The Church of Saint Pascal Baylon

Mass Times

Saturday - 4:30 pm
Sunday - 8:45 & 10:30 am (ASL)
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday - 7:30 am
Wednesday - 9:30 am
Dear Friends:

I receive regularly the news magazine from the monks of St. John’s Abbey in Collegeville, called The Banner. In this month’s issue there is an article about the decision of the abbey to cease ministry in the Tokyo area of Japan, a place called Fujimi where St. John’s had established a missionary monastic community and a parish in 1947, right after the close of World War II. For a variety of reasons there simply are no longer the resources to continue. The history of Catholicism in Japan is a very interesting one...sometimes involving martyrdom. The Benedictines are but one of many Christian religious communities that have sought to put down roots there, with very mixed success. It has been noble, to say the least, for monks from central Minnesota to move half way across the world in an attempt to witness to a gospel that is very foreign to the culture of Asia/Oceania. It got me to thinking that it must be very difficult, finally, to pull the plug on an endeavor that must once have been so full of promise, idealism, mission and expectation. It must have been very sad for the many St. John’s Benedictines who worked so hard for so long there finally to admit that the dream of a vital Christian community would not be realized as they had wished. The hope was to create a self-sustaining Benedictine abbey there, but it never happened. Was it a failure? I’m not so sure about that.

It is often easy for us to evaluate “success” and “failure” with reference to Grand Plans that we imagine are just the same as God’s. Or we think that in order to be a “success” something has to live and grow forever. But what if success means instead simply to do the work that God has invited us to do in this moment, this place, this time of life, for the people who are accompanying us right now? Couldn’t that be just exactly enough?

I’m sure that many of us read last month about the final closing of St. Michael’s parish on St. Paul’s West Side, which was one of the city’s oldest parishes, dating from the 19th Century. Do we describe that as a “failure”? No, because for decades that community provided for what the people of that place needed—spiritually, educationally, socially, and sacramentally. Today the people and needs are different. It is no failure simply to acknowledge that and to respond prudently. Of course it hurts to lose something so familiar and venerable (Our former St. John’s parishioners surely know that very well.) But the Christian response ought to be one of gratitude and thanksgiving, in addition to the grief. The church provided what was necessary and good during a given period of history. That is success.

As we turn a page into a new year today it is tempting for many of us (and me) to ponder a Grand Plan for 2017. We sometimes want to tell ourselves that the year ahead will be “successful” if we can accomplish that One Big Thing (lose weight, quit smoking, join a gym, change jobs, get to church regularly...). But maybe it would be a lot more realistic, and less frustrating, and more gospel-centered to attend compassionately to the people and situations that present themselves to us each day. It’s harder to “fail” that way, and the bigger stuff can work itself out in the meantime.

Fr. Mike Byron

**Francis on the Family—An Evening of Reflection on “Amoris Laetitia”: The Joy of Love**

*Tuesday, January 24 from 7:00-8:30 PM in Brioschi Hall with Fr. Mike Byron*

“Amoris Laetitia” is Pope Francis’ post-synodal apostolic exhortation on family life. Signed on March 19, 2016, it is the conclusion of a two-year synod process discussing both the beauty and challenges of family life today. Join us to explore some of the insights of this document and what it means for families and the Church today.

Please call the parish office by **Monday, January 23** if you plan to attend so we can prepare appropriately for hospitality. If you can bring treats or help with set up/serving/clean-up, please contact Kim Roering in the parish office.

Interested in delving into the document? A 4-week small group study of the document may become available based on interest following Fr. Mike’s presentation. Please contact Kim Roering in the parish office to express your interest.
ST. PASCAL’S SCHOOL NEWS

Fantastic Christmas Vacation?
We’ll see you back Tuesday, January 3, 2017!

Upcoming Enrollment Open Houses
Open House for CURRENT families
Thursday, January 5 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM
PreK, Jr. Kindergarten and Kindergarten

Winter Open House for NEW families
PreK, Jr. K, and Kindergarten Roundup
Thursday, January 12 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Catholic Schools Week Open House
ALL families—New & Current
Sunday, January 29 from 10:00 - 11:00 AM
PreK - 8th Grade students

2017-18 Registration Dates & Information
The parish, school governing board and school administration ask that families register early for next school year in order to provide enough time to prepare for scholarship and tuition assistance funding, curriculum programs, staffing, and overall budget.

Current Preschool Families—Early Preschool and Jr. Kindergarten registration is now open on TADS. We expect classes to fill quickly for next year based on this year’s preschool enrollment and outside inquiries. Let St. Pascal’s save a spot for your child! Take advantage of registering early before registration opens up to the broader community on January 11. Preschool families enrolling in Jr. Kindergarten next year may also enroll younger siblings into the preschool program during this registration period. Current preschool families will receive priority registration through January 11.

Online registration opens on TADS
January 11, 2017 (Preschool - 8th Grade)
Current K-8 grade families—register online by Friday, February 3 to be entered for multiple scholarship drawings. More info coming soon!

For a full schedule of registration and financial aid dates, please visit the school website at school.stpascals.org.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Mission Trip Fundraisers
This coming July, 16 youth and adults from St. Pascal’s and Blessed Sacrament will be traveling to Grenada for a mission trip through Catholic Heart Workcamp. To help defray the cost of the trip, we will be holding the following fundraisers:

Envelope Fundraiser
Weekends of January 21/22 & 28/29, February 4/5
In the commons/Brioschi Hall there will be 144 envelopes posted with amounts from $1 to $144 written on them. Those who wish to participate can pick an envelope with the corresponding dollar amount that they wish to donate. Return the envelopes with the enclosed donation to Kim Roering or place in the Mass collection baskets.

Mexican Dinner and Silent Auction
Saturday, February 4 from 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Join us for tacos, Spanish rice, black beans, chips and cheese, dessert, and more!

Adults: $8
Children 6-12: $5
Children 5 and under: Free!
Family Rate: $30

The silent auction will have gift baskets and include certificates to some of your favorite hotels, restaurants, and businesses. Dinner tickets will be available for purchase after weekend Masses beginning January 21, and at the door. Silent Auction items will be available to view/bid on the weekends of January 21/22 and January 28/29, and at the dinner.

Emergency Food Help
Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 PM
Progressive Baptist Church, 1505 Burns Ave.
If you or someone you know are in need of emergency food items, all are welcome to visit the food shelf for a variety nourishing items. No residency or parish membership requirements.

Friends & Family Dinner—Saturday, April 22 at 5:30 PM
Kick-off Meeting—Monday, January 9 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Conference Room
Can you help with the Friends & Family Dinner? Ellen and Mike Aeling are the co-chairs this year and need help planning and carrying out the event. Have you helped with Friends & Family in the past? Are you a creative thinker with new ideas for this year’s event? If you want to help create a wonderful community-building and fundraising event for St. Pascal’s, come to the meeting and help make this year’s Friends & Family Dinner both fun and a great fundraiser for the parish.
Questions—call Mike Aeling at 307.8237.

Parish Contact Information
Parish Office 651.774.1585
Fax 651.774.9152
Email  church@stpascals.org

Parish Office Hours
Mon-Fri 8:00 - 4:30 PM
Holidays as announced

After Hours Emergency Number
For death, dying or anointing of the sick 651.280.9239

School Contact Information
Fax 651.776.0092
Email: laurie.jennrich@stpascals.org

School Office Hours
September - May
Mon - Fri 8:00 - 4:00 PM
June - August
Tue & Wed 9:00 - 2:00 PM
Summer hours also by appointment

Parish Councils
Parish Pastoral Council
Ann Karner, Chair
Meetings - 1ST Tuesday at 6:30 PM
Parish Finance Council
John Knoll, Chair
Meetings - 4TH Thursday at 6:30 PM

Sacramental Information
Reconciliation
Saturday at 4:00 and by appointment

Baptism
Pre-baptismal classes are required. To register for classes or to schedule a celebration, call the parish office.

Marriage
Arrangements must be made with the Pastor at least six months in advance of the desired date.

Parish Prayer Line
8:00 - 10:00 AM 651.735.0004
Mary Butler-Levine
4:00 - 6:00 PM 651.774.3248
Pat Kackman

Parish Communication
Bulletin Notices
Please email notices to the parish office by 3:00 PM Monday—hard copy notices must be in by 2:00 PM.
Email to thea.munoz@stpascals.org.
Bulletins for St. Pascal parish and school events only are limited to 3 inserts per weekend

Mass Announcements
Direct to the parish office by 3:00 PM on Wednesday.
**Heart Questions**

_The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you._

Numbers 6:24–25

**Adult:** How has God blessed and kept your family? What can you do as a family this week to show your gratitude for these blessings?

**Child:** When have you felt most blessed by God? What can you do to help someone in your family feel the same way?

**Keeping An Eye On Your Valuables While At Church**

_Parking lot, offices, classrooms & cloakroom_

Sadly, we must report that we continue to have occasions of theft here at St. Pascal's during times of worship and public events. Thieves are helping themselves to valuables they discover in unlocked rooms and offices, and even from coats that are hanging in our cloak room. Please remain vigilant and report any suspicious behavior to an usher or staff member. As well, please do not leave valuables unattended in your car, or in coat pockets in our cloak room. Churches and other public gathering areas are targeted theft areas. It is our hope that by increasing awareness on this problem, we can decrease its occurrence. Thanks for your assistance.

**Winter Weather and Office Closure Policy**

On those days when the St. Paul Public School District closes city schools due to weather, it is the practice of St. Pascal Baylon to close its school and cancel all school and parish activities and meetings for the evening. The building may also be closed at the discretion of the pastor or business administrator. Daily Mass will be offered on weather-related days provided that the pastor/presider can get to the church and there is someone there to unlock the building.
MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Gentle and Loving

Loving God, who is revealed through the simple birth of your Son Jesus, in the gentle and loving touch of Mary and the secure and protecting touch of Joseph, help us to know you this day. May our lives find a home with you, and our families be secure under your protection. May the blessings of home, parents, family, and community be a spark of new life and profound love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Treasure and Ponder in Your Heart

Today’s Readings: Numbers 6:22–27; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; Galatians 4:4–7; Luke 2:16–21. Mary pondered the words of the shepherds in her heart. With Joseph, she understood the message the angel announced as one of God’s love coming into the world. In every family, in every culture, the message of love in the birth of a child is a reflection of the greatest love of God joining our humanity as the infant Jesus. As St. Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Galatians, we are not just children of God—we are God’s heirs.

The readings today are a blessing as we begin to understand the depth of the love of God at the birth of Mary’s child. Mary shares Jesus’ birth with more than Joseph and the shepherds and others who drop by. Mary becomes our mother, too, as she accepts giving birth in a stable on the edge of town, and as she welcomes the curious onlookers and the revelry of shepherds. As we reflect on our blessings, and treasure them in our hearts, may our celebrations in turn be a welcome to others to share in our joy.
THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, January 2
Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops
Sts. Basil and Gregory are two of the great doctors of the Church from the East. They worked toward unity of faith, particularly combatting heresies and articulating doctrine. The Letter from St. John stresses that we are to allow the Church’s teachings to remain in us, and that we are to remain in the Son and the Father. How do you open yourself to do that? Let us pray today for unity of all Christians, East and West.


Tuesday, January 3
See What Love the Father Has Given Us
It is still the Christmas season. Your crèche and your tree are still set out. Gather around the crèche, and take time to reflect on today’s First Reading from 1 John, especially 3:1. “See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.” Discuss this verse, along with John’s emphasis that God is love. This might be your Christmas season Scripture verse to memorize and share.


Wednesday, January 4
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
The founder of the first Catholic school in the United States, Elizabeth Ann Seton was persistent in her faith, and in her desire to ensure that her children receive a solid education that included tenets of Catholicism. She is a model for families to hand on their faith to their children, as well as for catechists and Catholic school teachers. In your prayer today, be reminded of her words that “prayer is a habit of lifting the heart to God.”

Today’s Readings: 1 John 3:7–10; Psalm 98:1, 7–8, 9; John 1:35–42.

Thursday, January 5
St. John Neumann, Bishop
John Neumann (1811–1860) was born in Bohemia but moved to the United States when he was ready for ordination, in 1836. He served the rural areas near Buffalo, New York, for four years, and then joined the Redemptorists in Pennsylvania. After he was named the bishop of Philadelphia in 1852, he served with the same tireless energy, building new churches and attracting Catholic immigrants to his parishes and schools, and providing them with his own catechisms. His ministries were directed to the poor, to children, and all works of mercy.

Today’s Readings: 1 John 3:11–21; Psalm 100:1b–2, 3, 4, 5; John 1:43–51.

Friday, January 6
St. André Bessette, Religious
Canonized in 2010, Brother André Bessette (1845–1937) served the sick from the entire area of Montreal, Canada, where he was born and lived his entire life. Accepted, after some initial concern, into the Congregation of the Holy Cross, he lived out his years as a doorkeeper, welcoming everyone who came to his door. His devotion to St. Joseph was particularly evident in the healings done by his hand using oil from a lamp. He insisted that he did not heal, but that it was St. Joseph who was the healer.


Saturday, January 7
Whatever You Ask, God Hears
The First Reading today begins with a reminder that our prayers are heard: “He hears us in whatever we ask.” However, prayer is not a demanding task, but one that reflects that we hear God as well. Mary reminds us in the Gospel to do whatever Jesus tells us. We must listen with ears of faith before we ask anything of God. Take a familiar prayer: pray it slowly, reflectively, and without distraction.

Today’s Readings: 1 John 5:14–21; Psalm 149:1–2; Psalm 149:1–2, 3–4, 5, 6a, 9b; John 2:1–11.
Thank you to all who donated money for flowers and enhancements for our worship space during this holy season.

Let us hold the following in our hearts.

In Memory of~

The Arceno & Stralstrom Families  
Greg Arko  
Derek A. Bachmeier  
The Bachmeier Family  
Mary & John Ballis  
Mike, Connie & Thomas Bannick  
Mary & Edmund Barnes  
Our parents  
Evvy Bocklund  
Edward M. Bruno  
Our deceased loved ones  
The Dan Denchfield Family  
The Donofri Family  
Family Members  
Michael Ekstrom  
The Engelking Family  
Edwin Fenton  
Norbert Fleischacker, son Thomas & daughter Cathy  
The Gee & Williams Families  
The Bill Gerten Family  
Donald & Delia Girling  
Gwen Goldberg  
Vince & Margaret Graupmann  
Edward B. Graw  
Kathy Greer  
Judi Hamilton  
Family Members  
Jim & Greg Hawins  
The Heaver Family  
Mitchell & Timothy Henderson  
All my loved ones who are in Eternity  
Mr. & Mrs. Max Holland

Dedicated by~

Vince & Leona Arceno  
Martha Arko  
Ralph & Alexis Bachmeier  
Ralph & Alexis Bachmeier  
Pauline & Ted Anderson  
Jeanne Hess  
Margie & Joe Fernlund  
Tom & Joann Bertini  
The Bocklund Family  
The Edward Bruno Family  
Rene & Zonia Calubayan  
Ralph & Phyllis Mergen  
Virginia Donofri  
Bill & Ora Dorgan  
Lorrayne Ekstrom  
Jim & Carol Engelking  
Barbara Fenton  
Laverne Fleischacker  
Barbara Gee  
Jim & Carol Engelking  
The Girling, Friesen & Westenhofer Family  
Mary Sikorski  
The Girling, Friesen & Westenhofer Family  
Your Family  
Jim & Pat Greer  
Barbara Fenton  
Joan & Bob Hauri  
Mary Hawkins  
Ralph & Alexis Bachmeier  
Rosemary Hall  
Betty Hensel  
Dave & Kim Larson
Margaret Hough, Lona Carney, Steven Hough, Jodi Timmons, Evelyn McGunegill
Mr. & Mrs. W. Juelich
Matilda Jurkovich
The Klaas and Nierenhausen Families
The Krupich Family
Jack Kubiak
Glenn Kurtz and Richard Czapelewski
Lowell Larson
Danny & Kevin Lasivetske
Mike Leier
Nick Leis
Terry Lemke
Ralph & Jackie Logan
James Mahoney
The Mergen Family
John & Geraldine McKenzie
Our Families
Bill Olsen
Joseph Quinn
Matthew David Rapacz
Jack & Phyllis Redlund
Marie Roach
Loved Ones
Family & Friends
Our Families
The Schwieters & Herickhoff Families
Afton Shepard
Johanna & Merrill Stenzel
Brian M. Sullivan
Rosemary Imholt-Tacheny
Gregory Tacheny
John & Lorraine Trad
Fr. Tim Vakoc
Mel Volkenant
Vonnie Wawers
Robert E. Wesley
Dolores Wind
Dolores Wind
The Wruck & Stary Families
Our Parents

Linda Spence
Judy Juelich
Martha Arko
Eileen Klaas
Marlene Krupich
Sue & Lisa Kubiak
Mike, Shellie, grandchildren & great-grandchildren
Dave & Kim Larson
Jim & Pat Greer
Lois Leier & Family
Dianne Leis
Ann Lemke
The Girling, Friesen & Westenhofer Family
The Mahoney Family
Ralph & Phyllis Mergen
John M. McKenzie
Dan & Pam Norton
Dode Olsen
Irene Quinn
David & Diane Rapacz
The Redlund Family
S. Marcie Anibas
Norma Roscoe
John & Carol Rueb
Chris & Barb Rueb
Larry & Marlene Herickhoff
Her Godmother
John & Shirley Hanson
John, Sue & Chris
Mary Tacheny
Mary Tacheny
Nancy Trad Heille
Barbara Fenton
Jan Volkenant
Mary Sikorski
Mary Ann Wesley & Family
Bob Wind
The Bob Wind Family
Vicki A. Stary
Dave & Cathy Yohnk