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.

FEBRUARY 18, 2018 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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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:

"Ite Missa Est!" Those of us of a certain age will recall that these were the final Latin words uttered by the priest at mass before the reforms of the liturgy at the Second Vatican Council. It's the phrase from which we get the word "Mass" in the first place, and it most readily translates into English as, "It is the Mass!" Today we are dismissed with the words, "Go forth, the Mass is ended." That is among the many unfortunate sentences of the "new" liturgical translation of 2010 because there is nothing in the original Latin text that says anything about things being "ended." Quite to the contrary; the word refers to our being sent out. And that doesn't just mean leaving the premises, but rather getting busy about the business of being heralds of Christ's good news--most of which happens out in the big wide world. It would actually be a more accurate translation for us to hear the words, "Go forth, the Mass is beginning." Dismissal does not mean going away; it means getting to work, sustained by the worship in which we have just now partaken.

I mention this because there seems to be a breach in Catholic understanding about what the Mass is all about. For some (and here I must admit that it seems increasingly to be the case among younger Catholics--including clergy) it appears that our Eucharistic assemblies are thought to be ends in themselves, experiences that "I get" or appointments that "I have" each week, such that when I am sent forth it really is "ended." Like attending a show. That's not it. We come together for Eucharist precisely in order to be sent back out again into our neighborhoods, workplaces, schoolrooms, and communities of friends for the purpose of Christian mission. And it concerns me that this gets translated into an idea of "missionary activity" which is concerned primarily with getting more people to come to church so that they also may "get" what I already "have." That's not it either. Success in Christian mission is not evaluated by counting the bodies who are in the pews or at adoration or in the reconciliation room. It is judged by the degree to which our world is different because of the grace of Christ shared "out there" through the lives of faithful disciples. "Ite Missa Est!" means "Get Out There!" And most of the people who stand in need of such grace are not those who are pretty much like me. They are the poor and despairing, the lost and broken, the immigrant and alien, the sick and dying. You know, the people that Jesus noticed... The people that Pope Francis is constantly urging us to notice. Many of them live and work in zip code 55106. We don't have to look far.

By all means let us encourage others to join in our liturgical celebrations at church, but let us not mistake having a full building with the greater purpose of our work as followers of our Lord. The Eucharist is not primarily a personal consumer good or a therapeutic session, though at its best it is a source of beauty and inspiration and fellowship. Above all it is the call to duty, and the collective remembering of why we do this in the first place. In its most literal sense the Mass is never "ended," so our liturgy of sending forth is not merely to say "go home now." Instead it is to say, "now get busy."

I'll see you next weekend, God willing.

Fr. Mike Byron

How to Read the Bible as a Catholic—with Deacon Richard Moore
Monday, March 5 in Brioscchi Hall.
Two convenient times—once from 10:00 AM - 12 Noon AND from 7:00-9:00 PM
Choose the time that works for you!

Catholics of the world were encouraged by the bishops at Vatican II to read the Bible. So how do we go about reading the Bible? What Bible should I get? Is the Bible myth or history? What books are in the Bible? Old Testament, New Testament? Why are there more books in a Catholic Bible? We will explore these questions and more along with methods the Catholic Church uses to understand and interpret the Holy Word of God.

Encounter Lent: CRS Operation Rice Bowl
At the urging of our Archbishop, Bernard Hebdon, St. Pascal's has joined nearly 14,000 faith communities in 180 dioceses around the U.S. in a life-changing journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl—Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten faith-in-action program. Pick one up at the table in the Gathering Space and celebrate Lent with the simple but faith-filled resources provided. And for more information and resources, visit the parish website at www.stpascals.org/lent-2018.

Attention Young at Heart!
Communion Service & Lunch
Thursday, February 22 at 11:00 AM
We will begin our fifth year together this month! A communion service with Dcn. Rich will be followed by a Chicken Kiev meal catered by Magnolia's. A $10.00 donation is payable on the day of the meeting. Bring your lucky charms as we will be playing our Valentine Bingo. We also will be collecting our $10.00 annual membership which helps defray the cost of our entertainment for the year. We look forward to seeing you whether you are a regular or a newcomer! Please RSVP by Monday, February 19 to Betty Hensel at 714.8958 or bjhen@q.com or to Barb Kendle at 738.3799. Hope to see you there!

Social Justice and Caring Committee
Lenten Project 2018
Brittany's Place is a shelter located on the east side of St. Paul that helps teenagers who are victims of sex trafficking. During the fish fry each Friday of Lent, the Social Justice and Caring Committee will be collecting the following supplies for this organization:

- jogging/yoga pants (all sizes)
- pajamas (all sizes)
- socks
- sports bras (all sizes)
- underwear (all sizes)
- ethnic hair products
- hair scarves/wraps
- lotion sets
- shower gel
- stuffed animals

Place your donations in the plastic collection bin located in the gathering space outside Brioscchi Hall. The items collected will be delivered to Brittany's Place. Thank you!

Professional Counseling at St. Pascal's
The new year is a good time to consider sharing any struggles and difficulties with a compassionate and non-judgmental counselor. Jean Gregg, LICSW, is a professional counselor who worked with the Catholic Charities Counseling Program for 42 years. She is now at St. Pascal's to see clients every Monday afternoon. Insurance and private fee payment are accepted. If you are interested in making an appointment to see if this would be a good resource for you, please call Jean at 321.3445.
The 2018-2019 Enrollment Season has been amazing and just keeps getting MORE amazing! We are 88% re-enrolled, 69% current PreK enrolled for our Kindergarten program, AND 14 new students joining the St. Pascal Baylon Catholic School Community!

Would you or someone you know like more information in this amazing parish school? We are currently offering tours, setting up Shadow Opportunities for all grade levels, and meeting with families interested in learning more about this amazing educational foundation! Schedule a visit or Shadow today by emailing Jackie Nordman at jackie.nordman@stpascals.org or call the school Monday-Friday at 776.0092.

The 3D Printer is up and going! Staff and students LOVE this amazing opportunity to advance our technology curriculum and help our students stay on track to those future job opportunities! Would you like to see all the AMAZING things happening at your parish school? We hope you are following us @StPascals Facebook page!

Box Tops 4 Education
Keep clipping to help raise money for our school—we appreciate your help!

St. Pascal’s Social Justice and Caring Committee: We Care Campaign
On the weekend of March 3 - 4 St. Pascal’s parish will gather the loose change and bills from the collection and donate them to the Social Justice and Caring Committee’s We Care Campaign. The three options chosen by the committee for its winter project are:

**Option 1:** Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc. *Wildfire Relief Efforts:* These funds go to provide support to those who have been affected by the wildfires in Southern California.

**Option 2:** St. Pascal Baylon Family Emergency Fund: These funds are used to assist people from our own parish who find themselves faced with a short-term financial crisis.

**Option 3:** St. Thomas More Sanctuary Church Ministry: St. Thomas More is a church located in St. Paul that ministers to unauthorized immigrants facing deportation by providing them housing in its parish center.

We encourage you to make a personal contribution as well, using the envelope provided in your packet of contribution envelopes or found on the tables located near the entrances to the church. If you prefer to give to one or more of these charities, please indicate this by marking the appropriate option(s) on the envelope and your contributions will be distributed as requested. Any unmarked contributions will be divided equally among the three options. Thank you for your generosity.

Middle School Service & Fun Night
*Friday, February 23 from 5:00-10:00 PM*
Youth in grades 6 - 8 are invited to join youth from area parishes for a night of service and fun. We'll begin at Grand Slam in Burnsville with laser tag, bumper cars, mini golf, and more! Then we will head to Feed My Starving Children to pack meals for those in need around the world. Cost is $30/person, and includes cost of bus, activities, and refreshment at Grand Slam.

Please email notices to the parish office by 3:00 PM Monday—Friday, February 26 at 776.0092. Permission forms and info sheets available in kiosks and parish office. Forms are due by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, February 20. Contact Kim Roering at 774.1585 ext 128 or kim.roering@stpascals.com for more information.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This event begins and ends at the St. Mary’s Parish Life Center in White Bear Lake—NOT St. Pascal’s.

Recovery Healing Mass
*Hosted by the Calix Society (St. Paul Unit)*
Saturday, February 24 at 1:00 PM
Fr. Jim Livingston will celebrate Mass for those with addictions and those affected. A chili/soup luncheon follows in Brioschi Hall.
All are welcome—no RSVP required.

Men’s Club Lenten Fish Fry—*Fridays of Lent from February 16 – March 23*
4:30 to 7:00 PM in Brioschi Hall (Please use the Flandreau St. entrance)
The “All-You-Can-Eat” menu offers fried or baked cod, coleslaw, steamed mixed vegetables, macaroni and cheese, au gratin potatoes or seasoned fries, rolls and butter, coffee, water, and chocolate or vanilla pudding. Milk, bottled water and assorted pop extra. Raffle and baked goods sale. Take-out will be available!

- Adults (12 and up): $12.00  |  Children (6-11): $5.00  |  Children 5 and under: FREE

Proceeds go to purchase equipment, uniforms, and supplies for our school Physical Education program and extracurricular sports activities, plus other parish/school needs.
**Mass Times & Intentions**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, February 20</strong></td>
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<td>NO MASS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, February 21</strong></td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>School Prayer Service</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, February 22</strong></td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Young at Heart Communion Service</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, February 23</strong></td>
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<td>NO MASS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, February 24</strong></td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Michael Kelleher</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, February 25</strong></td>
<td>8:45 AM</td>
<td>People of the Parish</td>
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<td>10:30 AM</td>
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**Heart Questions**

_The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him._

Mark 1:12-13

**For Adults:** When or how could you step away from your daily responsibilities to renew yourself, so that you can do a better job of following in the footsteps of Jesus?

**For Youth:** What good habit could you work on during Lent so you could grow closer to God?

**Stewardship of Treasure**

_Financial Gifts – July-December, 2017_

For fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Parish (July - December)
- Parish Income $ 797,039.62
- Parish Expenses $ 555,304.75

School (July-December)
- School Income (YTD) $ 555,178.66
- School Expenses (YTD) $ 632,760.79
- Parish Support (YTD) $ 77,582.13

Thank you so much for your continued support. Questions? Please let me know.
- Theresa Ruttger, Parish Administrator

**Friends & Family Kick Off Meeting**

_Monday, March 5 from 6:00-7:00 PM in the Staff Lounge_

Would you like to help out with the Friends & Family Event? The Friends & Family Event is our fantastically-fun fundraiser for St. Pascal’s. Come to the kick off meeting and help make this year the most fun and successful fundraiser yet. Ellen and Mike Aeling are chairing the event and need lots of volunteers to carry out this magical evening. Please contact Mike Aeling at 307.8237 or mjaeling@gmail.com if you have any questions.
Sunday, February 18—First Sunday of Lent
No scheduled Events

Monday, February 19—President’s Day
NO SCHOOL
Parish and school offices closed

Tuesday, February 20
8:15am Bible Study: PC
7:00pm Spirituality Book Club: LB
7:00pm Bible Study: PC
7:00 pm Conway Rec Center: Gym

Wednesday, February 21
9:00am Rosary: CH
9:30am School Prayer Service—All are welcome!
6:30pm Faith Formation: LB, OC, 101, 105
7:00pm Choir: CR
7:00 pm Conway Rec Center: Gym

Thursday, February 22
9:30am Bible Study: PC
9:30am Conscious Dance: OC
11:00am Young at Heart Communion Service & Lunch: CH, BH
6:30pm Finance Council: FR
6:30pm Cub Scout Blue & Gold Ceremony: BH
7:00pm Hill-Murray Volleyball: Gym

Friday, February 23
4:30pm Fish Fry & Bake Sale: BH, Kit
7:00pm Stations of the Cross: CH

Saturday, February 24
10:00am Healing Mass & Lunch (Calix Society): CH, BH

Sunday, February 25—Second Sunday of Lent
After Masses New Member Registration: BH
12:00pm Confirmation I: OC

Meeting Location Key:
BH: Brioschi Hall, CF: Cafeteria, CH: Church, CR: Choir Room,
FR: Founders Room, OC: Old Church, PC: Parish Conference Room

Financial Update from Our Parish Administrator

Parish School Support: Perhaps you are wondering why the parish
support to the school fluctuates each month. We publish monthly
financials for both the parish and school in the bulletin when the bank
statements are reconciled.

School income is generated from a number of sources: tuition
revenue, fundraising, grant awards and scholarships. Some months
the tuition revenue is less than others, depending upon payment
schedules. Other months, like December, saw an increase in income
due to a year-end appeal. The expense side is different. Most of the
school expenses are steady; payroll and building upkeep are the two
major components.

We were blessed at year-end with some generous donations that
helped to lower the parish support numbers. Many thanks to the
diligent work by members of the School Board and school staff.

Mortgage Update: Each week parishioners generously contribute to
our Mortgage Reduction fund. Contributions are very close to the
$24,389.00 monthly payment and we have a healthy reserve of
$262,052.34 in the account.

Our payments to Premier bank are around $10,000 in principal and
$14,000 in interest (currently at 4.25%). There is a balloon payment
due in September of 2022 of $3,226,815.

The Finance Council, Pastor and Trustees are discussing future
scenarios in managing this loan. Thanks for your continued support of
this important piece of our financial future.
Today’s Readings: Genesis 9:8–15; Psalm 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; 1 Peter 3:18–22; Mark 1:12–15. Today’s readings place us in the midst of conflict. In the First Reading, we hear of God’s covenant with Noah after the flood destroyed the earth. The Second Reading highlights a spiritual struggle between right and wrong. Finally, the Gospel tells of Jesus’ temptation in the desert.

No matter our experience of conflict, it usually brings discomfort. These readings show that God reaches out to us with love and mercy in the midst of chaos. God saves us from chaos and orders us toward a deep love. After the flood, God sent the rainbow as a sign of his promise not to devastate the earth again. The reading from Peter reminds us that Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice and in him, through the waters of Baptism, the chaos of our lives is eliminated. Finally, in the Gospel, the Spirit drives Jesus into the desert to be tested. His wrestling in the desert prepares him for ministry and he emerges from the desolation proclaiming the “good news of God.”

What is the chaos in your life? As the psalmist pleads, we too ask for the Lord’s compassion. God never forgets his children. This week ask for God’s help in resolving a hurting relationship.

Sunday, February 18, 2018
Conflict

Compassionate God, whose promise of love spans all generations, rouse our hearts to hear your Word and teach us to act according to your will. Give us courage to turn away from temptation and strengthen our desire to follow you. May we, who were washed clean of sin and saved from death in the waters of Baptism, be renewed by your Holy Spirit during these forty days.

With the elect, guide our hearts to repentance so that, sustained by the Living Bread, we may forever give witness to your love and mercy. 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.

Washed Clean

Compassionate God, whose promise of love spans all generations, rouse our hearts to hear your Word and teach us to act according to your will. Give us courage to turn away from temptation and strengthen our desire to follow you. May we, who were washed clean of sin and saved from death in the waters of Baptism, be renewed by your Holy Spirit during these forty days.

With the elect, guide our hearts to repentance so that, sustained by the Living Bread, we may forever give witness to your love and mercy. 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.
THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, February 19

Your Words

Today’s Responsorial Psalm reminds us that God’s words are spirit and life. When the Psalm is read in relationship to the First Reading, we see that listening and following the precepts of the Lord will help us be holy just as God is holy. The ultimate Word that God spoke was Jesus, who showed us how to love and show mercy. How has God’s Word given you spirit and life? Listen to or sing Bernadette Farrell’s “Praise to You, O Christ Our Savior.” Journal about what you hear.

Today’s Readings: Leviticus 19:1–2, 11–18; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Matthew 25:31–46.

Tuesday, February 20

Rescue

In the Gospel, Jesus tells us not to babble in our prayer. Prayer is an intimate encounter or dialogue with God. It is a safe space to call upon the Lord in times of trouble and in times of joy. The Psalm reassures us that God rescues the just who call upon him and hears the cry of the poor. It can be difficult to enter into prayer sometimes and trust ourselves enough to share with God or to trust that God is listening. God is present and hears your prayers. Use the Lord’s Prayer as a starting point for your conversation with God today.


Wednesday, February 21

Repent

In prayer, have you ever asked God for a sign? Jonah called the people of Nineveh to follow God’s law. He was a sign from God who called the people to repent. Jesus, the Word of God made flesh, calls all generations to conversion of heart and mind. Jesus heals and saves us from our sin. Consider celebrating the Sacrament of Penance in the coming days.


Thursday, February 22

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Today’s feast is about the office of the shepherd who leads his flock on the right path. In the Gospel, Peter confesses that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God; Jesus chooses Peter to shepherd the Church. In what ways have you confessed that Jesus is the Son of God? Spend some time reading First and Second Peter today. Today’s Readings: 1 Peter 5:1–4; Psalm 23:1–3a, 4, 5, 6; Matthew 16:13–19.

Friday, February 23

Turn Away

The process of turning away from sin includes reconciliation. The readings today illuminate this reality and call us to seek forgiveness from those we have wronged in the community. Consider the ways you might seek forgiveness from those whom you have harmed. Reconciliation frees us from sin and strengthens us to embrace a virtuous life. God is merciful and will shower you with abundant grace. Light a candle today and ask for the grace to turn away from sin.


Saturday, February 24

Path of Love

What is the path God is calling us to follow? This is a common theme throughout the season of Lent. What does it mean for you to follow the Lord? The Gospel gives us a clue that to follow the Lord is to love. Love is not always easy but is required of the Christian. God’s love is nourished in the sacraments and our relationships so that we might overflow and share it with others. Think of a map as a tool for prayer. Consider the path you are on and the path God is calling you to walk.