets that she was not supposed to reveal. The lady helped Bernadette to discover a spring nearby, to drink from and bathe in. The lady expressed her desire to Bernadette for a chapel to be built. The lady revealed herself to Bernadette as, 'I am the Immaculate Conception.' This place became a cornerstone for the reconciliation of sinners, healing of crippled bodies and further affirmation of the Marian Dogma of 'Immaculate Conception,' which was proclaimed by the Pope four years before the apparition of our Lady to Bernadette. Bernadette Soubirous, also known as Bernadette of Lourdes was declared a Saint and her feast day is April 6. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is on February 11."

Our Lady of Fatima: "In 1917 three young Portuguese shepherds had a dramatic experience that caught the attention of a world that was at war. Mary appeared to Lucia dos Santos, Francisco and Jacinta Marto six times between May and October of that year. The Lady entrusted them with "secrets." The lady was dressed in white with rays of brilliant light all around her and told them not to fear anything. She told them to pray the rosary everyday and identified herself as, 'Our Lady of the Rosary.' The lady asked for Russia to be consecrated to her Immaculate Heart and requested a communion of reparation, the first Saturday of every month. In 1930 the apparition of Our Lady at Fatima was authenticated by the local bishop. Since then the story about Fatima began to circulate more and more, especially with the upcoming danger of the Second World War and the rise of the Soviet Union.

Now let me try to give at least three reasons why some Marian shrines are more powerful/popular than others.

First, it becomes very apparent that there is certain uniformity amidst the major Marian shrines of the world. Some of the largest or most popular Marian shrines originated normally on remote hilltops that had hardly been heard of prior to the apparition of our Lady. Note the words like Hills, Hilltops, Herders, Shepherds, etc. For instance, Guadalupe (Mexico), Fatima (Portugal), Lourdes (France)—all these apparitions took place in remote hilltops/rural areas. As soon as the apparition took place, people were very eager to know about such rural places and flocked to them for God's healing. Eventually, such places of Marian apparitions came to be known more and more. *It is good to know that many people flock to Medjugorje (Bosnia) where it is reported that Our Lady is appearing (even though not approved by the Church yet). This is another rural area that was hardly known by others before—beginning to be known more and more because many are curious about this place and long to experience healing and God's presence there through Mary.

Second, some places are more popular partly because of whatever else was going on historically at that time. For example, the Virgin of Guadalupe is very popular in Mexico because the appearance came shortly after the Conquest, when indigenous peoples were struggling with the oppression of the Spanish. At such time of oppression and difficulties, Our Lady appeared as a symbol of hope in the face of difficulties. Thus it is fair to say, people flocked to Our Lady of Guadalupe for their protection and well-being. As the place was known more and more, more people began to travel to such Holy places like Guadalupe.

Third, for instance, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church *Lumen Gentium* paragraph #62 reads, "...the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix." My point is we are free to call Mary with various titles—certain titles might be appealing to some people more than the others. For some of us, "Our Lady of Perpetual Help" speaks to us; for some of us "Our Lady of Guadalupe" touches our hearts; for some of us, "Our Lady of Fatima" speaks to us warmly. That is to say, people feel drawn to go to a particular shrine over the others—some are visited by many and some are not. The Jesus in one of the tiny chapels on the hills of Tijuana, Mexico is as powerful as the Jesus in St. Peter's Basilica. It is the same for Mary Our Mother. Our Lady of Guadalupe is as powerful as Our Lady of Fatima—it is the same Lady, same Mother. No matter which shrine of hers we go to, she hears our prayers. Mother Teresa often taught us: "Hold onto Mary Our Mother, like a child that holds onto her Mother's saree." Let us grab onto Mary Our Mother—no matter which Shrine of Our Lady we go to. She is powerful everywhere.

Sunday Reflection! Someone once said, "God, I don't know how to find you, but I'm going to try." Like this person you and I are called to keep trying to find Jesus every day. In today's Gospel which is from John 6:24-35. Jesus says, "For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." Jesus wants us to hunger for Him. Do we hunger for this Food of Eternal Life?

In Christ Jesus,

Fr. Thomas Joseph

There will be an ice cream social on Sunday, August 9 at East Union Lutheran Church from 4-7 pm.

We are still collecting school supplies for Love Inc. You can drop your donations off in back of church. Thank you to those of you who have already brought in items!

All marriages need nurturing and encouragement! Attend the August 22-23 Marriage Encounter. Weekends are held at the Dakota Ridge Hotel on 35E and Yankee Doodle in Eagan. Visit www.marriages.org for a listing of retreats or call 651.454.3238.

Memorial Mass for Tom Epperly will be held at Guardian Angels, on Monday, August 17, at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. There will be a short reception after Mass in the school gym. All G.A. School alumni at our parish and elsewhere, all St. Nicholas parishioners and G.A. School parents wishing to participate as lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, gift-bearers and ushers should contact Randy Symanitz at rsymanitz@GACHaska.org. Any of the above wishing to sing in the choir and/or play an instrument should contact Teresa Schmidt at 952-361-0181. Those wishing to contribute to a new Tom Epperly Scholarship Fund can send a check payable to "G.A. School" – with "Tom Epperly Scholarship" in the memo – and mail it to 217 West Second Street, Chaska, MN 55318.

We're getting there! G.A. School's annual fund drive – *used this year for tuition assistance* – is up to \$10,305. This will be critically needed since our tuition assistance for students from St. Victoria, St. Nicholas and GA parishioners has increased, to date, by 400%. **We could use every G.A. School alumnus's help. We could also use the financial assistance of every parishioner at St. Nicholas, St. Victoria and GA parishes blessed with surplus during these challenging times.** Please contact Jodee Korkowski at our parish office, or Tom Green (952-227-4002, Guardian Angel's new Dir. of Finance and Admin) if you can help or have any questions. Checks written out to "G.A. School Annual Fund" can be sent directly to 217 West Second Street, Chaska, MN 55318. Parochial school is one of the most effective methods of passing on the Faith in America.