WELCOME! WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR TIME WITH US.

Whether you are just visiting or looking for a parish home, it’s great to have you with us. Whatever your current life circumstances—single, married, single again, with children or without—and wherever you have been or whatever has happened in your life, you are welcome at St. Pascal’s. Please join us in Brioschi Hall after Mass for hospitality and to find out more.

APRIL 08, 2018  |  SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
Dear Friends:

One of the topics that I used to teach about in my theology courses at the seminary is called soteriology, which is just a fancy Greek word that roughly means "theories about salvation." It's a topic that can threaten to blow your mind fairly quickly if you think about it. Soteriology begins with the information that we know from the scriptures, namely that Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary, went about teaching/preaching/healing/working miracles in Galilee for a few years as an adult, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, and rose at Easter. And somehow through all that Jesus became our "savior." The study of soteriology asks many intriguing questions like what exactly we were/are saved from as the result of Jesus. After all, we all still commit sins and eventually we all still die. So what exactly was that threat before Jesus "fixed" it by his witness in this world? And even more intriguingly, when and how did "salvation" happen, exactly?

Our church has never declared that there is, or needs to be, exactly one correct answer to those questions, and there have been a number of theories about salvation throughout the centuries of Christian theology. For some thinkers, we were "saved" at the moment of Jesus' birth, when the Incarnation wedded human nature with the very nature of God, irrevocably in one person. For others, we were "saved" by Jesus' Resurrection, which destroyed the prospect of absolute annihilation that is threatened by our physical death. (This, by the way, seems to have been the very earliest salvation theory to emerge in the church, beginning with the preaching and writing of St. Paul.) But for very many Christians, especially in the Western (Roman) world, the predominant theory for centuries has been that "salvation" occurred in and through Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. Very many of the prescribed prayers in the liturgical books for Holy Week seem to presume this, which is why it is important to note that this is not the only acceptable soteriology. And the problem with it is that it can quickly give rise to some disturbing questions about the nature of God, and his feelings and intentions toward us, his creatures. For example, did God require the bloody death of his beloved Son in order to love us? Does it make sense for a God of love and compassion to do that? Why? Why did God need to be paid some kind of "ransom" in order for us to be given access to his forgiveness and kindness? Why? (I warned you about blowing your mind...)

These are more than theoretical questions to be bandied about by egg-headed theologians. There are many in our church, and many more who used to be in our church, who have suffered enormously in their personal lives—for various reasons—and for whom it has become nearly impossible to worship a God who seems to take some apparent pleasure in seeing anyone bleed and die. These questions deserve to be taken seriously. All the more so when we hear, as we just did during the Triduum, scriptures that speak of God being "pleased to crush" his servant "in infirmity" (Is. 53:10). What's that about? At the very least it calls us to be thoughtful about how we interpret the bible, and how we may be too automatic in imposing our own theories about what was going on in the crucifixion. Maybe it was just tragic for everyone, including God?

In the end, what we can know with certainty is that when a perfectly holy savior like Jesus enters into a world that is perverted by serious, systemic sin, he is going to pay a dear price for remaining faithful to his God, who is the source of love. So will his followers. As St. John tells us, the Darkness hates the in-breaking of the Light. But the Light has indeed appeared, and we have been "saved" by Him! That is the message of Easter. Let us be careful, though, about how we put all the pieces of the story together.

Fr. Mike Byron

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**Women's Book Club—Special Event**

*Monday, April 9 at 6:30 PM in Brioschi Hall*

C.K. MacDonald is the pen name for the mother-daughter writing team of Cecelia MacDonald and Kathryn Scheeman of Mendota Heights. They will be joining us to discuss *Running the Cobblestones*, their first novel. Set in Ireland, the story celebrates the importance of steadfast neighbors as Kate McMahon, a disgraced American widow, cobbles together a new beginning on the “auld sod.”

Fellowship with the authors is at 6:30 PM followed by the author-led book discussion from 7:00-8:00. To RSVP please call the parish office at 774.1585 or email teresavoelker@gmail.com.

(next month's discussion, May 14 is on *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett.)

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**Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils**

Leadership Nomination Process

Nomination forms will be in the pews from April 7 - April 15. Return your completed nomination form in the collection basket or drop it by the parish office. Or, e-mail your nomination to church@stpascals.org with LEADERSHIP NOMINATION in the subject line. (With email nominations, be sure to include the council to which you believe your nominee is best suited and the reason(s) for your nomination.) Council members will be available to answer questions about council service after masses the weekend of April 7/8. Questions? Please call Ann Karner, Parish Council Chairperson, at 330.0024.

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**The Elderly & Homebound Need You**

We have a wonderful group of people who take Communion to the homebound and spend a bit of time visiting with them. However, we have a need for more volunteers. If you have an hour or so per week or every other week (during the week or on weekends) to volunteer, this could be the ministry for you. The rewards are great when you see the warm greeting you receive as you arrive for your visit along with the knowledge that you are bringing Christ to someone who is unable to get to Mass. Training is provided. If you are interested or want more information, contact Ann Karner 330.0024.
**St. Pascal Proposed Pre-K – 4th Grade Summer Program**

St. Pascal’s school is collecting information to see if there is enough interest for us to offer a Summer Program for all students entering Pre-K (4 years old) and St. Pascal’s students entering K – 4th grade. The Summer Program would be offered Monday through Friday at St. Pascal’s School beginning Monday, June 11 through Friday, August 24. (We will be closed on July 4). Proposed hours are 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM. Breakfast will be served from 8:00 – 8:30 AM and a snack will be served in the afternoon. Children will need to bring a bag lunch.

Each week will have a theme and there will be planned activities each day. There will be rest time for the 4-year-old children every afternoon. Older children will have a Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) session every afternoon. Children can bring a book from home or check one out of the school library. If there is enough interest, we would set up registration and payment options on TADS. In addition, a monthly calendar of weekly themes and daily activities will be provided for interested families.

**We must have a minimum of 20 children to offer the summer program.**

Fee for a full 10 hour day = $40.00 per day or billed at an hourly rate of $4.00 per hour.

**If interested:** please call the school office by Monday, April 9 to help us determine the level of interest in a summer program. Thank you!

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**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

**RESCHEDULED! How to Read the Bible as a Catholic with Dcn. Richard Moore**

*Thursday, May 10 in Brioschi Hall*

10:00 AM-12 Noon AND 7:00-9:00 PM

How do we Catholics go about reading the Bible? What Bible should I get? Is the Bible myth or history? 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.

RSVP to the parish office by May 8 or sign up online at www.stpascals.org/parish-news.

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**Young at Heart Mass & Luncheon**

*Thursday, April 19 at 11:00 AM*

Attention YAH 55 plus! Fr. Mike will celebrate the Eucharist and then, after a short meeting, we will have a delicious Swedish meatball dinner catered by Magnolia’s for which we ask $10.00 on the day of the meeting. Afterward, we will enjoy the creative performance of “The Saw Dusters,” a unique senior group who fashion from wood the instruments used during the program. Please RSVP by April 16 to Betty Hensel at 714.8958 or bjhen@q.com or to Barb Kendle at 738.3799. We love having you join us and encourage you to invite your friends! Also at this meeting if you wish, you can purchase your tickets to the Spring Serenade (with entertainment by solo artist Kent Appeldoorn) for only $10.00 per person—seating is limited!

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**Friends & Family Event: Join us for a Magical Evening!**

*Saturday, April 21 at 5:30 PM in Brioschi Hall (Friends & Family is an adult only event).*

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses April 7–8 and April 14-15 and will be available in the parish office from April 9-16 at $30 per person. The evening includes a catered dinner, magic show by Matt Dunn, bar, lots of games, raffles, a dessert auction, and sale of parish mixer events (parish mixer events include a Texas Hold’em tournament, Mystery dinner, ethnic dinners, game nights and much more!) Questions: Contact Mike Aeling at 307.8237.

**Friends & Family Raffle—Even more ways to have fun!**

1) Six amazing baskets: TV, Cash, Xbox, Meat gift box and more. Tickets are just $1.00 per chance.

2) A chance to throw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Twins game on August 6. Even if you are not a big baseball fan, how about buying a ticket for your favorite slugger? The tickets are just $10 a chance for the thrill of a lifetime.

**You do not need to be present at the dinner to win any of the raffle prizes.**

**Magical Desserts Needed—We are looking for donations of delightful desserts!**

Please consider providing a dessert for the Friends & Family Event (homemade or purchased from your favorite bakery, enough to serve 8-10 people) to be live-auctioned before dinner. Thanks to past participation (either as baker, bidder or both), we have raised thousands of dollars through this live dessert auction for St. Pascal’s, so please help us to add several thousands more this year! If interested, please contact Susan Hommes at 738.1610 or shommes@umn.edu.

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**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 Summer Hours**

Mon-Fri 8:00 - 3:00 PM
Holidays as announced

**School Contact Information**

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

**School Office Summer 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
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.

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.

**Mass Announcements**

Direct to Sharon Balcom by 3:00 PM on Wednesday.
Mass Times & Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name/Intention</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 10</td>
<td>07:30 AM</td>
<td>Noe &amp; Annette Bibeau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 11</td>
<td>09:30 AM</td>
<td>Women's Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 12</td>
<td>07:30 AM</td>
<td>Harrison Family Thanksgiving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, April 13</td>
<td>07:30 AM</td>
<td>Michelle Raley</td>
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<td>Saturday, April 14</td>
<td>04:30 PM</td>
<td>Frank Brodnewicz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, April 15</td>
<td>08:45 AM</td>
<td>Joe Quinn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>The People of the Parish</td>
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Heart Questions

Following the Example of Jesus
Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul; no one claimed private ownership of any possessions; everything they owned was held in common.

Acts 4:32

Adults: What could you do to inspire your family to resemble the early Christians more closely?
Kids: What could you and your family do to help others who are in need?

Peaceful Presence Silent Meditation and Prayer
April 11 and every second Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 AM
Do you have a desire to take some quality time away from the phones, computers, TVs and iPads to listen to the still, small stirrings of the Holy Spirit? Join us in the St. John's Chapel for silent prayer and meditation. We are asking our neighbors from all the East Side congregations to join us in this time of peaceful prayer. Please ask your neighbors to join us!

Stewardship of Treasure
Financial Gifts – July-February 2018
For fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td>Parish (July - February)</td>
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<tr>
<td>YTD Parish Income</td>
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<td>YTD Parish Expenses</td>
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The Week Ahead

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

Sunday, April 8 – EASTER 2
After Masses New Member Registration: BH
After Masses Friends & Family Ticket Sales: CM
2:00pm Girl Scouts: CF

Monday, April 9
6:00pm Friends & Family Committee: SL
7:00pm Women's Book Club: BH
7:00pm Boy Scouts 294: CF, Gym & 108

Tuesday, April 10
6:00pm Women's Club Board Meeting: FR

Wednesday, April 11
9:00am Rosary: CH
9:30am School Mass—All are welcome!
10:30am Peaceful Presence Prayer Group: Chapel
6:30pm Faith Formation: LB, OC, 101, 105

Thursday, April 12
5:00pm Merrick Volunteer Dinner: BH, Kit
7:00pm Men's Club Members Meeting: CF
3:00pm Private Event: OC

Friday, April 13
No scheduled event

Saturday, April 14
10:00am 1st Eucharist Retreat: CH, BH
After Mass Friends & Family Ticket Sales: CM

Sunday, April 15 – EASTER 3
After Masses New Members Reception: BH
After Masses Friends & Family Ticket Sales: CM
12:00pm Confirmation I: OC

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

Catch the Dream—6th Annual St. Mary's Mission Gala
Thursday, April 26 at 7:00 PM in Brioschi Hall
“We have dreams, but who will interpret them...surely interpretations come from God.”
Adapted from Genesis 40:8

Order of the Evening
7:00 Wine Reception
7:20 Seating
7:25 Honor Song (Ojibwe Drummer)
7:30 Opening Prayer
7:35 Dinner
8:10 Speaker • Appeal • Closing Remarks • Closing Prayer • Traveling Song (Ojibwe Drummer)

Seating is limited—call the parish office to RSVP for this wonderful evening to benefit our friends at St. Mary’s Mission.

St. Pascal’s Women’s Club—Spring Serenade Brunch
Saturday, April 28 at 10:30 AM in Brioschi Hall
Young & Less Young, Men, Women, Boys & Girls—all are invited!
Join us as we welcome spring with a “Spring Serenade” celebration! Join us for a delicious buffet brunch catered by Magnolia’s and entertainment by solo artist Kent Appeldoorn. $10.00 per person—seating is limited! Tickets will be on sale after masses beginning April 7.
Please contact Betty Hensel at 714.8958 or bjhen@q.com for more information.
Heart and Mind

God, font of all life, through the Paschal Mystery of your Son, Jesus, you have restored your people to life. Our house gives you praise for your enduring mercy and unending love.

Watch over and protect our community as we work to make known the message of salvation.

Keep us one in heart and mind as we work to build up your Kingdom. Give us hearts overflowing with mercy as we minister to those most in need. Help us remain faithful to your call so that our words and actions may always proclaim Christ as Lord. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today’s Readings: Acts 4:32–35; Psalm 118:2–4, 13–15, 22–24; 1 John 5:1–6; John 20:19–31. Jesus’ Resurrection establishes a new way of living. He is the new covenant and in his life, death, and Resurrection, he reveals our loving and merciful God. This new way of living is one of mercy and reconciliation, one of peace and hope, one where the chains of sin can no longer hold us captive. Christ has changed us and, as we proclaim in the refrain to the Responsorial Psalm, we “give thanks to the Lord” because “his love is everlasting.” Our First Reading gives a sense of this new way of living. Acts tells us that the community was united in one heart and mind and that they held their possessions in common. The final lines describe the social outreach of this early community. Christ brought them together and continues to bring us together. We are united to him in one Body, which invites us to risk everything for him and the Kingdom.

Too often we hear of division in our communities. Being members of Christ’s Body urges us to love and forgive. This mercy should not be insular but lead us into the world to advocate for justice. If Christ has truly united us in one heart and mind, then we must work to reconcile differences and let the light of Christ within us shine forth so others may know the transforming love of God. Consider how your faith in Christ leads you to build up the Body of Christ. This week, reach out to your neighbors and friends for conversation or a meal.
**THIS WEEK AT HOME**

**Monday, April 9**

**The Annunciation of the Lord**

“Do not be afraid.” Imagine what it must have been like for Mary to learn God had chosen her to carry the Savior. By grace, she was able to say yes and remain faithful to God. In Baptism, we become temples of the Holy Spirit. Like Mary, we say yes and commit ourselves to a life that proclaims the Good News. When faced with trials or doubts, keep in mind what the angel said to Mary. There is no need to be afraid; God will be with us. Today, pray for all expectant mothers. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.

**Tuesday, April 10**

**Of One Heart and Mind**

Just as disagreements arise in faith communities today, the early Church had its difficulties. The picture that Acts paints of the Church as an ideal Christian community provides us something to ponder. Jesus’ Paschal Mystery unites us into one community of God’s mercy. Jesus showed this compassion during his earthly ministry. How does your parish imitate the community of believers? Consider volunteering to coordinate your parish outreach. Today’s Readings: Acts 4:32–37; Psalm 93:1ab, 1cd–2, 5; John 3:7b–15.

**Wednesday, April 11**

**Memorial of St. Stanislaus**

God’s love and justice filled the heart of St. Stanislaus, who fervently opposed injustice and violence in his native Poland. He worked against the injustice of the government of his day, which eventually led to his death. Since we are filled with the light of Christ, we are called to bring light to those in darkness and help free others from oppression. Our Easter alleluias have no meaning if they do not lead us to work for justice and reveal God’s saving love. Today’s Readings: Acts 5:17–26; Psalm 34:2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9; John 3:16–21.

**Thursday, April 12**

**Share the Gospel**

The Apostles are being challenged again in today’s First Reading. They remain fervent in their witness to God and refuse to stop sharing the Good News. Their faith in Christ moves them to glorify God’s name and witness to all what God has given in Christ Jesus. If we live in Christ, the Spirit works through us to share the Gospel. Research a modern-day saint who refused to stop sharing the Gospel. Today’s Readings: Acts 5:27–33; Psalm 34:2 and 9, 17–18, 19–20; John 3:31–36.

**Friday, April 13**

**Tell the Story**

No matter the obstacle, the Apostles remain passionate in teaching about Jesus. How would you respond if you found yourself in the First Reading and were flogged and told not to speak of Christ? Would you rejoice as these followers did? For thousands of years, God’s Word has permeated place after place. As disciples who seek to dwell in the Lord’s house, we must be found worthy to suffer for Christ our light. Today’s Readings: Acts 5:34–42; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14; John 6:1–15.

**Saturday, April 14**

**Ministry of the Word**

The First Reading describes the beginning of what we know as the diaconate. Since the community was growing, the needs within the community also grew. Seven men were called upon to help in the ministry through the distribution of goods, freeing the Twelve to spread the Good News. The number seven shows the universal nature of the Church. Today, pray for deacons and consider finding out more about St. Stephen. Today’s Readings: Acts 6:1–7; Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 18–19; John 6:16–21.