SummerFest 2017

This Weekend: Sunday, August 13
Noon- 5:00 PM
Games • Prizes • Live Music • Good Food • Great Fellowship • And More!

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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:

Because I had just been having a conversation about it the previous week, I was especially engaged with Deacon Rich Moore’s preaching last weekend on the Feast Day of the Transfiguration of the Lord. The gospel reading that day, as you may recall, involved the appearance to Peter, James and John of Jesus, Moses and Elijah on top of Mt. Tabor. God’s voice was heard and miraculous signs were given for a moment in time. There are at least two fundamentally divergent ways to interpret an event like that, depending upon how one understands God to be in relationship with us. Historically those two ways have sometimes come to be described as “Catholic” vs. “Protestant.” Deacon Rich preached like the very good Catholic that he is! It just came naturally from his reading of the story, and I suspect it was heard that way by most of us too, who are accustomed to a Catholic outlook on God and the world.

What am I talking about? Again, if you remember, Deacon Rich’s emphasis was that God is self-communicating with us constantly in the so-called “ordinary” events of life, including in the gifts of nature, relationships, prayer, and Eucharist. God is near, wishing to be known, and usually not (though sometimes) in the rare experiences of ecstasy and miracles. That marvelous event on the mountain that day was exceptional, but only because it was so clear and intense an expression of what God is doing all the time in our homes, work places, friendships, and religious communities. At the same time, we are ever more able to recognize and understand these self-disclosures of God because we believe that, basically, human beings—all of them—are more like God (created in his image and likeness) than not like God. (Note well: We are NOT God!) That’s what is understood by a more “Catholic” world view here.

By contrast, what is sometimes referred to as a “Protestant” take on this same story would have sounded quite different. That way of belief would have seen the events of the Transfiguration as one of those very rare moments when God chooses to disclose who and how He is, because normally God is hidden from human understanding most of the time. In this view, we need to rely on such miraculous interventions (and the Bible, of course is the greatest miracle) to show us how unlike God we are and how little we can understand God apart from such miracles. According to this interpretation, although human beings are created in God’s image and likeness, the effects of sin on our part have almost completely obscured our ability to trust our everyday experience as a reliable way to get to know God.

I know this column sounds a bit theologically “thick” today, but it really boils down to the basic question of how much we can dare to trust God to reveal himself in regular life, and how much we can trust ourselves to recognize those revelations when they happen. We Catholics answer “quite a bit” to both questions, while others take a less optimistic view. There’s no way to demonstrate that one way of thinking is more correct than the other, but Catholics come from a very specific tradition with regard to this discussion.

And I don’t think that the word “Protestant” is usually a very helpful way to describe anything, because that label can be used to speak about everyone from Pentecostals to Baptists to Methodists to Presbyterians to Lutherans to Amish to... Those groups are not at all capable of being lumped into the same general set of beliefs. I use the word here only because it’s been the one that has often been used in this kind of discussion up to now. The key thing is to understand what it is that makes us Catholic as distinct from something else.

Now you can close up your bulletins and enjoy the St. Pascal’s School Reunion and Summerfest this weekend!
Fr. Mike Byron

Attention: Girls, Boys, Women and Men
We Are In Need of More Altar Servers For Weekend Masses

• We need youth grade 4 and up
• We need families: parent and child; grade 4 and up shared-family ministry
• We need teens: siblings/friends
• We need adults: couples/friends

Training for new altar servers will be Sunday, September 17 at 11:45 OR Tuesday, September 19 at 3:45 in the church. Please come to one session only. Each session is approximately 1 ½ hours. The fall schedule will be drawn up later this month. If you are considering this ministry please call Sharon Balcom in the parish office at 774.1585 to indicate your interest and which session you could attend.

Eucharistic Ministers: Fall Schedule

It is time for the next schedule to be done. Please check your calendars for September, October and November, and let Joann know of any dates when you will not be available by Tuesday, August 15.

If you have questions or want more information you may contract Joann at 735.2762, or joann bertini@gmail.com.

St. Pascal’s Women’s Book Club

Monday, August 14 at 7:00 PM

Change of location for August Book Club—

We will meet at SunRay Library this month only! If you ever thought about coming to the Women’s Book Club, do it this month! We meet (usually in the Founders Room) on the 2nd Monday of each month. Come as often as your schedule allows. This month, we’ll share thoughts about Laura Amy Schlitz’s The Hired Girl, and on September 11 we’ll discuss A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman.

Baptized in Christ

We welcome into our community of faith
Isla Rae Kocian, child of Paul & Marjorie
Susan Elizabeth Friesen, child of Ben & Jackie
Luciano Lock Bos, child of Zachary & Patrice
Paisley Jayne Melin, child of Nicholas & Jaida
who were recently Baptized in our church.
May God bless these households of faith.

In Christ We Live Forever

Please remember in your prayers...
Harold Kirchoff

who was recently buried from our church.
We extend our sincere sympathy to his family and friends, and pray for his soul’s eternal peace.
Meet Our New Business Administrator, Theresa Ruttger

I am honored to serve as your new Business Administrator and look forward to meeting you in the weeks ahead.

My journey in ministry started by working at Temple Israel in Minneapolis as assistant to the senior rabbi while I was in graduate school at St. Kate’s. My last parish was Immaculate Heart of Mary in Minnetonka where I served as Business Administrator and oversaw a church renovation, capital campaign, installation of a new security system and creation of a long range facility plan.

Midlife brings questioning and I stepped away from IHM to discern my future call. Walking the Camino across 550 miles in Spain led to clarity and led me back to parish work. The opportunity at St. Pascal’s presented itself and I was blessed to be chosen as your new Business Administrator. I am extremely grateful to Mike Lentz, who left a well opportunity at St. Pascal’s presented itself and I was blessed to be chosen as your new Business Administrator. I am extremely grateful to Mike Lentz, who left a well

My home parish is St. Thomas the Apostle in Minneapolis where I am the RCIA catechist, a lay presider of prayer and a member of the hospitality committee. I am a consociate member of the Sisters of St. Joseph and stay busy with meetings and activities.

St. Louis Park is home and where I raised two children. Charlie is 26 and will start grad school at the U of M in Applied Economics and Public Policy. He has worked in Germany and currently works for an economist in Portland, Oregon. He is passionate about transit and hopes to make this the focus of his lifework. My daughter Helen is almost 25 and is in her second year of Medical School at Virginia Commonwealth in Richmond. She spent the summer working in an emergency room in Rwanda and has worked as an aide worker in Haiti and India. They kept me very busy as a single parent, but I now enjoy a quiet life with Gladys Mabel, my black lab housemate. Gardening, reading and (of course) walking are my favorite pastimes along with having friends over for drinks on the patio.

It is a joy to have strong faith communities in my life, both professionally and personally. I have great hope when people of good will gather in Jesus’ name to bring the light of Christ to the world.

Blessings to you—Theresa Ruttger
Car Wash School Fundraiser
St. Pascal’s School 7th and 8th grade students are sponsoring a car wash to raise money for their spring, 2018 trip to Washington DC.

This event will be held on Saturday, August 19 from 9:30 to 3:30 in the Conway Lot. Cost is $5.00 per car. Additional donations will be gladly accepted!

Readings for the Week
August 13, 2017

Sunday:
1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a
Ps 85:9-14
Rom 9:1-5
Mt 14:22-33

Monday:
Dt 10:12-22
Ps 147:12-15, 19-20
Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday:
The Assumption of Mary
Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Ps 45:10-12, 16
1 Cor 15:20-27
Lk 1:39-56

Wednesday:
Dt 34:1-12
Ps 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17
Mt 18:15-20

Thursday:
Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17
Ps 114:1-6
Mt 18:21–19:1

Friday:
Jos 24:1-13
Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24
Mt 19:3-12

Saturday:
Jos 24:14-29
Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 11
Mt 19:13-15

Next Sunday:
Is 56:1, 6-7
Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
Rom 11:13-15, 29-32
Mt 15:21-28

The Week Ahead
Visit us at www.stpascals.org for more information on upcoming events.

Sunday, August 13
9:30am New Member Registration: BH
12:00pm Parish SummerFest

Monday, August 14
9:30am Nia: OC
7:00pm Women's Book Club: Sun Ray Library

Tuesday, August 15—THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY
7:30am Mass
6:00pm Women's Club Board Meeting: Off site
6:30pm Mass

Wednesday, August 16
No scheduled events

Thursday, August 17
No scheduled events

Friday, August 18
No scheduled events

Saturday, August 19
No scheduled events

Sunday, August 20
12:30pm Private Event: BH

Meeting Location Key:
BH: Brioscchi Hall, OC: Old Church

Baptism for Older Children
According to the guidelines of the Church, once a child has reached the age of reason (generally considered age 7), s/he then follows the preparation process for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This process involves you and your child walking with other children and adults over a period of time to grow into what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. If you have a child over the age of 7 who is not yet baptized, or has been baptized in another faith tradition and would like to become Catholic, please contact Kim Roering in the parish office to begin a conversation.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
RCIA is available to any person seeking full membership into the Catholic Church. Each year adults, youth, and children who want to convert from a different faith tradition or finish their sacramental initiation come together to learn about the church through prayer, catechesis and liturgy. It is an initiation process for:

♦ Adults who have never been baptized
♦ Adults who have been baptized but have not completed initiation sacraments of Eucharist and/or confirmation
♦ Adults who have been baptized in another tradition and wish to become Roman Catholic
♦ Children over the age of 7 who have not been baptized

Please email Dcn. Richard Moore at richard.moore@stpascals.org or Kim Roering at kim.roering@stpascals.org.

Become a member of the St. Pascal’s Legacy Society
Remember St. Pascal’s in your WILL. Your WILL is an opportunity to honor those who have given meaning and purpose to your life. Your gift helps ensure that the legacy we have created at St. Pascal Baylon during our lifetime will continue after our death. If you want more information, please do not hesitate to call Theresa Buttger at the parish office at 774.1585 or talk to any member of the Legacy Committee. The Legacy Committee is made up of the following parishioners: Ellen and Mike Aeling, Susan Hommes, Joe Sullivan, and Brigid O’Malley.
Dear St. Pascal Parish Families,

We are very excited to announce St. Pascal’s new parish branding & logo!

You will begin to see our new visual identity throughout parish communications in the coming weeks and months. St. Pascal’s school recently completed their own branding process and we are pleased to start the new year with a fresh look to complement our parish school.

In addition to our new logo, the parish website has undergone extensive redesign with many fantastic enhancements like self-managed online giving, online registration for programs and events, and access to daily readings and Catholic news feeds. Look for its “Phase I” launch in the next few weeks.

Thanks to the many individuals, families and staff who took part in the process to develop our new look and messaging. Their participation in our parish branding workshop and logo design process was central to developing the parish messaging to you, its members, and to the community.

God bless you and your families! May St. Pascal’s continue to be a place of hospitality on the East Side, where all people matter.
SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Many families are struggling. With high unemployment, and more than 40% of our students enrolled in the free and reduced meal programs, many parents are unable to provide the basic school supplies their children need to be effective.

You can help our children in school by giving them the tools they need to succeed. Help teachers by providing students with proper tools for their classrooms so they don’t have to spend money from their own pockets. By providing school supplies, you support students, teachers and our school!

Drop off items in the collection boxes located outside of Brioschi Hall. Thank you!

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“Human trafficking is a horrific crime against the basic dignity and rights of the human person. All efforts must be expended to end it . . . to ensure that, one day soon, trafficking in human persons vanishes from the face of the earth.”

—USCCB Committee on Migration, On Human Trafficking

What Is Human Trafficking?

As defined by the United Nations, human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery that consists of the illegal trade of human beings through force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor. It takes a variety of forms in every region of the world. Some people are trafficked for prostitution, pornography, and other forms of sexual exploitation. Some are trafficked for forced labor in agriculture, sweat shops, and domestic servitude. Some are trafficked for both. Through sexual slavery, the body becomes little more than an object to be exploited. For victims of forced labor, the body is made into a disposable machine, made to work long hours for little or no pay and for the profit of others. In both cases the person who is enslaved is treated as an object for another’s benefit. The person’s God-given human dignity is either ignored or forgotten.

Who Is Trafficked?

The U.S. State Department estimates that from 600,000 to 800,000 men, women, and children are trafficked across international borders each year. Of these, approximately 80% are female, and up to 50% are minors. While many Americans imagine human trafficking to be a problem that only happens in far-off lands, it is, sadly, an American problem as well. As many as 17,500 people are trafficked into the United States each year for the purpose of forced labor or sexual servitude.

What Is the Church Doing to Stop Human Trafficking?

As an institution that actively opposes evil in all its forms, the Church publicly identifies with the poor, the suffering, and those in despair. In this light, the bishops of the United States have been active in the fight against human trafficking. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has worked closely with the Departments of Health and Human Services and Justice to raise awareness about this problem and to assist its victims. The USCCB also convenes the Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking. This coalition comprises more than thirty national and international Catholic organizations united to eliminate the scourge of human trafficking through public education, advocacy, and services. Through its activities, and with help from partner organizations, the USCCB has helped care for at least 1,100 victims of human trafficking in the United States since 2003. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/mrs/traffickingweb.shtml.

What Can You Do to Help Stop the Evil of Human Trafficking?

Obtain a copy of the 2008 Trafficking in Persons Report from the U.S. Department of State by visiting its Web site at www.state.gov/g/tip. Contact your local hospitals to inquire if their emergency personnel are identifying and assisting trafficking victims. Offer to refer them to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Web site: www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/campaign_kits/index.html. Visit your local law enforcement agency to learn if officers have received the training necessary to handle trafficking cases. If not, provide them with information from the U.S. Department of Justice at www.usdoj.gov/olp/human_trafficking.htm. Learn more about the issues surrounding the problem of human trafficking by forming a reading group or parish committee to discuss the issue, and then determine what further steps can be taken in your community.

You can also obtain a copy of the USCCB Committee on Migration’s pastoral statement, On Human Trafficking, in a brochure format by contacting USCCB Publishing at www.usccbpublishing.org or (800) 235-8722.
Catholic Social Teaching on Migration

“Catholic teaching has a long and rich tradition in defending the right to migrate. Based on the life and teachings of Jesus, the Church’s teaching has provided the basis for the development of basic principles regarding the right to migrate for those attempting to exercise their God-given human rights.”

—United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano, Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope, no. 28

Catholic social teaching provides the foundation on which the Church addresses issues related to migration. Reflecting on both Scripture and Church Tradition, the bishops have developed a set of moral principles that should inform the decision-making process of policy makers as they address legislation related to these issues. The Church recognizes that there has to be a careful balance between the rights of migrants to move due to economic necessity and the rights of sovereign states to govern their borders. Particularly vulnerable populations, such as unaccompanied children, ought to be given special attention and care. The following five basic principles, laid out in the 2003 pastoral document Strangers No Longer, provide points of reflection for all Catholics as they think about the issues surrounding illegal immigration, migrants, refugees, and other people on the move.

I. Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homelands. All persons have the right to find in their own countries the economic, political, and social opportunities to live in freedom and dignity and to achieve a full life through the use of their God-given gifts.

II. Persons have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families. The Church recognizes that all the goods of the earth belong to all people. When persons cannot find employment in their country of origin to support themselves and their families, they have a right to find work elsewhere in order to survive. Sovereign nations should provide ways to accommodate this right.

III. Sovereign nations have the right to control their borders. The Church recognizes the right of sovereign nations to control their territories but rejects such control when it is exerted merely for the purpose of acquiring additional wealth. More economically powerful nations, which have the ability to protect and feed their residents, have a stronger obligation to accommodate migration flows.

IV. Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection. Those who flee wars and persecution should be protected by the global community. This requires, at a minimum, that migrants have a right to claim refugee status without incarceration and to have their claims fully considered by a competent authority.

V. The human dignity and human rights of all migrants should be respected. Regardless of their legal status, migrants, like all persons, possess inherent human dignity that should be respected. Often migrants are subject to punitive laws and harsh treatment from enforcement officers from both receiving and transit countries. Government policies that respect the basic human rights of the undocumented and of refugees are necessary.

The document Human Trafficking/Catholic Social Teaching on Migration was developed as a resource by the Committee on Migration of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was reviewed by the committee chairman, Bishop John C. Wester, and has been authorized for publication by the undersigned.

Msgr. David J. Malloy, STD
General Secretary, USCCB

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