

ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH



Stewardship

2023 - 2024



*What will you give back to God
with the blessings you have received?*



Mass Schedule:
Daily: Tuesday – Friday 9 a.m.
Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction:
Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - THURSDAY
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
FRIDAY
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Parish Administration

Rev. Venancio R. Balarote, Pastor
“Father Jun”
frvb@stnicholasvb.com – 757-340-7231

Lora DiNardo, Pastoral Associate & Business Manager
ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com

James Gardner, Director of Music Ministry
jgardner@stnicholasvb.com

Steve Branning, Director of Christian Form. & Evangelization
sbranning@stnicholasvb.com

Jeff Mingin, Director of Youth Ministry
jeffm@stnicholasvb.com

Charlene Brehl, Administrative Assistant
stnicholasadmin@stnicholasvb.com

James K. Throne, Maintenance Manager
jamest@stnicholasvb.com

Edward Hill, Maintenance

Denise Foster, Volunteer Sacramental Records Keeper/Office Assistant

Susan Settineri-Zydlowski, Volunteer Registrar/ Office Assistant
stnicholas@stnicholasvb.com

Contact us at 757-340-7231 or visit the parish website at
www.stnicholasvb.com

THE HEART OF STEWARDSHIP

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

September 9, 2022

It is with immense gratitude that I present to you this Stewardship booklet, representing the multitude of Ministries within our beloved St. Nicholas Catholic Church. I hope and pray that this letter finds you all in good health and high spirits. As we ardently preach and practice the values that define our faith community, I feel compelled to emphasize the profound significance of Stewardship in our parish family. Stewardship is not a fleeting event or occasional act of charity; rather, it is a way of life that we embrace through active participation in worship, devotion to the Word of God, outreach to others, and the development of a vibrant community.

Blessed are we! Worship lies at the very heart of our stewardship journey. Gathered together to celebrate the Mass, we are reminded of the love Jesus had for us during His Passion and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. This same love is poured out daily upon altars in every church, in every city, in every nation on Earth. No one can offer more, and no one can request more. This sacred bond forms the core essence of Christian stewardship, as we willingly offer our Time, Treasures, and Talents to the Lord. Through active participation and unwavering commitment to the Liturgy, we become integral contributors to a vibrant and dynamic worship experience. By passionately engaging in worship and embodying our commitment, we exemplify the vigor of our faith, honoring God and nurturing spiritual growth within our parish family and beyond.

Moreover, the essence of stewardship extends far beyond the physical boundaries of our church. Our acts of love and charity exemplify our commitment to selflessly serve others. Whether through volunteering, charitable initiatives, or other acts of kindness, we actively strive to make a positive impact on the lives of those who are less fortunate or facing various challenges. By embracing our mission of Christian stewardship, we extend God's love and compassion to those in need, experiencing transformative blessings not only in their lives but also in our own.

By God's Grace, our commitment to stewardship authentically manifests in the strong sense of community that thrives here at St. Nicholas. We unite as a diverse group of individuals, supporting and uplifting one another. Through fellowship, connection, and collaborative efforts towards shared goals, we foster a supportive environment that encourages both personal and spiritual growth.

As your pastor, my heart rejoices humbly, witnessing the vibrant embodiment of our mission, *Stewardship as a Way of Life*, here within our parish family. Every endeavor we undertake within these walls is rooted in Christ, as we strive to faithfully steward all that has been entrusted to us. We are mere stewards of the gifts God has provided, not owners (Mt. 25:14-30). Remember, your talent is God's gift to you, and what you do with your talent becomes your gift to God.

Let us persistently embrace this way of life, deepening our faith and fervently working to make a difference in response to the summons Jesus has called us to.

Your Friend in Christ,

Fr. Venancio “Jun” R. Balarote
Pastor

CONTENTS

Parish Councils	8
Finance Council	Pastoral Council
Administration	9
Building & Grounds Committee	Finance & Count Teams
Receptionists/ Office Volunteers	Parish Carnival & Flea Market
Rentals	
Commonwealth Catholic Charities	
Liturgy & Worship	11
Liturgy Committee	Music Ministry
Altar Servers	Family Choir
Arts & Environment Committee	Folk Group
Children’s Liturgy of the Word	Christmas & Easter
Choirs Eucharistic Ministers	Instrumentalists
Lectors	Children’s Choir
Eucharistic Adoration	Gregorian Chant Schola
Liturgical Planning of the Universal Prayer	
Ministry Scheduler Pro	
Purificator Ministers	
Sacristans	
Ushers	
Live Stream	
Christian Formation	15
Youth Ministry Grades 6 - 12	
Edge-Middle School Formation & Youth Group	
Life Teen – High School Formation & Youth	
Group Youth Leadership Team	
Christian Formation K-5	
Vacation Bible School	
Lending Library	
Adult Faith Formation	
Walking With Purpose – Women’s Study	
Group	
That Man is You! – Men’s Study Group	
Monday Evening Bible Studies	
Sacramental Preparation	17
Infant Baptism	
RCIA	
Children’s Initiation	
First Eucharist	
First Reconciliation	
Confirmation	
Marriage	
Preparation	

CONTENTS (continued)

Parish Life.....	19
Parish Life Committee	
Men's Club	
Coffee Hospitality	
Pastoral Care	20
Columbarium	
Ministry Funeral	
Hospitality	
Ministry to the Homebound	
Ministry to the Hospitalized	
Funeral Preparation	
Social Ministry	21
Christmas Gifts	Just Seniors
Faith Works Coalition	Meals on Wheels
Food Pantry	Respect for Life
Haiti Twinning	Sowers of Justice
Judeo/ Christian Soup Kitchen	Nightingales
Winter Shelter	
Ecumenism.....	23

MISSION

The mission of St. Nicholas Catholic Church is to proclaim and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through celebration of our faith and sharing our time, talent and treasure in service of the Kingdom of God.

2023-2024

Special Masses **and HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION**

All Saints' Day*
Wednesday, November 1, 2023

All Souls' Day
Thursday, November 2, 2023

The Feast of Christ the King
Sunday, November 26, 2023

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 3, 2023

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception*
Friday, December 8, 2023

Christmas Day*
Monday, December 25, 2023

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Monday, January 1, 2024

Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Palm Sunday
Sunday, March 24, 2024

Holy Thursday
Thursday, March 28, 2024

Good Friday
Friday, March 29, 2024

Holy Saturday
Saturday, March 30, 2024

Easter Sunday
Sunday, March 31, 2024

Divine Mercy Sunday
Sunday, April 7, 2024

The Feast of the Ascension*
Thursday, May 9, 2024
Transferred to Sunday, May 12, 2024

Pentecost Sunday
Sunday, May 19, 2024

Trinity Sunday
Sunday, May 26, 2024

The Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ
Sunday, June 2, 2024

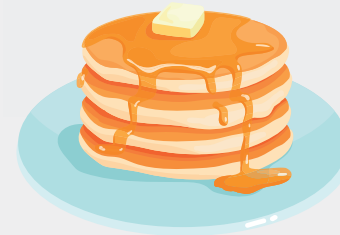
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Friday, June 7, 2024

The Assumption of Mary*
Thursday, August 15, 2024



★ Notes Holy Day of Obligation

Fellowship Pancake Breakfasts



**WE ARE EXCITED TO BRING BACK
THESE AMAZING EVENTS!**



Hospitality Weekends

Monthly

We are looking for:
Kitchen Managers
Cook Crews
Volunteers

**PLEASE CONSIDER
VOLUNTEERING THIS YEAR.**

**MANY HANDS MAKE
LIGHT WORK**

Sponsored by Parish Life Committee

Chair: Kathy Sullivan, jimandkathy101@yahoo.com

Hospitality Chair: Janet McCarraher, janetmc528@outlook.com

PARISH COUNCILS

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Pastoral Council is the consultative body to the pastor regarding parish life and mission. As the leadership body of the parish, the Council draws on the gifts of the laity in making recommendations to the pastor in order to fulfill the parish mission. It is composed of elected and appointed members who coordinate programs and events through its standing committees.

Chair: Victor Spears – Vspears@hotmail.com

Vice Chair: Kathy Sullivan – jimandkathy101@yahoo.com

Council Members: Fr. Jun Balarote, Lora DiNardo, Georjeane Blumling, Donna Lang, Mark Norris, Ursula Muller, Steve Branning, and Jeff Mingin Young Guard: Liliana Fallin and Gabriella Calcagno

FINANCE COUNCIL

The Finance Council, an advisory body to the pastor, reviews the financial mission and ministry of the parish. Members are appointed by the pastor.

Chair: Brian Garrison - brian.m.garrison@gmail.com

Council Members: Louis Schager, Susan Thornton, Brian Garrison, Kary Marfaeo, Lora DiNardo, and Fr. Jun Balarote

ACH Direct Deposit & Online Giving

Your consistent financial support of our parish is vital to achieving our stewardship mission. The easiest way to be sure that your gift of treasure reaches us, even when you can't be here, is through enrollment in our ACH Direct Deposit program. If you have not yet enrolled, we encourage you to consider doing so. Enrollment forms are avail- able in the church office or in the commons. As always, know that your generosity is a sign of your stewardship and participation in building the kingdom of God.

Lora DiNardo, Pastoral Associate & Business Manager - ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

The Parish Administration, led by Fr. Jun, is comprised of full and part time staff members and volunteers who

are responsible for the smooth operation of the parish, care of the parish facilities, including care and upkeep of parish buildings and grounds. The operation of a parish includes distinct Ministry areas: Word, Worship, Community, Service, Leadership and Stewardship. The Administration provides support for all ministries, therefore one key task of administration is the encouragement and direction of the stewardship program within the parish. Stewardship of time, talent and treasure enables the parish and the ministries within the parish to achieve their goals and to grow in faith together while meeting the needs of the parish community. Volunteers in Administration put their faith into action throughout the week by serving as receptionists, administrative assistants, media assistants, technology support, count teams, landscapers, sacramental record-keepers, Parish Life and Building & Grounds committee members.

Building and Grounds Committee

This committee reviews the condition of parish buildings and grounds through scheduled inspections and assists in overseeing the maintenance of parish facilities including facility improvements and service contracts. Buildings and Grounds also provides a dedicated team of volunteers to cut the grass and care for the gardens for our parish grounds and rectory.

Roger Morgan - rocket1322@gmail.com - 757-363-2956

Money Counters

Count weekend collections for about four hours on Monday morning once every four weeks. This is an appointed position. Lora DiNardo - ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Volunteer Receptionist/Office Assistants

Office Volunteers assist the pastor and staff by greeting incoming visitors, answering phones, directing calls, taking messages, and sorting and distributing incoming mail. Training includes the use of office equipment such as the postage machine and photocopier. If interested, applications are available in the parish office.

Lora DiNardo - ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Parish Carnival & Flea Market

The Parish Carnival Committee organizes and runs the annual parish Carnival. The committee is comprised of parishioners, parish staff and representatives from all parish ministries. The Annual Flea Market is held during the parish Carnival. In the weeks ahead volunteers spend two days a week organizing and pricing donated items and manage Flea Market sales. This four-day fundraising event raises funds for parish ministries and includes live music, games, food, Carnival rides and Flea Market.

Lora DiNardo- ldindardo@stnicholasvb.com, Mike Pettinger – idalaska@verizon.net, Kim Black - kenesey@hope-house.org

Bake Sale: Luisa Gowen and Janet McCarraher

Flea Market: Peggy Rose – gaprose28@gmail.com- 757-648-9988

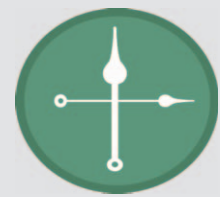
Rentals

The parish Social Hall is available to rent for private functions. The fee is \$300 for parishioners and \$600 for non-parishioners. There is an additional \$100 fee for liability and insurance coverage.

Lora Di Nardo - ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com or 757-340-7231

Commonwealth Catholic Charities'

Cabrini Children's Center at St. Nicholas is a shelter serving unaccompanied children ages 5-17 who are ultimately reunited with family and kin. The children's stay at the shelter is short, usually 30-45 days before they are reunified. During their stay, children receive education, medical care, counseling, recreational opportunities and social support. The shelter is staffed 24/7 and is licensed by the Department of Social Services. Funding for the program is through the federal government. CCC operates a similar shelter in Richmond, VA. <https://www.cccofva.org/>



HOW TO SIGN UP FOR Ministry Scheduler Pro

1. Go to <http://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/SNCC>
2. Enter your username. and password.
3. Click on the "My Profile" tab.
4. Add/ update your contact information, Mass preferences, and availability.
5. Scroll down and click "Submit!"



Keep your phone number, email, and current updated in the Parish Database:

1. Go to <https://connectnow.parishsoft.com/Richmond/>
2. Click the New User link to display the Registration Form.
3. Complete Steps 1 -3 on the form. Required fields are marked with a **red asterisk: ***.
4. Click "Submit Registration."
5. If the system can verify your registration request, it displays a confirmation message to inform you that your registration was successful. You will receive an email containing your login credentials (username and temporary password) to the email address you provided in your registration.



Protecting God's Children for Adults Program

In accordance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People all diocesan employees, clergy, religious, teachers, staff, and all volunteers who regularly or routinely work with children or youth participate in a Protecting God's Children for Adults training session. For more information and to register please contact Steve Branning, sbranning@stnicholasvb.com

LITURGY & WORSHIP

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration takes place on each Tuesday following 9 a.m. mass until 5:30 p.m. followed by Benediction. All are welcome to stop by and pray for a few minutes, a half hour or for an extended period of time. Private prayer and reflection is the basis for Eucharistic Adoration. There are aids to guide you if you are not familiar with Eucharistic Adoration. Two permanent people are scheduled for each hour.

Adoration: Elizabeth Kannarkat - 757-486-4061

Carol Voorhees - carvoor@verizon.net - 757-450-9716

Liturgy Committee

Liturgy is the worship of a people who gather to celebrate the great mystery of our salvation. The committee draws on the liturgical seasons of the Church to fashion celebrations of faith consistent with the liturgical norms of the Catholic Church.

Georjeane Blumling - rblumling1@verizon.net - 757-236-5933

Altar Servers

Altar Servers assist the priest during Mass. Girls and boys, who are at least nine years of age and have made their First Communion, are eligible to serve.

Jeff Mingin - jeffm@stnicholasvb.com

Steve Branning - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com

Arts and Environment Committee

In order to facilitate the enhancement of the beauty of our liturgical celebrations, this group plans and creates appropriate decorations and fresh flower arrangements for the church. The committee also creates memorial arrangements for those who want to remember a deceased loved one with flowers. New members are always welcome and we will gladly provide flower arrangement training.

Connie King - constance.king@aol.com - 757-289-1656

Clare Gloria - csgloria51@gmail.com - 757-498-4731

Eucharistic Ministers

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are confirmed adults, approved by the pastor who distribute Holy Communion at Masses and take Communion to those unable to attend Mass.

Agatha Peterson - apeterson076@gmail.com - 757-340-3852

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) Catechists

During Children's Liturgy of the Word, children are dismissed from the adult assembly to hear the Gospel at their level of understanding. They are led by two volunteers who are provided with teaching materials that are adapted to be made relevant to the lives and experiences of young children preparing them for full participation in the Liturgy. The children, ages 4-8, are called forward and dismissed before the readings from scripture and they return to the church after the homily.

Steve Branning - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Lectors

Adult and youth lectors help to make the Mass more meaningful by proclaiming God's Word to the congregation. Training is provided and a Lector Workbook gives insight into each week's readings. Time commitment is minimal and individualized. Youth lectors should be middle school aged and those of high school age are welcome to join as adult lectors.

Carrell Horvath - CarrellH@cox.net - 757-478-6191

Livestream Ministry

Volunteers assist with operating the Livestream for the Sunday 11am Mass and if available Tuesday morning Mass. Training will be provided. Anyone with basic computer and technical skill can help. This ministry continues to be a service to the homebound who wish to remain connected to our community. If you would like to help, please contact the parish office.

2023 - 2024

Music Ministry

EVENT CALENDAR

LESSONS & CAROLS

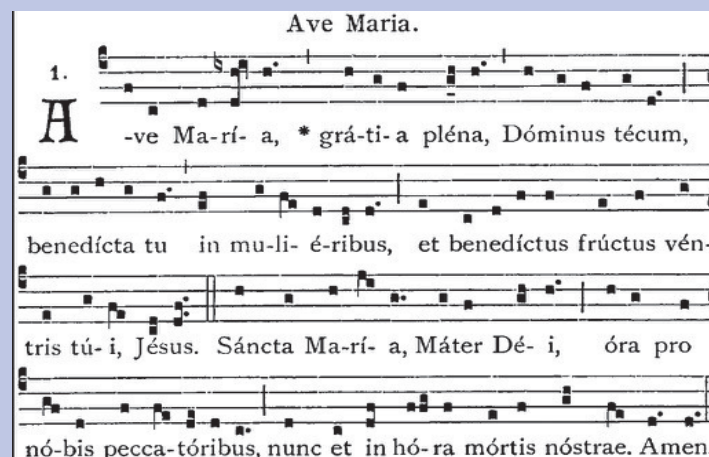
Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Our Annual Lessons & Carols Liturgy & Christmas Concert
featuring Family Choir, Folk Group, Christmas Choir,
Children's Choir, and Gregorian Chant Schola. Grand
reception to follow.

TENEBRAE

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 8:00 p.m.

A deeply moving liturgy that portrays the darkness of
Christ's passion and death through music and scripture



Liturgical Planning of the Universal Prayer

Four groups meet monthly to reflect on Sunday Scriptures. The focus of this ministry is writing an opening commentary and Universal Prayer for weekend Masses.

Carol Vorhees- carvoor@verizon.net - 757-450-9716

Purificator Ministry

Purificators are the linen cloths used to dry sacred vessels at liturgies. Laundering of about 30 purificators per week is done at home. Individuals are scheduled on a rotating basis, approximately one week per month.

Mary Schildwachter- mjs3113@cox.net - 757-463-0872

Sacristans

Prepare the altar for the liturgy of the Eucharist by taking care of the linens and top altar cloth, the holy water fonts, candles, and holders. There are no monthly meetings, and the time requirement is scheduled on a rotating basis approximately once every 6 weeks for an hour and a half.

Mary Lou Ferralli - mlgf4js@gmail.com - 757-498-7011

Ushers

Greet and welcome parishioners arriving for Liturgy, manage the collection at Mass, as well as collect the offering of the people and assist those who bring forth the Eucharistic Gifts. Ushers ensure the locking of the building after the 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 11:00 a.m. Sunday masses. Seasonal volunteers are appreciated.

Tim Baker - tbaker6633@aol.com - 757-646-2490

Tom Lenhart - thomaselenhart@cox.net - 757-635-1209

Music Ministry

The Music Ministry provides opportunities for parishioners to spiritually enrich the liturgy through music. James Gardner - Director of Music Ministry - jgardner@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Family Choir - Membership is open to all. Weekly practice is on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Informal vocal training, classical and Vatican II era Catholic repertoire. Come alone or bring a friend, spouse, son or daughter. Family Choir alternates between 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. weekend Masses.

Folk Group - Membership is open to all, 6th Grade - Adults. Weekly practice is on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays before 11:00 a.m. Mass. Commitment is a must but the rewards are great: good musical, social, and spiritual mix, plus an Outer Banks beach retreat! Repertoire includes contemporary Catholic music, sacred music of diverse cultures, classical, chant, and more!

Children's Choir - Open to all in grade levels 1 - 6. Bi-Weekly practice after the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. Sings at Mass once a month during the school year and at special events. Vocal and music training with varied styles, plenty of fun. Bring a friend.


Christmas/ Easter Choir - Organized to celebrate the feasts of Christmas and Holy Week/ Easter. Short term commitment to a more sophisticated liturgical repertoire. Practice dates will be announced in the bulletin.


Cantors and Instrumentalists - Special ministries for those gifted with individual talent and extra training. Re- quires an interview with the Music Director.

Gregorian Chant Schola- Membership is open to all. Bi-Weekly practice on Thursdays from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Sings at Mass once per month, rotating between 5:30, 8:30, and 11:00 Masses. Special focus on traditional Gregorian Chant repertoire. Training will be provided as we learn classic musical works of stunning beautiful, which Vatican II called the church's greatest artistic treasure.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Inspired by the words of John Paul II, the goal of Saint Nicholas Catholic Church youth ministry is to bring youth into relationship with Jesus Christ. We wish to help youth discover more fully the invitation that is already in their hearts. We wish to lead them to Christ in the tradition of St. Paul by bringing the culture and Christianity together. As a ministry we consecrate this mission to the Blessed Mother and continually ask her to bring us to Christ. Adult volunteers are always needed. Adults may assist by volunteering for a specific task such as hospitality, decorations, and chaperoning. Adults may also assist as Core Team members of Edge, Life Teen, or Confirmation. Core Team members are adults who regularly attend youth events and who seek to be healthy faith mentors to the youth of St. Nicholas. All youth ministry volunteers are empowered to teach the truths of the faith and bring the youth into relationship with Jesus Christ through both word and example. Jeff Mingin, Director of Youth Ministry - jeffm@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

 **EDGE Middle School Formation and Youth Group (Grade Levels 6-8)**
Middle school students will attend classes on Sundays from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Youth will also gather regularly to enjoy social activities and retreats.

 **LIFE TEEN High School Formation and Youth Group (Grade Levels 9-12)**
High school youth meet Sunday nights from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. to enjoy social time, games, catechesis, and prayer. High school youth also participate in number of activities including retreats, social outings, and much more.

Youth Leadership Team
High School youth who have already received the sacrament of Confirmation assist in planning and implementation of youth ministry at St. Nicholas.

PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES



- Dec. 5 Star of the Sea
- Dec. 6 St. Luke
- Dec. 11 St. Gregory the Great
- Dec. 12 Church of the Holy Family
- Dec. 13 Church of the Ascension
- Dec. 14 Saint Nicholas
- Dec. 20 Holy Spirit
- Dec. 21 St. John the Apostle

All Parishes Reconciliation Services begin at 7 PM

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Christian Formation strives to bring our parishioners to encounter the person of Christ through Bible studies, adult formation and bringing the children of our parish to have a greater knowledge of their faith. Our mission is to guide the faithful to learn about our faith in order to lead lives of holiness and share our faith with others. We welcome all who feel the call to be part of our Christian Formation committee as we live out our mission together. *“The aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch, but in intimacy with the person of Jesus Christ.” .” Catechesi Tradendae #5*
Steve Branning, Director of Christian Formation and Evangelization - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com -757-340-7231

Christian Formation - Grades K – 5
Sessions are offered Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. Adults are involved as catechists, aides, and substitutes.

Vacation Bible School
Join a wonderful group of volunteers for a week in the summer as we have fun bringing the wonder of God into the children’s daily lives. Adult volunteers and youth volunteers serve as Bible story teachers, arts and crafts teachers, drama teams and game leaders.

Evangelization Cafe/Parish Library
The St. Nicholas parish library lends, free of charge, books for adults and children to promote a richer understanding of our Roman Catholic faith. Materials are available to deepen an individual’s participation in and love of, their relationship with God. This committee updates materials, tracks loans, keeps the Library area clean and well-organized and helps keep the area fresh and inviting.

The Evangelization Cafe is open on specific Sunday's after the 8:30 and 11:00 Mass. Volunteers will make and serve coffee, monitor the breakfast food item of the week, and ensure that the area is cleaned up after Mass. This ministry is open for teenagers and adults.

Adult Faith Formation
Adult Faith Formation serves to foster personal and communal faith in the adult parishioners. Programs include adult catechesis on various topics during Christian Formation, and weekly study programs.

That Man is You!
That Man is You! honestly addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. The program harmonizes current social and medical science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive! All men (18 and up) are welcome to join us Saturday mornings in the fall and spring from 630 a.m.- 8:00a.m.
Steve Branning: sbranning@stnicholasvb.com -757-340-7231

Walking With Purpose
St. Nicholas offers Walking With Purpose (WWP) a Catholic Bible study that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus by offering personal study and small group discussions that link our everyday challenges with solutions given to us through the teaching of Christ and the Roman Catholic Church. For more information or to join please contact Jacqui Branning. Sessions are held on Wednesday mornings from9:30- 11:00a.m. or Wednesday evening 7:00- 8:30p.m. Child care is offered in the morning session only.
Jacqui Branning - jacquibranning@gmail.com

2024 ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Carnival & Flea Market

May 30 – June 2

* PARISH PICNIC * DEGGELLER
* ATTRACTIONS * HORSE RIDES * CAKE
* WALK * LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ALL
* WEEKEND * CONCESSIONS *
* FLEA MARKET *

Thursday

5 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Friday

5 p.m. – 10 p.m.

7 p.m. Free Concert – The Deloreans

Saturday

10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

7 p.m. Free Concert – Wonderland

Sunday

12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The sacraments are the “the masterworks of God” in the new and everlasting covenant. The purpose of the sacraments is to sanctify men, to build up the Body of Christ and, finally, to give worship to God. Because they are signs they also instruct. They not only presuppose faith, but by words and objects they also nourish, strengthen, and express it. That is why they are called sacraments of faith.

Infant Baptism

If it is a first child in the family, parents are required to participate in a preparation session. Sessions are held several

times throughout the year. Adult volunteers assist in the facilitation of this program.

Steve Branning - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process for those who seek full membership in the Catholic Church. Primarily for the unbaptized, the rites involve a process of preparation and initiation into the Christian life through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. The RCIA relies on sponsors who are active parishioners.

Steve Branning - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Children’s Initiation

The Catechumenate for children is the process for children, not baptized as infants, who have reached the age of reason, to become members of the Catholic Church. Through the sacraments of initiation – Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist – the children celebrate their conversion.

Steve Branning - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

First Reconciliation

Preparation sessions for parents and children are held in the fall and early winter. Adults are needed to assist with workshops, retreats and office. Children must be registered in Christian Formation Class or attend a Catholic School.

Steve Branning - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

First Eucharist

Preparation sessions for parents and children are held in the winter. Adults are involved with the children as

leaders, aides, assistant coordinators, and at social events. Children must be registered in Christian Formation Class or attend a Catholic School. Steve Branning - sbranning@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Marriage Preparation

Weddings require six months advance notice before wedding date is set. Call the parish office to schedule an appointment.

Lora DiNardo - ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Confirmation

Confirmation is the sacrament whereby baptized Catholics are “more perfectly bound to the Church and are

enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.” In the diocese of Richmond confirmation is received by youth who have completed the 9th grade. Confirmation preparation consists of active enrollment in high school formation as well as participation in Confirmation specific preparation. The full details regarding Confirmation are available in the parish office.

Jeff Mingin - jeffm@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

2023-2024

Parish Life

EVENTS



Hospitality
Weekend

Monthly

Fellowship Breakfasts



Oktoberfest

Oct. 28, 2023

Christmas Donuts

w/ St. Nicholas

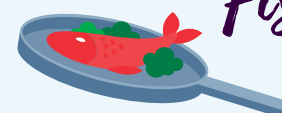
Dec. 3, 2023

9:30 a.m.



Lenten Pasta
Suppers

WEDNESDAYS
DURING LENT



Fish Fry

March

Easter
EGG Hunt



March 31, 2024

Parish Life Chair: Kathy Sullivan

PARSH LIFE

Parish Life Committee

We seek to involve as many people as possible in parish activities and we need your help in two ways. First, we need several new committee members to help us plan and coordinate parish events such as Trunk-or-Treat/Oktoberfest, Donuts with St. Nicholas, Parish Receptions, Pasta Suppers, and Pancake Breakfasts. All are welcome, especially those of you with new ideas for events that would appeal to our younger parishioners. The time commitment is small - usually no more than a couple of hours a month. The rewards are Big Smiles and New Friends.

Second, we need more volunteers from the parish-at-large to help with manpower. At Stewardship Weekend there will be sign-up sheets for upcoming events, and throughout the year there will be many opportunities to volunteer. You may think you are simply offering your time, but in truth, your presence is enhancing the event and strengthening the parish.

Kathy Sullivan – jimandkathy101@yahoo.com – 757-375-7399

Coffee Hospitality

St. Nicholas Coffee Hospitality is held on the 1st and 3rd weekends of the month after every liturgy. The congregation is invited to the Social Hall to meet fellow parishioners and enjoy light refreshments. Typically, four volunteers are needed for each mass. Volunteers are asked to show up 30 minutes before the start of liturgy to prepare and plate the food items and make coffee; Hospitality usually lasts about half an hour, with clean-up taking another 20 minutes or so. Volunteers typically receive email or telephone reminders four or five days in advance of a Hospitality Weekend and are asked to confirm their ability to help or secure a substitute.

Janet McCarraher - janetmc528@outlook.com – 757-567-5120

Men's Club

Men for the relentless pursuit of parish support! Members meet monthly to lead special events, including the annual Fish Fry, Trunk or Treat/Oktoberfest, and Parish Spring Picnic. The guys assess and develop solutions to parish needs utilizing inherent expertise and teamwork toward parish goals. Some club members also coordinate with other ministries and community groups, including youth, scouting, Parish Life, and others, to assist in a wider range of efforts.

Mike Pettinger - Men's Club Chair - idalaska@verizon.net - 757-496-0101

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care ministers provide loving care to those in need during life's most difficult trials through support groups and visitation ministry. Our mission is to bring Christ to others through spiritual direction, communion, and prayer.

Columbarium Ministry

This ministry assists the family of the deceased during the funeral and inurnment and oversees the maintenance of the Columbarium.

Darryl Holland - dth68@aol.com – 757-647-3527

Tom Hostutler - tchostutler@verizon.net - 757-340-4551

Funeral Hospitality Ministry

This ministry offers hospitality resources for families that are preparing for the funeral of a loved one. They will assist with a reception, large or small, for the family at the church after the funeral. Volunteers prepare and

coordinate food donations, help set up seating for the reception, and assist with serving.

Janet McCarraher - janetmc528@outlook.com – 757-567-5120

Peggy Rose – gaprose28@gmail.com- 757-648-9988

Homebound Ministers

The ministers embody the care of the community for its sick members. Parishioners take the Eucharist and share scripture and prayer with those unable to come to church.

Lora DiNardo - ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com - 757-340-7231

Funeral Ministry

Funeral Ministry answers the call to fulfill two acts of mercy...

Corporal Work of Mercy – to bury the dead.

Spiritual Works of Mercy – to comfort the sorrowful and to pray for the living and the dead.

Our ministry calls us to kinship, to deep communion, as we journey together in grief. We extend the arms of our larger faith community to those grieving the loss of loved ones.

Volunteers can help serve by welcoming family and friends of the deceased, guiding those who will participate in the funeral Mass, and sharing our presence with one another. Volunteers arrive 45 minutes early to assist with set up and then help to restore the sanctuary to its standard environment after the Mass.

Lora DiNardo - ldinardo@stnicholasvb.com – 757-340-7231

SOCIAL MINISTRY

This ministry promotes legislative advocacy, peacemaking, and efforts to change and transform hearts and social structures. Committee members assess and respond to the needs of the deprived, disabled, neglected and oppressed in the parish, community and world at large.

Call the Parish Office for more details – 757-340-7231.

Christmas Gifts

Gift wishes are posted, picked by parishioners, wrapped, and brought to church for distribution. Gifts are provided to foster children, children of migrant workers, nursing home residents, children affected by AIDS, the working poor, and the homeless.

Clare Costello - c73cos@yahoo.com - 757-963-0031

Faith Works Coalition

Repairs and improves homes for elderly and low income families; helps eliminate substandard housing in our community; and collaborates with and assists other community organizations to achieve these goals.

Contact Roger Morgan - 757-363-2956 - rocket1322@yahoo.com or Pat Roll - fpatroll44@gmail.com - 757-431-8522

Food Pantry

Ministry volunteers oversee stocking the food pantry with donations from parishioners and distribution to the needy. Social Services provide referrals for food at six week intervals throughout the year.

Lee Ann Weddle - 757-463-3703

Mary Lee Poirier - 757-650-0223

Haiti Twinning

St. Anne's, located in Maissade, Haiti, is the twin parish linked with St. Nicholas. We visit our twin parish and continue to support sustainable projects, such as farming, with partners Virginia Tech and USAID, to increase the self-sufficiency of the Haitian people.

Judeo-Christian Outreach Center Soup Kitchen

Volunteers shop, cook, deliver and serve 90 to 100 meals at the JCOC Soup Kitchen on Virginia Beach Blvd 8 to 9 times each year. This ministry offers an opportunity to serve the working poor and homeless on a frontline basis to those less fortunate.

Steve & Joan Tracy - 757-463-0269 - joantracy@gmail.com

Paul McNeil - 757-486-4985 - pmcneil@yahoo.com

Just Seniors

Just Seniors is a lively and involved group of over 210 members at St. Nicholas. This Christian fellowship includes social, religious, travel, and educational activities. Moreover, the members can respond to opportunities for providing care and service to other members as occasions arise. Monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the church social hall and feature a guest speaker, a review of our various scheduled activities, signups for local and out of area trips, movie/dinner gatherings, and book club. Just Seniors has become a mainstay in the lives of all who belong and new members are eagerly welcomed at any time.

Ann Abrams – annabrams4@gmail.com

Nightingale Circle

The Nightingale Circle is a Ministry of Women coming together for conversation and caring, while bringing joy to our Homebound by creating personally crafted cards and personal notes. Meets from 10 a.m. to 12 noon every fourth Wednesday.

Susan Saunders - SusanSSaundersRN@gmail.com

2023-2024

Social Ministry

EVENTS

JUST SENIORS

Monthly Meetings

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

November 2023

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

January 2024

WINTER SHELTER

February 2024

JCOC SOUP SUPPER

Quarterly



Special Collections

RESPECT LIFE

JANUARY 2024

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE

MARCH 2024

DIOCESAN HOME MISSIONS

MAY 2024

PETER'S PENCE

JUNE 2024

RETIRED RELIGIONS

SEPTEMBER 2023

WORLD MISSION COLLECTION

OCTOBER 2023

ARCHDIOCESE FOR MILITARY SERVICES

NOVEMBER 2023

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

DECEMBER 2023

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels delivers lunchtime meals to impoverished and disabled people throughout the Virginia Beach community. St Nicholas operates one delivery route for the second half of every month, with each driver delivering for one day. To volunteer as a delivery driver, contact Roger Morgan, 757-363-2956, rocket1322@yahoo.com. To request meal delivery service, contact Traci Minor - 757-419-8810 - mealsonwheelsvb@gmail.com

Respect for Life

This ministry promotes the sanctity of innocent life. During the month of March through the generosity of parishioners, baby items are supplied to Catholic Charities, Healthy Families and the Keim Center.

Johanna Gross - 757-481-8755

Debbie Nahra - debbie.nahra@cox.net - 757-340-6511

Sowers of Justice

This group meets the 2nd Friday of every month at local parishes. The Lord said "Love your neighbor as yourself." To love someone is to desire that person's wellbeing and take the steps necessary to secure that wellbeing. Become involved in such issues as health care, prison ministry, ecology, dismantling racism, legislative advocacy, and globalization.

Pat McNeil - pmcneil@yahoo.com - 757-486-4985

Thanksgiving Baskets

Through the generosity of St. Nicholas parishioners, this ministry collects, buys, and assembles turkey baskets with all the trimmings to the needy.

Janet McCarraher - janetmc528@outlook.com - 757-567-5120

Peggy Rose - gaprose28@gmail.com - 757-648-9988

Winter Shelter for the Homeless

One week in February each year, St Nicholas volunteers prepare and serve breakfast, lunch and dinner to the homeless who are participating in the emergency winter shelter program through the Lighthouse Center/Volunteers of America - who work to improve life for the forgotten. Additionally, we provide sleeping space, shower facilities, and toiletries.

Megan Lombard - megan.lombard@amerigroup.com - Connie King - constance.king@aol.com - 757-289-1656

ECUMENISM

Ecumenism Committee

The Ecumenical Committee promotes the spirit of ecumenism and interfaith awareness in the parish. They participate in meetings and services with other churches in the Little Neck area in pursuit of unity among Christian believers in various concrete ways.

Ursula Muller - ursula.muller@verizon.net - 757-486-1213

*ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC CHURCH
WHERE STEWARDSHIP IS A WAY OF LIFE*



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