



CHRISTUS REX

“With God, all things are possible. (Matt. 19:26)”
News from St. Nicholas Anglican Church
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SYNOD 2009

As most of you within the parish know, St. Nicholas Church will be hosting next year's annual Diocesan Synod. Synod will be held from June 16th to the 18th at the Scottsdale Hilton located at Lincoln and Scottsdale Rd. A Synod is a yearly gathering of clergy and laity. Synod serves a variety of purposes. An important function of Synod is to provide a forum for the annual diocesan business meeting. It is customary for our bishop to deliver an address at this meeting on the state of the diocese. Budgets are examined and committees give reports. During Synod various committees meet, such as the Standing Committee which interviews potential candidates who wish to test their vocation to holy orders. As important as the meetings are they are not the most important function of Synod. We are a Eucharistic Church, and our yearly gatherings usually end with a Mass celebrated by the bishop and in this diocese, the priests con-celebrate the Mass with Bishop Morrison (are present at the altar, participating in the consecration of the bread and wine). The spiritual direction, guidance, and leadership given by our bishop is seen most visibly in the Synod Mass.

In years past Synod has included workshops and youth activities. Next year's gathering will be more focused in nature. Meetings will take place most of the day on Wednesday, June 17th. The High Mass will be held at St. Nicholas Church Thursday morning, June 18th. Our Church has been asked to host a special Coffee Hour following the Mass, which will be held on the outside patio. Guests will then depart. This scaled back Synod schedule has been necessitated due to economic concerns.

Synod 2009 will give our parish the opportunity to welcome our fellow brothers and sisters from throughout the diocese. Our church hosted Synod 2005, which was a huge success because the people of St. Nicholas came together to help in many ways. St. Nicholas needs your help again. Your attendance at the High Mass should be given top priority. The ACW will be working on making our guests feel welcome. One or two volunteers are needed to take charge of transportation. Guests will need rides from the airport Tuesday afternoon to the hotel, from the hotel to our church, and finally, back to the airport. We require at least one parishioner to take a leadership role with this activity. The responsibilities for Synod are not any one person's, not the parish priest, the Vestry, or ACW. We, the St. Nicholas Church family are all called to serve as Synod hosts. I look forward to seeing us meet that challenge as we did so well in 2005.

-Fr. Frank+

ADVENT- CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

We are nearing the end of the Church year and soon will move into the seasons of Advent and the Christmas. Please join us (and bring your family and friends) as we look forward to a festive season.

- **Sunday, November 23rd-Feast of Christ the King.** This marks the conclusion of the Church year. Mass at 8 and 10 a.m. Bishop Morrison will celebrate the Monday morning daily Mass on November 24th at **8:30 a.m.**
- **Sunday, November 30th-Advent I .** This is the beginning of the Church year. Mass at 8 and 10 a.m.
- **Sunday, December 7th- Feast of St. Nicholas and Pledge Sunday** (see article in next column) with Church brunch to follow the 10 a.m. Mass. Plan to join us as we honor our patron saint, St. Nicholas. Mass at 8 and 10 a.m.
- **Sunday, December 14th- Advent III,** “Rose Sunday.” Mass at 8 and 10 a.m.
- **Sunday, December 21st-Advent IV.** After the 10 a.m. Mass we will have our annual “hanging of the greens” and will decorate the church. Several volunteers will be needed to help setup the tree.
- **Wednesday, December 24th- Christmas Eve Mass,** new time this year, **5 p.m.**
- **Thursday, December 25th-Christmas Day Mass.** ONE Mass only at 10 a.m.
- **Sunday, December 28th-Holy Innocents,** Mass 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
- **Fr. Frank** will be taking some time off and will be out of the office **Dec. 26** (Friday), **27** (Saturday), **29-31** (Monday -Wednesday).

- **Thursday, January 1st-Circumcision of Christ,** Mass 10 a.m.

PLEDGE DRIVE

November This is our month of reflection – when we are asked to prayerfully think about what membership in this parish family means to us. There is a world of difference between being a church attendee – one who comes to Mass and leaves immediately afterwards – and a church family member – who is part of whatever is going on – be it worship, or helping clean the church grounds. Here are three headings to help in your self-evaluation – (a) time (b) talents (c) treasure. (a) time – is that which you willingly offer to God’s work here at St. Nicholas. It may be coffee hour volunteering – Altar Guild service – keeping the church clean, inside and out. The secret is offering or volunteering – not waiting to be asked. (b) talents – offering back to God the gifts which he has given you in the first place. (c) treasure – or tithing – supporting God’s work in this church financially.

Pledge cards will be sent out in mid November. On Sunday, December 7th we are asking that completed cards be returned. There will be time during the offertory at Mass to complete a card as well. We will receive your pledge cards with our collection as part of our offering that is presented to our Lord in the Mass. We are asking that cards be returned in a timely manner so that the budget can be completed for next year.

-adapted from Diocesan publication

HOLIDAY COLLECTIONS FOR THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Our Thanksgiving Day collection of food and money will be November 16th and the Christmas collection will December 21st. Please be generous to help others receive Christ’s blessings as we ourselves have been blessed.