God’s love knows no barriers. St. Pascal’s...where all people matter.
Welcome! We hope you enjoy your time with us. Whether you are just visiting, looking for a parish home or already part of our faith community, it’s great to have you with us. Whatever your life circumstances, wherever you have been or whatever has happened in your life, you are welcome here. Please join us after Sunday Mass for hospitality and to find out more.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2017 | 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Pastor
Fr. Michael Byron
frmike.byron@stpascals.org

Deacon
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richard.moore@stpascals.org

Parish Administrator
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theresa.ruttger@stpascals.org

Music & Liturgy
Sharon Balcom  ext 126
sharon.balcom@stpascals.org

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Kim Roering  ext 128
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Admissions Director
Jackie Nordman  ext 112
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Welcome Desk
Sarah Mathis  ext 122
sarah.mathis@stpascals.org

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:

Today I’d like to offer a letter that was written by a Lutheran pastor last week, which was shared among my priest-friends recently on email. I asked Rev. David Milz, Pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Kimball, MN if he’d be willing to have me publish these reflections in our parish bulletin, and he replied, via email, that he would be humbled and honored by that. So what follow are his remarks, which I endorse whole-heartedly. I will let his words speak for themselves. The title of his article is "An Awful Way to Eliminate Down Syndrome." Here is Pastor Milz's article:

A recent CBS news report revealed that Down Syndrome has been virtually eliminated in Iceland. Some 85 percent of women in Iceland undergo prenatal testing, and when test results reveal a diagnosis of Down Syndrome, nearly 100 percent of the mothers opt for abortion. At present only one or two children per year are born with Down Syndrome in the entire country.

Iceland was characterized in the report as leading the world in eliminating Down Syndrome, which would be great news if it had developed a new treatment to correct this chromosomal abnormality—like the Salk vaccine which virtually wiped out polio. But in this case, it isn’t a medical condition that is being eliminated. It’s people. Unborn children with this condition are destroyed before they have a chance to live.

Their deaths are certainly not for their benefit, even though one medical professional described the procedure as preventing suffering. To be sure, the human condition is rife with suffering, and efforts to alleviate it are laudable. But we all know Down Syndrome children and adults who live happy, productive lives. In fact, it’s safe to say that our lives are enriched when we experience the zest and resilience with which those with Down Syndrome face life, despite their limitations.

So it’s difficult to see how ending their lives in the womb alleviates "suffering"—unless, of course, you’re talking about the "suffering" of those who might be inconvenienced by the extra effort required to care for them.

Even some pro-choice folks are surprised and upset by this news. They shouldn’t be. Haven’t they argued for decades that abortion is a private, individual, health care choice and shouldn’t be restricted in any way? Haven’t they fought tooth and nail to preserve the right to abortion on demand for pretty much any reason? Why should they be dismayed when men and women choose to avoid the challenge of caring for a Down Syndrome child by means of therapeutic abortion?

And it isn’t just in Iceland. Somewhere between 67 and 90 percent of parents in the U.S. choose abortion when their unborn child is diagnosed with Down Syndrome.

The great evil here is that children with Down Syndrome are deemed inferior, undeserving of life. There’s a term for this: eugenics, which is defined by Oxford dictionaries as "the science of improving a human population by controlled breeding to increase the occurrence of desirable heritable characteristics. Developed largely... as a method of improving the human race by means of therapeutic abortion."

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Eugenics attempted to "improve" the human race by eliminating those considered genotypically inferior. Though it is claimed that the Nazis perverted the science of eugenics by attempting to eliminate the "inferior" Jewish race, the Holocaust was merely the logical outcome of the doctrine of pursuing genetic superiority. After all, once you start down that road, who gets to decide who is inferior and not worthy of life?

At one time, in this country, blacks were considered less-than-fully human, and were bought and sold like appliances. We are currently witnessing a widespread movement to pull down the statues of those who supported that evil institution. It seems odd and a bit ironic that so much energy is being expended to punish long-dead proponents of slavery. Only lunatics still believe that folks with a different skin color are somehow inferior, and slavery as an institution was abolished a century and a half ago.

But right now—today—entire nations and cultures, including our own, are actively condemning an entire class of people to death because of their supposed inferiority. Will the same outrage and energy be unleashed to fight for respect, equality—life itself—for those with Down Syndrome, those delightful, beautiful, brothers and sisters of ours in the human family? Sadly, I doubt it.

Thanks, Pastor Milz
Fr. Mike Byron

Wednesday Daily Mass Time Change
9:30 AM beginning September 7
Our school children will be back in the building next week. Mass will be at 9:30 AM each week through June 6, 2018. All are welcome!

Attention: Girls, Boys, Women & 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 1/2 hours.

Attention: Girls, Boys, Women & Men

Woodbury Area Residents
There are elderly parishioners living in Woodbury who are no longer able to come to church. They would appreciate a friendly visit from a parishioner who would bring a bulletin and stay for a visit. Just one person to visit once every week or so. If you are available and interested call Ann Karner at 330.0024.

Baptized in Christ

We welcome into our community of faith

Henry Jonathan Berg
cild of Dain & Nicole
Sophie Josephine Lepinski
cild of Keith & Ashley
Gabrielle Ann and Clara Kay Wittgenstein
children of Vic & Sara

who were recently Baptized in our church. May God bless these households of faith.
New School Website is Launched!!
Go to www.stpascalschool.org! We are so proud of the new site! There is great information for everyone; including parishioners, alumni, current families, new families and families interested in learning more about this amazing school! Thank you to everyone who had a hand in making this happen! Check it out today!

Preschool - 8th Grade Openings
Enroll Today!
We are still very busy taking Admissions and Enrollment for this upcoming school year! Have you been thinking of taking the leap into an amazing school environment for your child(ren)?

Did you know…
We have great all-day options for your Preschool or PreK child including an option for Before and After school child care?

We offer families who transfer their Grade 1-8 child to our school a $1,000 Transfer Discount the first year AND a $500 Transfer Discount their second year at SPBCS!

Contact Jackie Nordman, Admissions Director, at jackie.nordman@stpascals.org or call 776.0092 ext. 112 to find out more information!

Women’s Book Club
Monday, September 11 at 7:00 PM
If you have ever thought about coming to the St. Pascal’s Women’s Book Club, do it this month! We meet in the Founder’s Room on the 2nd Monday of each month! This month we’ll discuss A Man called Ove by Fredrik Backman and next month, October 9, we’ll discuss The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead.

First Wednesday Mass & Dessert at Marian Center—Wednesday, September 6
Mass is celebrated at 1:00 PM followed by dessert and social hour at 1:30 across from the Snack Shop. Join us for dessert and enjoy some time with some of your parish friends. The Marian Center is located at 200 Earl Street. We hope to see you there!

Praying the Rosary Together
Weekly opportunity to pray together beginning Wednesday, September 6 at 9:00 AM! Do you ever feel overwhelmed with so many needs for prayer? Because in unity there is strength, we have a new opportunity to enrich your prayer life. Beginning Wednesday, September 6 at 9:00 AM (and all Wednesdays thereafter) we will pray the rosary together. The original intention was for our children and grandchildren who live in a very challenging world, but all your personal intentions can be sent to Our Blessed Mother. And please stay for the All School Mass which follows at 9:30. You will love the beautiful liturgy as only children can provide. Please join us when you are able. Any questions contact Betty Hensel 714.8958 or bjhen@q.com.

Faith Formation Registration
Online registration for faith formation for 2017-2018 is taking place now! 
Wednesday Evenings: Grades 1-8, 6:30-7:45 pm, for children/youth attending public schools.
Sacrament Preparation for First Reconciliation & First Eucharist: for children in grades 2 and up, whether in public school or attending St. Pascal’s. Families need to be registered parishioners of St. Pascal’s.

Registration forms are available in the kiosks and on the parish website at www.stpascals.org/Faith Formation. For more information contact Kim Roering in the parish office. Please register for faith formation and/or sacrament preparation by September 13 so materials can be ordered. Thank you!

Leaders Needed For 2017-2018
Children’s Liturgy of The Word
Leaders are needed for children’s Liturgy of the Word on Sunday mornings during the 8:45 and 10:30 Masses beginning in October. Leaders reflect on the Sunday Scripture readings with children in grades K-4, and are normally scheduled one Sunday per month. Training and support are provided. For more information, contact Kim Roering in the parish office.

Adult Faith Formation Input
I have heard that seniors in the parish might appreciate more offerings during the day time. If you have thoughts about what you would like to see offered, let’s have a conversation and I will explore what might be done to accommodate that desire. Thank you!

Kim Roering 774-1585, ext. 128 or kim.roering@stpascals.org.

Parish Contact Information
Parish Office 651.774.1585
Fax 651.774.9152
Email church@stpascals.org
After hours emergency number (for death, dying or anointing of the sick) 651.280.9239

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

School Contact Information
School Office 651.776.0092
Fax 651.774.9152
Email: laurie.jenrich@stpascals.org

School Office Hours
September-June
Mon - Fri 8:00 - 4:00 PM

Parish Councils
Parish Pastoral Council
Ann Karner, Chair
Meetings - 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM

Parish Finance Council
Chair TBD
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—hard copy notices must be in by 2:00 PM. Email to thea.munoz@stpascals.org.

Bulletin inserts are limited to 3 inserts per weekend and are included at the discretion of the pastor.

Mass Announcements
Direct to Sharon Balcom by 3:00 PM on Wednesday.
Heart Question

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”

Matthew 16:24

Adult: In what concrete ways do you take up your cross and follow Jesus?
Child: When has it been difficult to be a follower of Jesus?

Stewardship of Treasure
Financial Gifts – Week of August 27, 2017
For fiscal year July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018

For the Week: Actual Received
Sunday Stewardship $ 7578.77
Mortgage Campaign $ 1984.50

Year to Date: Actual Budget Variance
(July 1 – June 30)
Sunday $115,490.05 $155,979.00 $(30,486.95)
Mortgage $ 40,428.00 $ 49,500.00 $( 9,072.00)

Please note: Automatic (electronic) contributions are made on the 1st and 15th of each month and will be recorded with the following Sunday’s collection. Each week our budget requires $17,331 in Sunday stewardship collections and $5,500 in Mortgage (capital campaign) contributions.

Thank you for your generous support!

The Week Ahead
Visit us at wwwstpascalsorg for more information on upcoming events.

Sunday, September 3
No scheduled events

Monday, September 4—Labor Day
Parish and school offices closed

Tuesday, September 5
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
8:00am Regular parish office hours begin (8:00 - 4:00)
6:30pm Pastoral Council: SL

Wednesday, September 6
9:30am School Mass—All are welcome!
1:00pm Marian Center Mass & Dessert: Marian Ctr St. Paul
7:00pm Choir: CR

Thursday, September 7
9:30am Nia: OC
2:00pm Private Event: FR
7:00pm Men’s Club Board Meeting: FR
7:00pm SJCC: FR

Friday, September 8
No scheduled events

Saturday, September 9
No scheduled events

Sunday, September 10
9:30am New Member Registration: BH
2:00pm Girl Scouts: CF

Meeting Location Key:
BH: Brioscchi Hall, CF: Cafeteria, FR: Founders Room, OC: Old Church, SL: Staff Lounge

Immigration: A Catholic Response with Dr. Bernie Evans
Tuesday, September 19 from 7:00-9:00 PM in Brioscchi Hall
Today millions of people are on the move as immigrants and refugees throughout the world. In search of a safer, better life many hope to enter the United States. Too often that hope runs into a growing anti-immigrant sentiment. What responsibilities does our nation have toward immigrants and refugees? What should a Catholic response to immigration look like? Please contact the parish office by Monday, September 18 if you plan to attend so we can prepare appropriately for hospitality. You can also sign up online via the parish website at wwwstpascalsorg.

Fall Bible Study—Jonah and Ruth: Love Crosses Boundaries
6-week study begins week of October 1—FEE: $15/person
Two of the most beloved Old Testament stories are the stories of Jonah and Ruth. In Jonah/Ruth: Love Crosses Boundaries, you’ll discover how God breaks down barriers between people as you see these Old Testament Stories through new eyes.

Group Days/Times Available
All sessions held in Parish Conference Room
Tuesday, 8:15-9:45 am starts October 3
Tuesday, 7:00-8:30 pm starts October 3
Thursday, 9:30-11:00 am starts October 5

Registration Forms are available in the kiosks. You can also register online at wwwstpascalsorg. Books are available in the parish office.

Car Wash School Fundraiser
Saturday, September 16 from 9:30 to 3:30 in the Conway parking lot
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. Cost is $5.00 per car. Additional donations will be gladly accepted!