

# ST. NICHOLAS RC CHURCH

## Served by the Vocationist Fathers & Sisters

Fr. Firmin Khin Htwe, S.D.V., Administrator

### Church & Rector

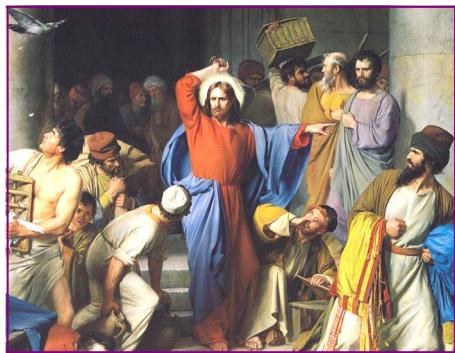
442 East Brinkerhoff Ave  
Palisades Park, NJ 07650  
Tel. 201-944-1154 Fax. 201-944-9510  
Email. [stnicholas07650@live.com](mailto:stnicholas07650@live.com)  
Website. [stnicholascchurch.org](http://stnicholascchurch.org)



### Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thu & Fri — 12:00 PM Noon to 6:00 PM  
Tuesdays — 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
(Saturdays and mornings by appointment only)

**Church Opening Hours** 6:30 AM to 7:00 PM



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024

Jesus answered and said to them,  
“Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.”  
— John 2:19

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

**Baptisms:** On any available Sunday during Mass at 9:30 AM or 12:30 PM (English), 11:00 AM (Italian), & 6:00 PM (Portuguese). Please contact the rectory at least one month prior to desired date.

**Confessions:** Saturdays 4:00 to 4:45 PM, or during the week by appointment only.

**Marriages:** Please contact the rectory at least six months prior to desired wedding date.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** If you are hospitalized or unable to come to church for health reasons and would like to be visited by a priest for Confession, Communion, or Anointing of the Sick, please call the rectory office to add your name to Fr. Firmin's visitation schedule.

**Religious Education Program (CCD):** For children 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades who are not attending Catholic School. Classes are held at 11:00 AM on Sundays from September to May, with attendance at the 12:30 PM Mass. Sr. Joicy Palatty, D.R.E. — Come to the office on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 PM for registration.

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday:** 7:00 & 8:00 AM (English)  
5:00 PM - Vigil Mass (English)

**Sunday:** 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM (English)  
11:00 AM (Italian)  
12:30 PM (English)  
6:00 PM (Portuguese)

**Weekdays:** 7:00 & 8:00 AM

**Holy Days:** 6:30 and 8:00 AM & 7:30 PM\*

\*Check bulletin — Holy day schedule is subject to change

### Other Weekly Services & Activities:

Sunday	10:30 AM - Holy Rosary (It) 7:00 PM - Rosary by Men (Port)
Mon to Sat	7:35 AM - Morning Prayer 8:30 AM - Holy Rosary (Eng) 7:00 PM - Holy Rosary (Eng)
Mon	7:00 PM - St. Padre Pio Mass (3/12)
Tuesday	8:00 PM - Holy Rosary (Port)
Thursday	6:15 - 7:15 PM - Holy Hour Adoration
Friday	8:00 PM - Brazilian Prayer Group
1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	8:30 - 10:00 AM - Adoration (4/5)
Saturday	2:00 PM - Healing Service (3/9)

# St. Nicholas R.C. Church

**Parish Trustees** - Giovanni Simone and Michael Massaro

**Parish Secretary** - Débora Moreira

**Music Ministry** - Giovanni & Karen Simone, Kelly Oliveira and Sr. Emilia Din, S.D.V.

**Director of Religious Education** - Sr. Joicy Palatty, S.D.V.

**Vocationist Sisters Community**

Sr. Benedita Carvalho, S.D.V., Superior & Pre-K Director; Sr. Joicy Palatty, S.D.V. and Sr. Emilia Din, S.D.V.

**Saint Justin Learning Center** - Pre-K Tel. 201-944-1376

**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY** - Principal: Eric Reid

312 First St—Palisades Park, NJ - Tel. 201-947-5262

## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY, March 2

7:00AM Joseph Kata Jakus by Mario & Nancy Jakus

8:00AM Louis Lettera by his son Frank Lettera

5:00PM Mary & Sally Lettieri by sister Rose

### SUNDAY, March 3

7:30AM Rosario Cundari by Franca & Renato Guglielmo

9:30AM Giulia Rossi by Anna Teresi & Maureen Fitzsimmons

11:00AM Teresa & Gerardo Stancato by family

12:30PM Giuseppe Lofaro by Antonia Vene

6:00PM Living and deceased members of our parish

### MONDAY, March 4

7:00AM Anna Mirkovic by M/M Zdenko Mirkovic

8:00AM Domenic & Ljubica Matesic by Victoria Matesic

### TUESDAY, March 5

7:00AM Beniamino Mattessich by Bruno & Nickie Piccinich

8:00AM John Bussanich by Anna & Jerry Astore

### WEDNESDAY, March 6

7:00AM Deceased of Collins & Flatley families by Margaret

8:00AM John Bussanich by Antonia Bussanich

### THURSDAY, March 7

7:00AM Dina Matesic by M/M Zdenko Mirkovic

8:00AM Matteo Bussanich by Elide & Livio Vlacancich

### FRIDAY, March 8

7:00AM Dina Matesic by Jacomina Matesic

8:00AM John Bussanich by Antonia Picinic

### SATURDAY, March 9

7:00AM Antonija Jakus by Mario & Nancy Jakus

8:00AM John Bussanich by Marcela Astore

5:00PM Andia Giannantonio by Longo family

### SUNDAY, March 10

7:30AM Nancy Massaro by Mary Buchcanan

9:30AM Gustavo Brusco by Fiorina Magnone

11:00AM Catarina Modafferi by daughter Antonia & fam

12:30PM Adelino G. Souza by Debbie & Larry Grill

6:00PM Living and deceased members of our parish

## Parish News

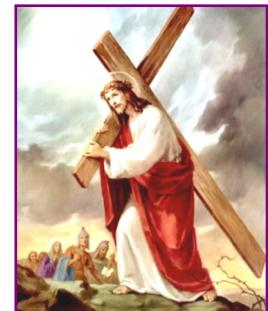
### FR. LOUIS CAPUTO'S 83<sup>RD</sup> BIRTHDAY



We invite all for a light reception at 2:00 PM in the church hall this afternoon, to celebrate Fr. Louis' 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

— Every Friday of Lent at 7:00 PM, in English. We invite all our families to participate.



**HEALING SERVICE** in the presence of the exposed Blessed Sacrament will be held next **Saturday, March 9** at **2:00 PM**. Come all suffering from physical, mental and spiritual afflictions in need of healing.

**PARISH LENTEN RETREAT** — Join us for the Parish Lenten Retreat on **Saturday, March 16 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM** in the Church Hall. Retreat will be given by Fr. Louis Caputo, in English — No registration is necessary.

**Our goal for the 2024 appeal is \$14,648.52** and we count on each one of you to help us achieve it. **If you haven't made your pledge to the Annual Appeal yet, please use the envelopes available at the entrance of the church.**

As of Wednesday, February 28, St. Nicholas Church has received **\$10,350.00 in pledges from 35 donors**. Thank you to those parishioners who have made their gift to the 2024 Annual Appeal.

## In Memoriam



### **ALTAR CANDLES**

donated this week in loving memory of **Roberto Hroncich** by his sister Eleonora Hroncich

### **BREAD AND WINE**

donated this week in loving memory of **Suzanne Fedele** by Robert, Carey & Sandy Mattessich

### **SANCTUARY LAMP**

donated this week in loving memory of **Suzanne Fedele** by Robert, Carey & Sandy Mattessich

## Events of the Week

### Tuesday, March 5

8:00PM - Holy Rosary in Portuguese

### Thursday, March 7

6:15 to 7:15PM - Holy Hour of Adoration

### Friday, March 8

7:00PM - Stations of the Cross

8:00PM - Brazilian prayer meeting

### Saturday, March 9

2:00PM - Healing service

### Lectors & Ministers' Schedule for March 10

5:00 PM:	<b>Lector</b> - Linda E.M. - Claudia
7:30 AM:	<b>Lectors</b> - Michael and John E. M. - Sister Bene
9:30 AM:	<b>Lectors</b> - Carol and Diana E.M. - Sister Bene
11:00 AM:	<b>Lectors</b> - Frank and Italia E.M. - Antonia
12:30 PM:	<b>Lectors</b> - Imelda and Mirian E.M. - Suzanne
6:00 PM:	<b>Lectors</b> - Rosary by Men E.M. - Candido

## Pastoral Care

### Pray for our sick:

Sara Modafferri, James Malatesta, Paul Albanese, Paul Albanese, John Albanese, Joseph & Anne Mulieri, Anna Teresi, Stephany Posada, Ana Sofia Farinas, Lisa Hagopian, Maria Estrada, Enzo Veltri, Victor Columbini, Carmelo Luvera, Norman & Mercedes Schindler, John Mattessich, Fr. Louis Caputo, Wayne Mosley, Marilyn, Natalie and Francis Brenes, Robert Lehrman, Anthony Mastice, Rosemary Iuliano, Gabriella Lavalee, Janet Cooney, Monica Bower, Melissa Finn-Cabreja, Nick Tubito, and all those suffering from physical, mental and spiritual afflictions.

**PERPETUAL CANDLES** — We have 2 perpetual candles available in St. Anthony's candlestand. This candle will remain lit all day long in memory of someone you love, family members or friends. The offering is \$180/year. Please call the office for more information.



### Why no Alleluia or Glory during Lent?

First of all, the Gloria is a hymn that celebrates the coming of the Lord using words from the angels at Christ's birth. The Church during Lent returns in spirit to a time when the people of God were in exile, waiting for the Messiah to come and save them. It is a similar season of expectation as is Advent, but instead of awaiting Christ's birth from the womb of Mary, the Christian people await Christ's second "birth" from the womb of the sepulcher.

Secondly, following this same spirit of exile, the Church joins Moses and the Israelites as they wander in the desert for 40 years. It is a time of agony and purification, one where the faithful join together in saying, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?" (Psalm 137:4) The word "Alleluia" is rooted in a Hebrew expression that means "praise the Lord" and is thus omitted during Lent.

Our focus in Lent is not in rejoicing, but in mourning our sins, looking at those things that prevent us from an authentic relationship with God. Once these are removed through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are able to rejoice again at Easter, for it is not only Christ's resurrection that we celebrate, but our own rebirth in the spirit.

Similar to a woman experiencing labor pangs before birth, so the Christian people "groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies" (Romans 8:23).

— Peter Koslowski, Ateleia.com

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

*February 18 collection \$2,620.00*

*February 25 collection \$ 2,319.00*

*The Lord will reward your generosity.*

If you or someone you know is sick, homebound, and desire to receive the visit of a Priest or Eucharistic Minister to bring Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick, please let us know by calling the rectory office 201-944-1154 to schedule a visit.

**Shoprite Cards** are available after each Sunday Mass or during the week at the office. Use the cards to pay for your groceries and **St. Nicholas Church will get 5% of what you spend.**



**PASSION PLAY** — We are looking for volunteers to be part of this year's presentation of the Passion Play. Since 2006, we have gathered together 3 generations of parishioners to participate in this play that depicts Jesus' last days. Each scene follows the step of the Stations of the Cross. Jonathan Monterosso, who has acted as Jesus for the last 5 years, returns in 2024. If you would like to be part of this event, please call the rectory office or talk to Fr. Firmin after Mass. The Passion Play will be presented on Good Friday, March 29 at 7:30 PM in the church hall. Come and bring your family and friends. The admission is free.

### Our Sunday bulletins return tri-folded and in color every weekend

Thanks to our sponsors (local area businesses) we are now back to having our free bulletins printed in color weekly by John Patrick Publishing Co, Inc.

Please patronize our sponsors on page 6  
Advertise on our weekly bulletin

### ST. NICK'S SINGLES GROUP

This exciting new group is catered to our parishioners and friends who are between 40 to 100 years of age and single (un-married, widowed or divorced)

We will meet once a month on a Saturday evening. There will be chats, topics to discuss (non-political), fun games, pizza or movie night and many other social or religious projects and events.

It's good to gather with those who share the same Catholic faith and beliefs—in a safe environment.

No registration fee — just join us!

**YES, I am over 40 and I would like to be part of the St. Nick's Single Group. Add my name to the team!**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

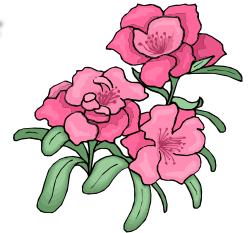
I live in \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### \* TRICKY TRAY \*

*Spring Auction  
Saturday, June 1*

We are collecting items to be auctioned.



We accept NOT USED, UNOPENED gifts, toys, games, electronics, kitchen appliances, home decoration, paintings, books, jewelry, etc.

**All donations are tax deductible**

For safety reasons we cannot accept used clothes, shoes, opened toys or objects of decoration even if they look like were never used before.

### Vocationist Corner

O my God and my All,  
with my intellect, will  
and all my being,  
I bow to adore Your truth.  
I unite myself wholly to it, sol-  
idly trusting Your  
authority, with Your grace,  
and in Holy Faith!

I firmly believe all that you  
have revealed through the Holy  
Scriptures of the  
Old and New Testaments, through  
Jesus Christ, Your Incarnate Word, and  
through the Catholic Church, our Mother.

Saint Justin Russolillo, *Spirit of Prayer*, page 52



For information about the Vocationist Fathers and Sisters please call 973-966-6262 or visit their website at [vocationistfathers.org](http://vocationistfathers.org)

## PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

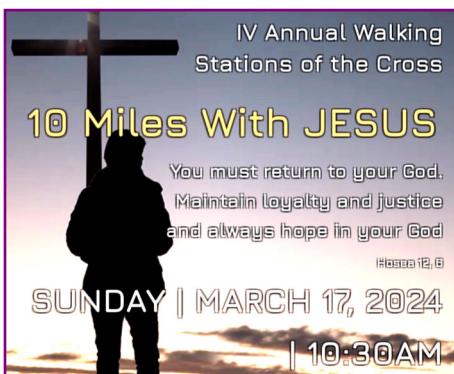
A spiritual retreat that will better prepare us  
to celebrate the Holy Week

Our parish retreat will be held on Saturday, March 16 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, in the Church Hall. Retreat will be given by Fr. Louis Caputo, in English — No registration is necessary. You can attend to the entire program or parts of it — Lunch will be served.



The **ENTHRONIZATION OF THE STATUE OF OUR LADY APARECIDA** at the Basilica of the National Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC will be held on **Saturday, September 14, 2024**. There are over 1,900,000 Brazilian immigrants living in the US today. The presence of the statue of Our Lady Aparecida, patroness of Brazil, in the National Shrine is a great honor and has a deep meaning to those with a lifetime devotion to Blessed Mother. There are 64 catholic Brazilian communities active in the US, and the organizing committee, presided by Bishop Edgar da Cunha, expects over 5,000 people will come to Washington for the enthronization of the statue of Our Lady Aparecida.

St. Nicholas Church will bring 2 or 3 buses of peregrines to the event. If you want to be part of this incredible and powerful demonstration of Catholic faith, please call the office to reserve your place. The cost of the bus is \$60.00 and the official T-shirt is \$20.00 — Bus will leave at 6:00 AM, returning at 11:30 PM. There will be a full-day schedule of music, praises, prayers before and after the Solemn Mass of the Enthronization at 2:00 PM. The entire event will be in Portuguese, but the loving heart of the Blessed Mother will bring us all in unison. Please call the office for more information.



### IV ANNUAL WALKING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Sunday, March 17 at 10:30 AM from the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II in Linden to the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Newark. Several hundred people will participate including clergy and the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. The whole route consists of doing the 14 Stations of the Cross and ends with the 6:00 PM Mass at the Cathedral. There are police escorts for the entire route ensuring safety.

Anyone interested in participating in this beautiful Lenten experience, please contact Diana Moore at 201-780-2253 or Kasia Rodkowsky at 917-282-8488 for more detailed information.

**St. Matthew's Church** invites you to their **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance** to be held on Thursday, May 9 at the Fiesta Restaurant in Woodridge, NJ. Confirm your presence by April 26 — Tickets: \$100 per person. For more information, please call St. Matthew's rectory 201-945-3500.

**St. Matthew's Church** is organizing a trip to see the show **DANIEL at the Sight & Sounds Theatre** in Pennsylvania on Friday, June 21, 2024 at 3:00 P.M — Cost: \$175 per person (Included: Ticket, bus fare, and dinner). Confirm your presence and payment by April 22 and no later than May 7. Please call St. Matthew's at 201-945-3500, for the registration form and further information.

