



# 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye?" - Lk 6:42a

# WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

## MISSION STATEMENT

St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Parish is a community of disciples called to grow in holiness and lead all to the Father through Jesus Christ. United in the Eucharistic Sacrifice and anointed by the Holy Spirit, we reverently celebrate the Liturgy, boldly proclaim the Truth of the Gospel, and courageously lead a life of Christian Love.

## ADDRESS

3510 Rosedale Street NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

## PARISH OFFICE

**Hours:** Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
**Phone:** (253) 851-8850  
**Fax:** (253) 851-8823  
**Email:** office@stnicholascc.org  
**Web:** www.stnicholascc.org

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday** 5:30 PM  
**Sunday** 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM  
**Weds. - Friday** 9:00 AM

## CONFESSION

**Thursday** 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM  
**Saturday** 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

## SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES

**Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM:** (253) 851-8850  
**After Hours & Weekends:** (253) 549-1954

## MINISTRIES

**St. Vincent de Paul Assistance**  
(253) 851-0554

**Marriage & Funeral Arrangements:** Fr. Mark Guzman  
(253) 851-8850 office@stnicholascc.org

**Baptism Arrangements:** David Charboneau  
(253) 649-4240 david@stnicholascc.org

**Annulment Ministry:** Deacon Dale Fickes  
(253) 851-5035 deacondale@stnicholascc.org

**Sick & Homebound:** Deacon Dale Fickes  
(253) 851-5035 deacondale@stnicholascc.org

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Father Mark Guzman  
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**Deacon:** Dale Fickes  
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**School Principal:** Davin Reyes  
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**Bookkeeper:** Mark Hayes  
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**Program Coordinator for Faith Formation:** Nina Potter  
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**Youth Ministry:** Michele Heitzmann  
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**Evangelization:** David Charboneau  
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**Communications/Bulletin:** Margaret Betts  
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**Music Ministry:** Debra-Lee Jaap  
(253) 649-4239 deb@stnicholascc.org

**Facility Steward:** Mark MacLeod  
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**Hall Custodian:** Brenda Duffy  
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**Assistant to the Pastor:** Corinne McKibben  
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**Sacristan:** Mark McKibben  
(253) 514-9275 markmck@stnicholascc.org

**Receptionist (Morning)/Facility Scheduler:** RoseMary Sam  
(253) 851-8850 office@stnicholascc.org

**Receptionist (Afternoon):** Christopher Polinsky  
(253) 851-8850 office@stnicholascc.org

**Pastoral Evangelization Council:** David Charboneau  
(253) 649-4240 pec@stnicholascc.org

## THIS WEEK AT ST. NICHOLAS

### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

- 8:15 AM Toddler Nursery - Parish Center #7  
8:30 AM Mass - John McCormick †  
9:30 AM Hospitality Hour - Parish Hall  
9:45 AM K-6 Faith Formation - Parish Center # 1  
11:00 AM Mass - Rebecca McCormick †  
2:45 PM 15 Decade Rosary - Church

### MONDAY, MARCH 4

- 8:30 AM Rosary - Church  
9:00 AM Communion Service  
9:30 AM Hearts Afire - Parish Center #1  
3:00 PM Chess Club - Parish Center #2  
4:30 PM K-6 Faith Formation - Parish Hall #1

### TUESDAY, MARCH 5

- 8:30 AM Rosary - Church  
9:00 AM Communion Service  
9:30 AM Women's Prayer & Share - Parish Center #3  
10:00 AM Spirituality Book Group - Parish Center #2  
6:00 PM Evening Bible - Parish Center #4  
6:30 PM K of C Potluck - Parish Hall

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6 *Ash Wednesday*

- 8:30 AM \*No Rosary  
9:00 AM Ash Wednesday Mass - Jim Fick  
10:00 PM Imposition of Ashes - Church  
6:30 PM Youth Group - Parish Hall  
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Mass - St. Nicholas Parishioners  
7:00 PM SVdP Spirituality Meeting - Parish Center #1

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

- 8:30 AM Rosary - Church  
9:00 AM Mass - Mary Jackson

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7 (CONTINUED)

- 10:00 AM Adoration - Church  
4:30 PM Youth Choir - Parish Center #5  
5:30 PM Confession - Reconciliation Chapel  
5:30 PM Unicycle Club - Parish Hall  
6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - Parish Center #5  
6:20 PM Benediction - Church  
6:45 PM Open Door Prayer Group - Parish Center #3  
7:00 PM Landings - Parish Center #1

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

- 8:30 AM Rosary - Church  
9:00 AM Mass - Dolly Sullivan †  
4:30 PM Chaplet of Divine Mercy - Church  
5:00 PM Confession  
5:30 PM Stations of the Cross  
6:00 PM Soup & Supper - Parish Hall  
6:30 PM Catechist Team Meeting - Parish Center #2

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

- 7:00 AM Men's Group - Parish Hall  
3:30 PM Confession - Reconciliation Chapel  
5:30 PM Mass - Arnold Sposato †  
5:30 PM Movie Night - Parish Hall

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10 *Catholic Home Missions Appeal*

- 8:00 PM K of C Blood Drive - Parish Hall  
8:15 AM Toddler Nursery - Parish Center #7  
8:30 AM Mass - Bernadette Farquhart †  
9:30 AM K of C Breakfast - Parish Hall  
9:45 AM K-6 Faith Formation - Parish Center # 1  
11:00 AM Mass - St. Nicholas Parishioners  
12:30 PM Cenacle Group - Parish Center #3

## DAILY READINGS

### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

Sir 27: 4-7; Ps 92: 2-3, 13-16; 1 Cor 15: 54-58; Lk 6: 39-45

### MONDAY, MARCH 4

Sir 17: 20-24; Ps 32: 1-2, 5-7; Mk 10: 17-27

### TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Sir 35: 1-12; Ps 50: 5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10: 28-31

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Jl 2: 12-18; Ps 51: 3-6b, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5: 20-6: 2; Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

Dt 30: 15-20; Ps 1: 1-4, 6; Lk 9: 22-25

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

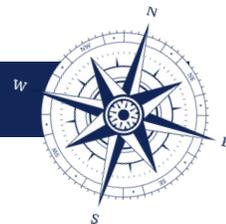
Is 58: 1-9a, Ps 51: 3-6b, 18-19; Mt 9: 14-15

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Is 58: 9b-14; Ps 86: 1-6; Lk 5: 27-32

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Dt 26: 4-10; Ps 91: 1-2, 10-15; Rom 10: 8-13; Lk 4: 1-13





*"They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers." (Acts 2:42)*

**D**ear Parishioners,

ear Parishioners,

The nearly five years I have been with you here at St. Nicholas have been joyful as I have watched our parish community grow in many ways. With your help, we continue to work hard on building the Kingdom of God. I have listened to your many suggestions and comments and I am excited to share with you some changes to our catechetical programing (also known as

"Faith Formation").

Starting this September, we will be significantly simplifying our parish catechetical programing. We will be moving from our current "Sunday School" model, to a to an all-ages community catechesis model. We will be following the model for instruction that was used by the earliest Christians: gathering for prayer as an entire community, breaking off into smaller groups based on age, then regathering as a parish family for a shared meal. Like our early Christian ancestors, we will be focused on the basics: knowing, loving, and serving Jesus, at every age and stage of life.

Together with Michele Heitzmann, Nina Potter, and David Charboneau, I have put a great deal of prayer and effort into making this program a good fit for your busy lives. We have spent more than a year studying best practices, consulting with many people, and reflecting on the teachings of the church. The model of catechesis we are adopting follows the practice of the ancient church while also utilizing the best of what modern science can teach us about pedagogical methodology. It is built on a proper theological understanding of the human person, who is not an isolated individual, but exists, grows, and in deeded is saved in the context of community.

Starting this fall, most of our Faith Formation programing will move to Sunday evenings, 5pm-7pm. To make it easy for entire families to participate, there will be programing for all ages. Youth Group will make this transition starting on March 10th. (Some existing adult programs, such as our popular bible study series, will continue to meet at their current times.) We will gather as a community at the beginning for prayer then split into a variety of focus groups. We will have engaging, high-energy programing for children, Youth Group for Teens, and a variety of options for adults. We will conclude the evening with a meal - that's right, dinner is on us! Could it be any easier?

*I have put a great deal of prayer and effort into making this program a good fit for your busy lives.*

To make life easier for you, I have also decided to shorten the number of catechesis sessions per year. We will meet for nine sessions in the Fall and nine sessions in the Spring, with breaks on holiday weekends (see the calendar for details).

Included in this will be revamped and simplified sacramental preparation programs for 1st Communion and Middle School Confirmation. (High School Confirmation will continue to meet separately). A critical component of this will be more meaningful and direct involvement of parents in the formation of their children. In addition to participating in our Sunday evening programming and studying at home, those preparing to receive sacraments will participate in two “mini-retreats” so they may be fully prepared for the profound graces available to them.

I understand that life is complicated, and some families will have unique challenges. Know that we are committed to working with all families and making accommodations when necessary (please Contact David Charboneau in the parish office for more information).

I am convinced that this program will bear a multitude of fruit both in the individual lives of our parishioners and in our community as a whole. This is an opportunity for us to grow in our understanding of the faith, in our relationships with each other, and in our relationship with God.

Blessings,

Fr. Mark



*Jesus, the Great Teacher*



## DISCIPLESHIP ALL AGES CATECHESIS PROGRAM

*Study Him. Honor Him. Imitate Him. Praise Him.*

Parents are the first educators of their children and bear the primary responsibility in preparing children to receive the sacraments (cf CCC 2223). The goal of our parish sacramental preparation programs is to empower parents to fulfil their vocation. A child is prepared to receive sacraments and live a Christian life primarily in the home by the parents. Through their words and examples, parents assist their child in preparing to live a Christian life of charity and to receive God's most beautiful gifts. However, parents do not walk this journey alone: they are supported and lifted up by the whole of the community.

### FALL SCHEDULE

**Sept 15** Introductory Meeting  
(All Sacrament Prep Families)  
**Sept 22** Discipleship Meeting 1  
  
**Sept 29** Discipleship Meeting 2  
**Oct 6** Discipleship Meeting 3  
**Oct 13** Discipleship Meeting 4  
**Oct 20** Discipleship Meeting 5  
**Oct 27** Discipleship Meeting 6  
**Nov 3** Discipleship Meeting 7  
*Nov 10* *No gathering – Veterans Day*  
**Nov 17** Discipleship Meeting 8  
**Nov 24** Discipleship Meeting 9

### WINTER SCHEDULE

**Jan 11-12** Middle School Confirmation  
Overnight retreat (teens only)  
**Jan 12** Day Retreat (Time TBD)  
(All Sacrament Prep Families)  
**Jan 26** Discipleship Meeting 1  
**Feb 2** Discipleship Meeting 2  
**Feb 9** Discipleship Meeting 3  
*Feb 16* *No gathering – Presidents Day*  
**Feb 23** Discipleship Meeting 4  
**Mar 1** Discipleship Meeting 5  
**Mar 8** Discipleship Meeting 6  
*Mar 15* *No gathering – Break*  
**Mar 22** Discipleship Meeting 7  
**Mar 29** Discipleship Meeting 8  
**Apr 5** Discipleship Meeting 9  
**April 19** Day Retreat  
(All Sacrament Prep Families)  
**April TBD** Confirmation Mass  
**May 3** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Mass

*“Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children.”*

*- Catechism of the Catholic Church  
2225*

## REQUIREMENTS FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> COMMUNION

Must be age 7 by April 2020.

Registration and Baptism certificate turned in by September 15, 2019.

Child and Parent participation in Discipleship Program.

Child and Parent participation in:  
Introductory Meeting (September 15, 2019)  
Day Retreat (January 12, 2020)  
Year End retreat (April 19, 2020)

## REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION

7<sup>th</sup> Grade or 8<sup>th</sup> grade for 2019-2020 school year.

Registration and Baptism certificate turned in by September 15, 2019.

Completed Godparent application by January 1, 2020.

Teen and Parent participation in Discipleship Program.

Teen participation in overnight retreat Jan 11-12, 2020

Teen participation in at least 3 (out of approximately 6 possible) Youth Group Service opportunities.

Teen and Parent participation in:  
Introductory Meeting (September 15, 2019)  
Day Retreat (January 12, 2020)  
Year End retreat (April 19, 2020)

## HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

The core of the program is participation of both the child and parents in our Discipleship All Ages Catechesis program on Sunday evenings (9 meetings in the fall and 9 meeting in the Winter/Spring). Children will participate in age appropriate formation programs while the parents attend the "Foundations of Faith" program. Each week, parents will be given materials for short daily lessons with their child.

In addition to the Sunday evening Whole Community Catechesis programing, Sacrament Preparation families will attend a short introductory meeting in September, a retreat in January, and an end of the year day retreat in April.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is "catechesis"? Why "all ages catechesis"?

Catechesis is nothing other than the process of transmitting the Gospel. Catechesis comes from the Greek word *katekheisis* meaning "to hand on by word of mouth." The word "disciple" comes from the Latin word *discipulus* meaning "learner." In short, catechesis is simply talking about our Lord Jesus to all "disciples" or "learners."

We are moving toward a model for instruction that was used by the earliest Christians: gather for prayer as a community, break off into smaller study groups, then regather to share a meal. Small groups are designed to help you know Jesus more intimately, at every age and stage of life.

### What are the attendance requirements?

Since we have fewer meetings each year, participation in each meeting is essential. Families who miss the introductory meeting or any of the retreats or more than two Discipleship sessions will need to meet with the Director to decide if it possible to continue. Those who are unable to complete the requirements by April will be invited back to participate the following year.

### Do both parents need to attend?

Since teaching the child is the responsibility of both parents, it is preferable that both parents attend together. If this is not possible, then it is acceptable for only one parent to attend. For the Discipleship All Ages Catechesis sessions, if only one parent is able to attend it should be constantly the same parent as one session will lead in to the next.

### Our family has a unique situation and will require additional assistance. Who do I contact?

If your family has a unique situation (such as a disability, illness, military deployment, etc) please contact the parish office to schedule an appointment with David Charboneau: [david@stnicholascc.org](mailto:david@stnicholascc.org) or (253) 649-4240

### Is there a program for High School Confirmation?

Yes. High School confirmation is a separate program. Please contact Michele Heitzmann for more information on the High School Program: [michele@stnicholascc.org](mailto:michele@stnicholascc.org) or (253) 851-9040.

### Is there a cost for this program?

No. This program is paid for by the regular stewardship giving of St. Nicholas Parishioners.



## ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

In addition to ashes being offered during our 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM Masses, Fr. Mark will be available all day in the church for any visitors (Catholic or non-Catholic!) who would like to receive ashes. Come any time from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM for a blessing, and invite your friends and coworkers!

## LENTEN FRIDAYS

Join us every Friday during Lent for a special evening of prayer, a light meal, and an inspirational talk related to the saints and the Works of Mercy. Free childcare is available.

- 5:00 PM Confession Available
- 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross
- 6:00 PM Free Soup Supper
- 6:30 PM Works of Mercy Talk
- 7:00 PM End

## RICE BOWLS

Join our parish community—and more than 13,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Rice Bowls are included in this weekend’s bulletin and extras will be available in the Narthex. You can also download the CRS Rice Bowl app in the App Store or on Google Play. Remember, your Lenten sacrifices change lives.



# March 6, 2019

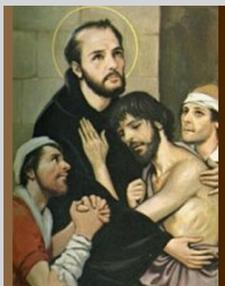
## 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM Mass with Imposition of Ashes

## Also during the day Imposition of Ashes available

## 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint John of God, Religious



St. John of God was a Portuguese friar who became a leading religious figure. After a period in the army in Spain, he began to distribute religious books, using the new Gutenberg printing press. At one point, John had an intense religious experience that resulted in temporary insanity. He was thrown into a mental institution, and while there, he realized how badly the sick and the poor were treated. Once he recovered, he spent the rest of his life caring for them. In Granada he gathered a circle of disciples around him who felt the same call and founded what is now known as the Brothers Hospitallers of St. John of God.

*2019 Sourcebook Pg. 110*

# ST. NICHOLAS LENTEN FRIDAYS

"Works of Mercy  
through the Eyes of the  
Saints"

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|         |                       |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 5:00 PM | CONFESSION AVAILABLE  |
| 5:30 PM | STATIONS OF THE CROSS |
| 6:00 PM | FREE SOUP SUPPER      |
| 6:30 PM | WORKS OF MERCY TALK   |
| 7:00 PM | END                   |

Free childcare is available starting at 5:00 PM and activities for children will be offered during the 6:30 PM talk. Questions? Contact David Charboneau: [david@stnicholascc.org](mailto:david@stnicholascc.org)



# Celebrate *Mardi Gras*

*Eat, drink and be merry, because tomorrow begins the season of Lent!*

By **Lonne Murphy**

Mardi Gras (March 5 this year), the day before Ash Wednesday, is a day of celebration throughout the Catholic world.

As part of your Mardi Gras celebration, have a special meal where you remember what Lent is about and then decide on a focus for your prayer, fasting and almsgiving this year.

Make a list of the people you feel called to pray for; the areas in your lives that call for fasting, such as from food and drink; technology; games and entertainment, and the causes or places to which you wish to offer alms (donations).

Put each item on your lists on a small piece of paper and place in a container in your kitchen. On Ash Wednesday morning, pull from the container for the first time. Draw one item from each container each week and focus on that intention as a family. Save the slips of paper so that at Easter you can celebrate all of the ways you've grown closer to the people in your life — and closer to God.



Have everyone in the family wear something green, purple or gold, the traditional colors of Mardi Gras. Purple represents justice; green, faith; and gold, power.

## Ash Wednesday

By **Lonne Murphy**

On Ash Wednesday the procession to the altar is as diverse as we will ever see it! Mother's carrying babies, toddlers holding on to dad's hand, teens, parishioners, neighbors, employees from nearby places of business, the elderly supported by walkers; we all come together to mark the beginning of Lent. We receive the ashes on our foreheads. We "remember that we are dust and unto dust we shall return."

The act of receiving ashes is not a sacrament. Actually, ashes are what we call a "sacramental."

Sacramentals are dynamic signs that help us prepare for receiving the sacraments. They help us receive the graces of the sacraments and they help make various occasions in our lives holy. They also remind us that all of creation has the potential to reveal God's presence and blessing. ("Encyclopedia of Catholicism," HarperCollins, 1995)

In receiving the ashes, we are saying that we are entering into the time of Lent, preparing for Easter with prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We are embracing Jesus' journey: the cross of suffering and the promise of the Resurrection. The ashes help us connect the spiritual aspect of Christ's cross and resurrection with our everyday lives. In addition to the liturgical significance of receiving ashes, we also are called to remember that in our repentance is a call to proper relationship between God and ourselves, and between others and ourselves.



### Talking to Kids about Ash Wednesday

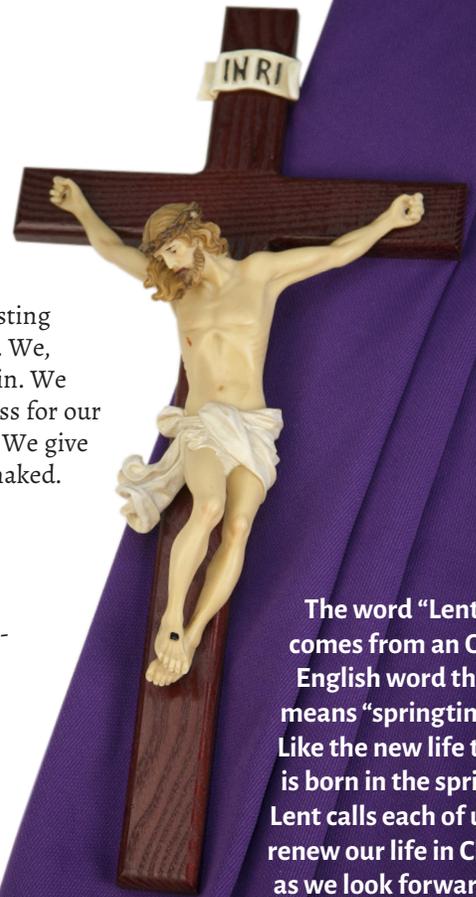
Kids seem to love Ash Wednesday, and they are often interested in the meaning behind the ritual of ashes. It is helpful to remind them that ashes placed on our foreheads represent a visible sign that we are followers of Jesus. The ashes are also a way to tell those around us, as well as ourselves, that we are beginning the holy season of Lent — the 40 days leading up to Easter. Ask them how they might grow closer to Jesus this Lent as a member of a family, as a student and as a friend.

Wear your ashes proudly today as a sign of your faith.

# Lent

## Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving: The Pillars of Lent

The solemn season of Lent is marked by three pillars of spiritual practice: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lent recalls the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert, battling temptation. We, too, walk through the desert this season as we struggle with our own temptations to sin. We pray more in Lent so as to strengthen our relationship with God and ask his forgiveness for our shortcomings. We fast as a reminder of how hungry we are for God's everlasting love. We give alms to people in need to follow Christ's command to feed the hungry and clothe the naked.



The word "Lent" comes from an Old English word that means "springtime." Like the new life that is born in the spring, Lent calls each of us to renew our life in Christ as we look forward to Easter renewal and the Resurrection.

### Prayer

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**PRAY THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS.** This ancient prayer is a moving experience of the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Attend as a family and include grandparents, who are some of the best models of Catholic faith traditions for kids.



### Fasting

"When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward." ~ Matthew 6:16



**SACRIFICE:** Fast one day this week by eating only a simple meal, such as soup. Notice when you feel hungry and pray for people who do not have enough to eat.

### Almsgiving

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." ~ Matthew 25:35-36

**ACTION:** Secretly put a gift card for gas or food in the mailbox of someone who is out of work.



### Symbols of Lent

**ASHES:** Made from burned palm leaves of the previous year, ashes can remind us of the baptismal and penitential character of Lent. They not only represent our own mortality and utter dependence on God, but also symbolize our efforts of dying to sin (and rising to new life in Christ).



**VIOLET (DEEP PURPLE):** Violet is the liturgical color of the season and symbolizes its repentant character, as well as Christ as the King of the world. (Deep purple was a color reserved for royalty in Jesus' time.)



**FISH:** As a Lenten symbol, fish stands for the obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We also abstain from meat on other Fridays of the season.



**BARREN STONES:** Stones call to mind the desert, and Jesus' testing by the devil there.



**PRETZELS:** Made from simple dough which has no dairy or fat, pretzels remind us of fasting and, shaped like two arms crossed, of prayer.





## NOW ENROLLING FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

Early learning classes (Preschool and Pre-K) are almost full. Be sure and secure your spot! Registration forms are available in the school office, or you can apply online (new families) at [www.stnicholascs.org/apply](http://www.stnicholascs.org/apply). Tuition assistance is available through our Guardian Angel and Del Garber scholarship funds. For more information, visit [www.stnicholascs.org/admissions](http://www.stnicholascs.org/admissions).

## THE AUCTION WAS A SUCCESS!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Revel and Reveal auction last Saturday! It was an amazing, fun evening celebrating St. Nicholas Catholic School! Thank you to each parishioner who attended and showed your support, we hope you had a wonderful time. This was one of our most successful auctions ever, thanks to our chair Kim Cummins and the entire volunteer auction committee!

Look for more updates to come as we share how auction funds will provide for enhancements and improvements at the school.

Check out some photos from our enchanting night!



## STEWARDSHIP

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Your generosity as of February 24th, 2019

|                              |    |               |
|------------------------------|----|---------------|
| Stewardship                  | \$ | 13,703        |
| Online Stewardship           | \$ | 4,696         |
| Children                     | \$ | 26            |
| Loose                        | \$ | 1,031         |
| <u>Total Weekly</u>          | \$ | <u>19,456</u> |
|                              |    |               |
| Total Year to Date Offerings | \$ | 770,763       |
| Year to Date Budget          | \$ | 756,444       |
| <u>Over Budget</u>           | \$ | <u>14,319</u> |
|                              |    |               |
| Holy Days                    | \$ | 0             |
| <u>Total Year to Date</u>    | \$ | <u>37,248</u> |
|                              |    |               |
| Building Fund                | \$ | 1,125         |
| <u>Total Year to Date</u>    | \$ | <u>11,037</u> |

### SPRING FORWARD: MARCH 10TH



Remember to set your clocks forward next weekend, as Daylight Savings ends. Spring forward one hour at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 10th, so you won't be an hour late for Mass! 😊

### CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS COLLECTION

Next weekend there will be a second collection for Catholic home Missions. These home mission territories include over 40 percent of the dioceses in the United States which are unable, due to fragile financial situations, tough terrain, and/or too few Catholics, to provide even the most basic opportunities for learning about and deepening the Faith. Your support of the Catholic Home Missions can lift up the lives and faith of our brothers and sisters across the country including here in our state. Please be generous.

## PRAYERS FOR OUR TROOPS & FIRST RESPONDERS

Please pray for the men and women, and their families, who devote their lives to the safety of our country.

To add or remove a name from the list, write to: [margaret@stnicholascc.org](mailto:margaret@stnicholascc.org)

Lance Corporal Thomas S. Arnesen, USMC  
Captain Claire Betterbed, USA  
Captain Elizabeth Betterbed, USA  
Lieutenant Tommy Betterbed, DMD USN  
SSG Dane Betts, USA  
Julianna P. Haven, Critical Care Nurse  
Nathan Haven, EMT  
SGT Mitchell Jeffers, USMC, Force Reconnaissance  
2nd Lieutenant Joseph Keenan, USMC  
LCDR Matt Kokkeler, USN  
SFC Ryan Kraeger, USA  
Master Sergeant Justin Patrick Mansfield

SSgt Dakota K-R Moist, USMC  
Staff Sergeant Jason Naputi  
Master Sergeant Merideth Naputi  
PFC Tyler Munn  
James R. Olson, Firefighter/Paramedic  
Jason R. Olson, Tacoma Police Officer/Pierce County Search and Rescue  
1st Lieutenant Casey Peloquin, USAF  
PFC Graham Potter  
MIDN 3/C Will Ryan, USN  
Patrick R. Sam, Gig Harbor Police Officer  
Captain Kimberly Sandberg, USN  
Joe and Linda Siegel  
Eric Waters, Division Chief, Gig Harbor Fire Department

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Get to know the members of our parish family! Would you like to be interviewed? Or would you like to nominate someone to be featured?  
For more information, contact Margaret Betts: [margaret@stnicholascc.org](mailto:margaret@stnicholascc.org)

### JARROD MORAN



**Tell us a little about yourself, and what brought you to Gig Harbor.**

I grew up in Fremont, California until I was ten, when my family moved up to Gig Harbor for work and for a better environment. Gig Harbor was very small and undeveloped at the time. I remember when there was only one stoplight in town, on Point Fosdick Road. It's been incredible to witness the growth over the last thirty years. My family joined St. Nicholas in 1990, so this has always been home. My brother, sister, mom, and I all still attend Mass here.

I currently work for DSHS and Adult Protective Services, where I investigate abuse and neglect cases of elderly. It's a hard job, and I encounter a lot of tough cases, but I want to do my part to help where I can.

Before I got my degree in Psychology, I was in the military for five years. Through the Navy, I went to Spain, Portugal, and the Azores, where we were stuck for a few days. It's the most beautiful place in the world to be "stranded"! Our ship also went to Hypha, Israel, Mt. Carmel (where I visited the Our Lady of Carmel shrine), Crete, Bahrain, and Italy. You can't beat free travel with the military.

It was also through the military that I met my wife, Misty, who was in the Marines. Her birth name is "Mystical Crystal," so I went up to her and gave her a jab, saying, "There's no way. You've got to be making that up." But she wasn't. She is probably the only person in the Marine Corps ever to be named "Mystical Crystal." We discovered that Misty's grandmother lived only two blocks away from where my parents lived in California! It's a very small world. We dated for just six months before we eloped. We've been married now for eleven years.

We were only married for a month when I was sent overseas for a year. When I returned home, it was a shock, because we sort of felt like we were strangers again. We both said, "Hello, I love you. Now who are you again?" We had to relearn how to know each other. And I think it brought us together, and enhanced our faith. In fact, I don't think so - I know so. Being apart then coming together and finding a home together in the Church helped sharpen our focus. We are together because of Jesus and the strength He gave us. I have tremendous respect for military families who spend so much time apart. It is a real challenge for your marriage and family life. But I know God can do wonderful things with that sacrifice, too.

Misty wasn't Catholic when we married, but she was a devout Christian. She was convinced she was going to show me how wrong Catholics were, and over time would convert me! It turned out to be the other way around! She became Catholic in 2014, here at St. Nicholas, and we had our marriage convalidated at St. Charles in Tacoma. She will say that the idea of the Eucharist was the biggest stumbling block, but over time God worked on her heart and she felt drawn to it. We have two beautiful children: Abram and Zariah, after Azariah, another name for the angel Raphael in the Book of Tobit.

**How has living in the Northwest shaped your faith?**

Despite being a fairly non-religious part of the country, living in the Northwest has really shaped me as a Catholic. I went to Catholic school in California until 4th grade, which gave me a solid foundation to enter into Middle School. I went to public school



when we moved up to Gig Harbor, which was a huge shock for me. It took me a while to adapt. But interestingly, the challenges I faced actually made me cling more strongly to my faith, rather than draw me away from it.

The same thing goes for my experience in college. I was originally enrolled in Northwest University, an Evangelical Protestant university in Kirkland. I spent my first year really having to defend my Catholic beliefs to my Protestant classmates and friends. It forced me to hone my ability to articulate what I believed in an intelligent way. But I was frequently pressured to adopt a Protestant mentality, which wore me down. When I was registering for classes my sophomore year, I ran into a friend. She said, "Hey Jarrod! How was your break? Were you saved over the summer? Did you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior?" She had good intentions, but it was really a turn-off for me. I literally walked out the registration line and went home. I told my Dad, "I can't take this pressure. It's driving me crazy. What am I going to do now?" Dad said, "You're going to join the military," so I did!

The thing I like the most about our faith is that looking back, you can really see how God was working in your life to orchestrate a grander plan. Had I not joined the Navy, I never would have met my wife, and I wouldn't have the knowledge or experiences that I have today. Even though I felt like my life was taking an unexpected detour at the time, it turned out to be just the path that God intended all along.

#### **What do you love most about St. Nicholas Parish?**

This parish feels like home, since I grew up here. We love the parish school and are planning on sending our kids here. I know this may sound funny, but one thing I love most about our parish is that people are genuinely warm and friendly, but also not too invasive. I'm a pretty shy person by nature, so I like feeling welcomed but also given some space. At some Protestant churches I've been to, I have encountered the kindest, most enthusiastic people, but their manner can be overwhelming to an introvert like me. I like that I feel comfortable enough here to participate fully with the community in Mass, but I can still maintain a level of anonymity.

I can't remember a priest I've ever liked as much as Fr. Mark. He is the best priest I have ever met. We are really lucky to have him.

#### **Who is your favorite saint?**

I really like St. Francis of Assisi, because of his willingness to give. He gave everything of himself to serve others.

#### **Do you have a favorite bible verse?**

I like all of John 6. That is the "Bread of Life" narrative. I like it because it's the basis of our faith, and clearly spells out reality of the Eucharist.

Matthew 25 is also really meaningful to me, the parable about the sheep and the goats. *"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'" That verse really sticks with me, especially in my line of work with the elderly: "What you've done to the least of my brethren, you've done to me."*

#### **How do you like to spend your time?**

Playing with my kids is my favorite way to spend my free time. I love being with them and with Misty. The only time I don't like my kids is when we're at Mass because they get pretty noisy... I work every day from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM, so I try to get home as quickly as I can to play with them before they go to bed. That takes up most of my free time for now.

## HOSPITALITY HOUR

### St. Nicholas Parish COFFEE and DONUTS

Join fellow parishioners in the Parish Center after Sunday Masses for fellowship and introduce yourself to the parish community. We would like to thank Charlene & Van and the Kinzy Family for

hosting this week's Hospitality Hour for the Parish Community.

## CAMPUS SPRING CLEAN UP! MARCH 9TH

Our Parish-Wide Campus Work Party will be held next Saturday, March 9th from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. There is still time to sign up, and volunteers are greatly appreciated! For more information or to volunteer, please Contact Mark MacLeod, Facilities Director, at [markmac@stnicholascc.org](mailto:markmac@stnicholascc.org). Pray for good weather!

## FACILITIES VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS STILL NEEDED

Would you like to be a part of the New Facilities Committee? If you could share your time and talents, please contact Mark Macleod at (253) 649-4273 or [markmac@stnicholascc.org](mailto:markmac@stnicholascc.org).

## SAVE THE DATE



Our Lady of the  
*Visitation* Guild

Save the date for the Visitation Guild's Annual Spring Luncheon & Card Party: "Lunch at Tiffany's"! The luncheon will be held on Monday, April 29, 2019 at St. Nicholas Parish Hall. Tickets will be \$12. For more info please contact Angela Lindsay at (253) 853-20078 or Ronni Wight at (360) 981-3342.



## ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

## NEW PROTECT & HEAL WEBSITE

As part of an effort to improve how the Archdiocese communicates on the sexual abuse crisis, we have launched a special website that addresses the issue. As Archbishop Sartain says in a video message found on it, the new "Protect and Heal" website ([protectandheal.seattlearchdiocese.org](http://protectandheal.seattlearchdiocese.org)) is a vehicle to communicate sincerely and openly about the crisis.

The site offers facts about the abuse crisis and the Archdiocese of Seattle's response to it, including resources for victims. It gathers into one easily accessible website information that was previously located in various locations.

Key features include the Archdiocese of Seattle's disclosure list of clergy and religious brothers and sisters who have been credibly accused of abusing minors (originally published in January of 2016); a timeline showing when reported abuse occurred; and information about the actions the Archdiocese has taken over the past three decades to respond to the crisis, such as implementing a Safe Environment program of background checks and abuse-prevention trainings for employees. The site also provides information about the U.S. bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, adopted in 2002; and the Archdiocesan Review Board, a group of mostly lay subject-matter experts that advises Archbishop Sartain on matters pertaining to clergy sexual abuse. Archdiocese of Seattle, Office of Communications

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Paper copies of the current schedule are available in the Sacristy for anyone who would like one. If you do not have a computer and need a sub or need to make changes to your schedule or are not comfortable with the scheduler you can call or text Mark McKibben at (253) 514-9275 to make changes.

# Pray to End Abortion.



## JOIN THE LENTEN 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN

On Monday February 25th, the Senate blocked passing the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, a grave moment for our country. Please pray for our nation, and that hearts may be converted. One way you can support the cause for life is by joining the Lenten 40 Day Life Campaign. Witness will take place at the Cedar River facility, 1401 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma, from Saturday, March 9th through Sunday, April 14th. The vigil hours are Saturday - Tuesday each week, from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Please contact Anne Jackson at (253) 298-1120 or [tacoma40daysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:tacoma40daysforlife@gmail.com) for more information.

Your St. Nicholas Knights of Columbus will be leading the prayers and peaceful witness every Sunday (March 10th - April 14th) from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The leader will be Kevin Meyer, who can be reached at (253) 820-3396 for questions.

Additionally, a group from St. Nicholas prays the rosary at Planned Parenthood every Tuesday, year-round. Email Barbara Patterson at [joy.of.easter@gmail.com](mailto:joy.of.easter@gmail.com) to get involved.

*O Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of us all, we turn to you today as the one who said "Yes" to Life. "You will conceive and bear a Son," the angel told you. Despite the surprise and the uncertainty about how this could be, you said yes. "Be it done unto me according to your word."*

*Mary, we pray today for all mothers who are afraid to be mothers. We pray for those who feel threatened and overwhelmed by their pregnancy. Intercede for them, that God may give them the grace to say yes and the courage to go on. May they have the grace to reject the false solution of abortion. May they say with you, "Be it done unto me according to your word." May they experience the help of Christian people, and know the peace that comes from doing God's will. Amen.*

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

We have not caught up with food since the "Giving Tree". The need is still great. We need pancake mix, syrup, cereal, canned corn, jelly, cookies, packages potatoes, shampoo and paper towels. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

## NO SCRIP SALES MARCH 10TH

The SCRIP table will not be available March 10. We will return the following week. Thank you so much! - Judy McFarland

## NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Tired of the struggle to try and control your fertility on your own? Learn what a difference it can make to practice Natural Family Planning and Responsible Parenthood. It might just be surprisingly freeing! To learn more visit [www.live-the-love.org](http://www.live-the-love.org) or call Chris or Christine Ryalls at (253) 851-7445.

## REGULAR ADORATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Did you know that St. Nicholas Catholic Church offers adoration and benediction every Thursday from 10:00 AM - 6:20 PM? We are always looking for volunteers to help. If you can't commit once a week maybe you could be a sub to fill in when some else can't. We are required to have 2 people at all times. If you like to be a substitute or permanent time please contact Christopher Polinsky in the Parish Office at (253) 851-8850 or [chris@stnicholascc.org](mailto:chris@stnicholascc.org).

## ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK



Please patronize the businesses advertised on the back page of this bulletin. Their support allows Catholic Printery to print this bulletin at no cost to the Parish. When you patronize these businesses let them know that you saw their ad in our bulletin. Advertiser of the week is: The Lodge at Mallards Landing.