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.

MARCH 04, 2018 | THIRD 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:
During my recent vacation I devoured a wonderful book titled, *SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome* by Mary Beard. Perhaps that title may threaten to induce sleep in you, but I found the story fascinating. That's not only because of the people and events described in vivid detail, but even more because of the obvious parallels that can be drawn between the world of 2500 years ago and the world of today, especially with regard to politics and government. Just as the ancients wrestled constantly with the question of what it meant to be self-identified as a "Roman," so we today confront the same question of what it means to be "American." At its height of power and influence the Roman Empire encompassed lands from Britain to Iran, from Egypt to Spain. All of those citizens considered themselves, in some sense, to be "Roman," but obviously the sense was not the same across such a vast expanse of cultures. To a great extent the Empire thrived because the other ancient civilizations which it encountered were permitted a wide range of flexibility to maintain their own ethnic identities and practices, all the while being assimilated into the greater enterprise of Roman influence and (to some extent) control. Whether Greek or Persian, African or Jewish, the strategy of Roman leaders was not to crush the diversities of art, religion and social organization in the far-flung provinces so as to impose a forced uniformity. That couldn't have worked even if they had tried to. Instead the desire was to broaden the idea of what the concept of "Roman" meant, so as to accommodate others as much as possible without resort to armed conflict. Interestingly in all this, Christianity was the only religion that the Empire ever tried to extinguish, because it was the only one that insisted on an "either-or" allegiance to God or to Caesar. Other than that (very important) exception, however, being "Roman" did not demand the worship of the same god(s) or the speaking of the same language, or behaving exactly like the natives of Italy.

It seems that today we are engaged in a similar process in coming to terms with what it means to be American. At one extreme end of the opinion spectrum are those who insist that it means being of European descent, speaking English, and worshiping the God of Jesus Christ. On the other end are those who believe that there can be no common bonds across ethnic/racial/socio-economic/religious groups in our country and so each is left to fend for itself and to acknowledge all others who are trying to do the same. The first option leads to intolerance and bigotry and to a very narrow understanding of what "American" means. The other option leads to the loss of any shared sense of what "America" means, and to isolation of peoples one from another. We are in the very midst of this discernment right now, and it is not always pretty. Sometimes, as we have seen too frequently recently, it becomes violent.

Here again is where our Catholic vision and church may be of great benefit in society. Catholics are, by definition, multi-racial, multi-cultural, multi-political. Catholics are Iranian and Palestinian. They are Russian and they are Mexican. They are Nigerian and they are Haitian. Wherever politicians seek to draw the "enemy lines" in discussions about "foreigners," we can be sure that our Catholic brothers and sisters are on the other side of that line. We are uniquely positioned, and obligated, to remain in solidarity with those whom others would prefer to define out of what it means to be American or pro-American. Catholic Christianity is bigger than that. That many of our high ranking Catholic elected officials in Washington either do not understand this or do not care about this is a scandal to the faith.

The Roman Empire declined and fell for a whole lot of reasons, but one of the most important ones was the fact that it eventually lost sight of how to balance its own fundamental identity with the welcoming of a wide variety of other cultures. That's not an easy task, but it is the one that is before Americans right now. Let us be wise and prayerful.
Fr. Mike Byron

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**Bowl Tenders for Holy Thursday**

Liturgy: March 29 at 7:00 PM
Rehearsal: Sunday, March 25 at 3:45 PM

One of the most prominent ritual actions for this night is the Washing of Feet. As in past years, everyone in the pews will be invited to take part. We need 10 individuals to assist those coming forward to take part in the ritual. When we commit ourselves to be involved in this action, we begin to understand more readily what it means to serve one another. Please contact Sharon Balcom in the parish office if you are willing and able to help!

**CRS Operation Rice Bowl Encounter Lent: Encounter Safata**

In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more. Find out at crsricebowl.org. Remember to pick up a Rice Bowl in the gathering space and join us—and nearly 14,000 faith communities in 180 dioceses around the U.S.—in a life-changing journey of encounter this Lent.

**Social Justice and Caring Committee Lenten Project 2018**

Brittany's Place is a shelter located on the east side of St. Paul that helps teenage victims of sex trafficking. During the fish fry each Friday of Lent, we 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 Brioscii Hall. The items collected will be delivered to Brittany's Place. Thank you!

**Women's Book Club**

*Monday, March 12 at 7:00 PM*

We meet in the Founders Room on the second Monday of each month. Join us as often as your schedule allows. This month we will discuss *Behold the Dreamers*, by Imbolo Mbue and next month, April 9, we'll discuss Cecelia McDonald and Kathryn McDonald's *Running the Cobblestones*. The authors will share the evening with us—it's an evening you won't want to miss!
**OUR SCHOOL**

We are proud to announce that we are at 90% re-enrolled and that equals 85 current families! We would like to welcome 14 new students for the 2018 – 19 school year, ranging from Pre-3s up to 6th grade! These families are so excited to be part of this wonderful community! We are getting calls, almost daily, with families interested in our amazing school!

Check out our @StPascals facebook page and see your 7th graders who created a Positive Post-it wall called "Go Make a Difference" in the main level hallway. As the positive post-it's have been there, more and more have been added from students to staff members! What a blessing it is to have such a beautiful school community here at St. Pascal Baylon Catholic School! Would you like to see more of the AMAZING things happening at your parish school? Follow us @StPascals facebook page!

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.

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**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**Celebration of a Jewish Seder with Rabbi Barry Cytron**

Monday, March 26 from 7:00-9:00 PM

Brioschi Hall

Christians share with Jews a story and an experience: once we were bound in slavery but the Lord brought us to freedom. This story has diverse understandings that link us with our Jewish neighbors, especially in the springtime of hope and renewal. Please join us on March 26 for a celebration of the Seder service, as we explore the traditional Jewish ritual meal for Passover.

Father Byron's colleague from their days at St. Paul Seminary, Rabbi Cytron, returns to St. Pascal's once again to lead us through this beautiful time of the calendar.

**Reservations are REQUIRED by March 21!**

Call the parish office at 774.1585 or sign up online at www.stpascals.org/parish-news. Child care is available with reservation. Assistance will be needed with set up and preparations during the day on March 26. Please contact Kim in the parish office if you are able to help!

**Living Faith Books**

Living Faith devotional booklets for April-June are now available for $1.25 each. They can be picked up in the parish office or on the usher's stand outside of the worship space.

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**Pancake Breakfast—Sunday, March 18 after both Masses in Brioschi Hall**

$8/Adults and $5/Kids (12 and under)

Breakfast includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee & juice. All proceeds help fund scout camps, pack activities, achievement awards and community service opportunities. Bring your appetite and support Cub Scout Pack 294! Thank you!

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**Friends & Family Event—Saturday, April 21 at 5:00 PM in Brioschi Hall**

**Gift cards needed:** To be used as game prizes at the FUNnest fundraiser that St. Pascal's has! Gift cards can be for restaurants, stores, gas stations, garden centers, grocery stores, etc., with a minimum value of $10—but we need higher values as well. If you would prefer to donate cash or check and let us buy the gift cards, that would be fantastic! If you would like some ideas for gift cards please come by our poster in the gathering space and pick up a gift card idea tag. Drop off gift cards at our poster in the gathering space, at the parish office or put in the collection basket (in an envelope labeled Friends & Family). Questions? Call Mike Aeling at 307.8237.

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**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.

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**Parish Office Hours**

Mon-Fri 8:00 - 4:00 PM

**Holidays as announced**

**School Office Hours**

September-June Mon - Fri 8:00 - 4:00 PM

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**Parish Councils**

**Parish Pastoral Council**

Ann Karner, Chair
Meetings - 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM

**Parish Finance Council**

Cindy Reisdorf, Chair
Meetings - 4th Thursday at 6:30 PM

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**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.

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**Parish Prayer Line**

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

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**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.

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

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**Mass Announcements**

Direct to Sharon Balcom by 3:00 PM on Wednesday.
The Week Ahead

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

Sunday, March 4—LENT 3
SJCC We Care Campaign
12:00pm Federation of Music Clubs/SPPTA: CH
12:00pm Confirmation I: OC

Monday, March 5
9:30am Conscious Dance: OC
10:00am AFF How to Read the Bible: BH
6:00pm Friends & Family kickoff meeting: SL
7:00pm AFF How to Read the Bible: BH
7:00pm Boy Scouts 294: 108 & CF
7:00pm Conway Rec Center: Gym

Tuesday, March 6
8:15am Bible Study: PC
6:30pm Pastoral Council: SL
7:00pm Conway Rec Center: Gym
7:00pm Bible Study: PC

Wednesday, March 7
9:00am Rosary: CH
9:30am School Mass—All are welcome!
1:00pm Marian Center Mass & Dessert: Marian Ctr of St. Paul
6:30pm 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting: BH
6:30pm Faith Formation: LB, OC, 101, 105
7:00pm Choir: CR
7:00pm Conway Rec: Gym

Thursday, March 8
9:30am Bible Study: PC
9:30am Conscious Dance: OC
7:00pm Men’s Club Members Meeting: CF
7:00pm Hill-Murray Volleyball: Gym

Friday, March 9
9:30am School Reconciliation: CH
4:30pm Fish Fry & Bake Sale: BH, CM & Kit
7:00pm Stations of the Cross: CH

Saturday, March 10
8:00am School Board Retreat: FR

Sunday, March 11—LENT 4
12:00am Daylight Saving Time starts—Remember to “spring” your clocks ahead one hour at bedtime on Saturday!
After Masses New Member Registration: BH
2:00pm Girl Scouts: CF

Meeting Location Key:
BH: Brioschi Hall, CF: Cafeteria, CH: Church, CM: Commons,
CR: Choir Room, FR: Founders Room, LB: Library, OC: Old Church,
PC: Parish Conference Room, SL: Staff Lounge

Congratulations Vince & Leona Arceno!
Vince and Leona celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on
February 27. God bless you for your inspiring witness to good
humor, love and Christian marriage.

St. John’s University Men’s Chorus Concert & Reception
A Program of Sacred and Secular Music
Sunday, March 18 at 3:30 PM in the church and Brioschi Hall
Join us for an afternoon of music with SJU’s select male voice
touring ensemble of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s
University.
"We get to a level of performance where it just pours out of you and
becomes a reflection of your emotions." - Director, Dr. Axel Theimer

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EASTER FLOWERS
You may purchase a plant or make a donation (any amount) in
honor of a family member, loved one or someone who is ill or
homebound. Please complete the form below and return it to the
parish office or place it in the collection basket at Mass.
Suggested donation is $10. Thank you for your gift!

I would like to purchase an Easter plant in (circle one)

Honor of / Memory of:

Donated by:

Please make checks payable to St. Pascal’s.

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Heart Questions
Trust and Doubt
For Jews demand signs and Greeks
desire wisdom, but we proclaim
Christ crucified, a stumbling block to
Jews and foolishness to Gentiles.
1 Corinthians 1:22-23

Adults: When has the message of the
cross seemed absurd to you,
and when have you seen its
wisdom?
Kids: What puzzles you in the
gospel stories? Which story makes
you the most hopeful?

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Mass Times & Intentions
Readings
March 04, 2018

Tuesday, March 06
7:30 AM   The People of the Parish

Wednesday, March 07
9:30 AM   + Don Hensel

Thursday, March 08
7:30 AM   + Frank Brodniewicz

Friday, March 09
7:30 AM   Jim & Evelyn Lecher

Saturday, March 10
4:30 PM   + Patricia Kurtz

Sunday, March 11
8:45 AM   + Terry Lemke
10:30 AM   The People of the Parish

Sunday:
Ex 20:1-17
Ps 19:8-11
1 Cor 1:22-25
Jn 2:13-25

Monday:
2 Kgs 5:1-15b
Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday:
Dn 3:25, 34-43
Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9
Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday:
Dt 4:1, 5-9
Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday:
Jer 7:23-28
Ps 95:1-2, 6-9
Lk 11:14-23

Friday:
Hos 14:2-10
Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17
Mk 12:28-34

Saturday:
Hos 6:1-6
Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b
Lk 18:9-14

Next Sunday:
2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23
Ps 137:1-6
Eph 2:4-10
Jn 3:14-21
Third Sunday of Lent

Law of Love

Holy God,
you established a covenant with your people Israel
and gave them the law to direct their hearts.
Keep us ever mindful of the law of love revealed in your Son, Jesus, who liberates us from sin and directs our hearts.
Give us strength to follow Christ and wisdom to discern his presence.
Have mercy on us, O Lord, and banish from us all that keeps us from you.
Grant us ears to hear your life-giving words, which are like honey from the comb, so that, as temples of their Holy Spirit, we may proclaim your majesty to all nations.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 4, 2018
Temple

Today’s Readings: Exodus 20:1–17; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; 1 Corinthians 1:22–25; John 2:13–25. Today’s Gospel is filled with much emotion and action. Imagine yourself either as a merchant or one of the bystanders who observe these events unfold. Jesus, using a whip, drives the merchants from his Father’s house. After sitting with this experience, what insight do you gain? Who is Jesus?

The temple is a main theme this week. Jesus makes a bold claim that he will destroy the temple and raise it in three days. Of course, we know the ending of the story, but those in the moment must have been confused. Jesus’ actions and words invite us to contemplate the mystery of the Incarnation. To encounter Jesus is an encounter with the living God. Jesus’ radical proclamation in this passage was likely missed by those present. Through Jesus’ death and Resurrection, a new covenant is created. No longer, as in the passage from Exodus, will our relationship to God be measured only by how the Commandments are kept. In Christ, the new temple, the sacrament of God’s presence, our relationship is measured by how well our lives are patterned after Jesus.

In Baptism, we died with Christ and we rose to new life. In Baptism, we became temples of the Holy Spirit, which means our bodies are to be honored and others are to be respected as sacred vessels who announce God’s love. What must you die to in your life in order to be raised up? As a prayer mantra this week, use today’s Psalm refrain “If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.”
**This Week at Home**

**Monday, March 5**

**The Need for Healing**

In the Gospel, Jesus tells us that a prophet is not accepted in his native place. As he tells of the healing of Naaman, by Elisha, Jesus shows the power of God's Word. Like the prophets of old, Jesus announces and shares the Good News. Jesus was driven out of town because of what he said. When have you heard Jesus but were unwilling to heed his instructions? Naaman eventually listened to Elisha and was healed. Spend fifteen minutes in silent prayer, listening to God.

**Today’s Readings:** 2 Kings 5:1–5ab; Psalm 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Luke 4:24–30.

**Tuesday, March 6**

**Boundless Mercy**

We hear Peter again ask about forgiveness. Jesus reminds Peter that since God’s mercy has no limits, we cannot put a number on the amount of times we should forgive another. Consider the Lord’s Prayer. It reminds us, as does the parable, that we are to forgive as God forgives. At dinner, using the crosses you made that first week, discuss the importance of forgiveness.

**Today’s Readings:** Daniel 3:25, 34–43; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8–9; Matthew 18:21–35.

**Wednesday, March 7**

**Sts. Perpetua and Felicity**

The two saints we remember today were beheaded at public games in Carthage because they refused to deny their Christian faith. The First Reading reminds us to keep the commandments. Look carefully at verse nine, which warns us not to forget the things we have seen. Like Perpetua and Felicity, we have seen the living God and we must not forget his love and mercy. We are called to give witness to the Paschal Mystery in all we do. Pray today for widows and all those unjustly imprisoned.

**Today’s Readings:** Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Psalm 147:12–13, 15–16, 19–20; Matthew 5:17–19.

**Thursday, March 8**

**God’s People**

Jeremiah has a tough audience before him. The Lord has said that those who listen and follow him will be his people and prosper, but the Lord reveals to Jeremiah that the people have not listened. This refusal of the people to listen is heard many times during Lent. Time and time again, the Lord sent prophets to his people to call them back, and yet, they remained in the darkness of their hearts. Do the People of God listen today? To open your heart to God’s voice, pray the refrain to the Psalm: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. **Today’s Readings:** Jeremiah 7:23–28; Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7, 8–9; Luke 11:14–23.

**Friday, March 9**

**St. Frances of Rome**

The reading from Hosea paints a picture of God’s profound love for his people. God yearns for us to turn back to him and share in his life and love our neighbor as ourselves. This is exactly what Frances of Rome did. She longed for the Lord, which led her to serve Rome’s poor. We are also called to witness God’s love. This caring for neighbor is a prophetic voice, like Hosea’s, that calls all people to share in the life God offers. Today consider how you can help the poor in your community during the next week. Perhaps you could make a dessert for the homeless shelter.

**Today’s Readings:** Hosea 14:2–10; Psalm 81:6c–8a, 8bc–9, 10–11ab, 14 and 17; Mark 12:28–34.

**Saturday, March 10**

**Return to the Lord**

Hosea’s words are clear that God will heal all that is weak and dead within us. When we turn to God in love, we grow in faith and holiness and God showers us with love so that we might live. What does it look like to love God? Let the coming spring be a reminder of God’s unfading love for us. Take time to pray with the images of the First Reading today.

How To Read the Bible as a Catholic

Catholics of the world were encouraged by the bishops at Vatican II to read the Bible. "The sacred synod also earnestly and especially urges all the Christian faithful...to learn by frequent reading of the divine Scriptures the ‘excellent knowledge of Jesus Christ’ (Phil. 3:8). For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." *(Dei Verbum)* 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.

Monday, March 5, 2018
10 am—12 Noon OR 7:00-9:00 pm

TWO OPTIONS! CHOOSE THE BEST FOR YOU.

Brioschi Hall
with Deacon Rich Moore

*Sponsored by St. Pascal’s Adult Faith Formation Team*