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 29, 2018 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS to our beautiful parish children who celebrate their First Eucharist this weekend:

Owen Michael Castona
Nicholas Richard Crist
Henry David DeCoux
Ezra James Reber Engeldinger
Natalynn Teria House
Malena Quyen Thuc Iverson
Maria Katherine Larson
Liliana Grace Lefler

Marley Jenae Padelford
Adrianna Cornelia Pinotti
Aveyah Leticia St. George
Liam Anthony St. Ores
Samuel Nicholas Sandquist
Aiyana Marie Sheets
Jakob Brayden Stuhl
Nora Elizabeth Wewers

“Jesus speaks in the silence of the mystery of the Eucharist and reminds us each time that following him means going out of ourselves and making our lives not something we ‘possess,’ but a gift to him and to others.”

~POPE FRANCIS (May 2013)
Dear Friends:

I hope that you are techno-savvy enough at least to log in to YouTube. There you will find (for free) video of the encounter between Pope Francis and a boy of about eight or nine years old which took place recently in a poorer neighborhood on the outskirts of Rome. One of the Pope's frequent descriptions of his vision for the church's mission is that of "encounter," which is intended (I believe) to emphasize that we are doing the work of Jesus when we actually meet with people in the throes of real life, messy as that can be, rather than issuing declarations about doctrinal purity from within the confines of our own imagined temples of intellectual clarity. I think it's a push-back against theological arrogance, and one that has been sorely needed for a long time in our institutional church.

To set the scene... Here was the Pope seated in a large chair on a small outdoor stage and entertaining questions from people who wished to step forward to speak with him. The boy comes to the microphone, then seems paralyzed with fear, and says, "I can't do it." His name is Emanuele. The Pope eventually says, "Come, come, come to me Emanuele. Come and tell me in my ear." He does, dressed in a winter overcoat and sweat pants, and the Pope hugs him and grasps his arm and places his forehead against that of Emanuele. There is a silent exchange of whispers that lasts for about 90 seconds. At the end of it all, the boy goes back to his seat, in tears. And the Pope begins to speak: "If only we could cry like Emanuele when we have pain in our hearts. He cries for his father, who died, and had the courage to do so before us because there is love in his heart for his dad. I asked Emanuele permission to reveal his question to the public and he said yes. My father died a short time ago. He was an atheist but he baptized his four children. He was a good man. Is Dad in heaven? It's nice that a son says that about his father, that he 'was good.' Do you think that God would be able to leave a man like him far from Him? Do you think that?" The crowd responds, "No!" "Louder, and with courage!" ("No!") "Does God abandon His children?" ("No!"") "Does God abandon His children when they are good?" ("No!") "Here, Emanuele, this is the answer. God surely was proud of your father, because it is easier when one is a believer to baptize his children than to baptize them when you are an unbeliever. Talk to your Dad. Pray for your Dad. Thanks, Emanuele for your courage. God is the one who says who goes to Heaven."

If that exchange doesn't move you to tears than I recommend immediate medical examinations to determine whether you still have a heart. This is what our religion is all about; to cast out the fear and free the suffering little ones to be vulnerable to God's love. A church other than this one is not anything I'd want to be a part of. I'm thinking that Emanuele's fear at the beginning of the encounter was not of the Pope but of the crowd. It's hard to be seen as weak and uncertain in the face of the crowd. That's true whether you are a kid or whether you are imagined to be a sophisticated adult. But it's people like that whom the Lord came to lift up! I relish the image of the Pope in that scene saying, "Come, come, come to me and tell me in my ear." Is there any more alluring picture of Jesus that could be imagined? That's the Savior whom we worship all the time. Quite a contrast from the Ecclesiastical Legislator whom some believe we are here to serve. Not I, thanks!

And on a completely different note, I offer enormous thanks to the many, many, many who made our Friends and Family event last weekend a great success. As always, it was a wonderful evening of fun, laughter, community, fund-raising, food/drink, and gratitude. The list of folks who helped is far too long to mention here, but to Mike and Ellen Aeling, who chaired the event (again!) belong the most heartfelt expressions of our praise. We are at our best when we celebrate St. Pascal's.

Fr. Mike Byron
May 9 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!

In the face of so many wounds that hurt us and could lead to a hardness of heart, we are called to dive into the sea of prayer, which is the sea of the boundless love of God, in order to experience his tenderness.

—Pope Francis
**Mass Times & Intentions**

- **Tuesday, May 1**
  - NO MASS

- **Wednesday, May 2**
  - NO MASS

- **Thursday, May 3**
  - NO MASS

- **Friday, May 4**
  - NO MASS

- **Saturday, May 5**
  - 4:30 PM  Jim & Evelyn Lecher

- **Sunday, May 6**
  - 08:45 AM  The People of the Parish
  - 10:30 AM  + Generosa Limbag

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**Readings**

**April 29, 2018**

**Sunday:**
- Acts 9:26-31
- Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32
- 1 Jn 3:18-24
- Jn 15:1-8

**Monday:**
- Acts 14:5-18
- Ps 115:1-5, 15-16
- Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday:**
- Acts 14:19-28
- Ps 145:10-13ab, 21
- Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday:**
- Acts 15:1-6
- Ps 122:1-5
- Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday:**
- 1 Cor 15:1-8
- Ps 19:2-5
- Jn 14:6-14

**Friday:**
- Acts 15:22-31
- Ps 57:8-12
- Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday:**
- Acts 16:1-10
- Ps 100:2,3, 5
- Jn 15:18-21

**Next Sunday:**
- Ps 98:1-4
- 1 Jn 4:7-10
- Jn 15:9-17

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**Heart Questions**

**Strengthening Your Faith**

*The vine grower* removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

John 15:2

**Adults:** When have you been "pruned" by your experiences in a way that led to greater abundance?

**Kids:** When have you felt stronger or better because you did something hard to help another person?

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**Friends and Family Event Wrap-up**

We had 150 people attend this event and enjoyed an evening of fun and games. The magician ‘Matt Dunn’ enthralled all of us with his special brand of humor and magic. Approximately $27,000 was raised for St. Pascal’s from event sales, games, raffles and the Fund-A-Need donations. Other than the catering for the dinner, ALL expenses to run this event were donated by parishioners.

The Fund-A-Need for this evening was a new preschool playground which is being built to enhance and support our sought-after preschool program. If you would still like to donate to this cause, please contact Theresa Rutger in the parish office.

Thanks need to go to all the volunteers that helped organize, setup, run and then cleanup from this event. It takes a big group of helpers to get this all done. THANKS to all of you who helped with this.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Aeling at 651.307.8237.

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**More Easter Flowers—Thank you to all who donated money for flowers and enhancements for our worship space during this holy season.**

**Let us hold the following in our hearts:**

*In memory of...*
- Parents & 17 Florida students  Dedicated by... Vincent Arceno
- The Bannick Family  Jeanne Hess
- Mary & Edmund Barnes  Margie & Joe Fernlund
- Joseph & Jo Belland  George & Dolores Leier
- Evvy Bocklund  The Bocklund Family
- Raymond Chapp  Donna Chapp
- Susan & all our deceased relatives  Rene & Zonia Calubayan
- Edward B. Graw  Your Family
- Larry Hall  Rosemary Hall
- Don Kordosky  Ione Kordosky
- Ed & Ann Kramlinger  Larry & Ann Kramlinger
- Parents  R. J. Kuchenmeister
- John & Mary Leier  George & Dolores Leier
- Nick Leis  Dianne Leis
- Family & Friends  Carol & John Rueb
- Johanna & Merrill Stenzel  John & Shirley Hanson
- Dolores Wind  Bob Wind

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For more programming and event information, visit us at www.stpascals.org and like and follow our Facebook page: St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church.
A TOWN HALL MEETING
For Parishioners and School Families

MAY 9, 2018 | 7:00 P.M.
BRIOSCHI HALL, CHURCH OF ST. PASCAL BAYLON

Join us for a conversation about the future of our educational mission at St. Pascal’s.

Learn more about the work underway to ensure a vital, vibrant school and religious formation program for all children and families in our East Side community.

Fr. Mike Byron, St. Pascal School Board Members, and Parish Leaders will share plans for the future and answer your questions.

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL, AND CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED.

Questions? Contact Anne Weyandt, afweyandt@stkate.edu

When St. Paul first encountered the Christian community, he was not kind or receptive to their message. His heart was transformed when he finally encounters Christ on the road to Damascus. From that point on, he became a fervent preacher of the Gospel. Like the pruned vine in the Gospel, Paul opened his heart to the Good News and allowed the vine grower to prune away all that was dead and did not bear fruit. The Word, which called out to him in Damascus, broke open his heart and won him over. When has the proclaimed Word at Mass deepened your love for Christ and stirred you from your pew to share the Gospel?

After our Lenten journey, we, like Paul, have opened ourselves to God’s mercy; the dead branches have been pruned so that we might bear fruit. Paul and the other disciples went about preaching and building up the Kingdom. We have to ask ourselves, what does it look like in our time to be heralds of Good News? Through prayer, the celebration of the Eucharist, and good works, we remain connected to the Vine and grow in holiness. This holiness, this life in the Holy Spirit, helps us see the poor, assists us in reaching out to the places where the Gospel is silenced, and enables us to love. Peruse a hymnal at the parish and pray with a song in the discipleship or mission section that grabs your heart. What do you hear?

In the Vineyard

God, the giver of joy, in Baptism you join us to Christ, the true Vine, and, through your Word, we are sustained in holiness and wisdom.

Send your Holy Spirit upon your vineyard so that, each branch may thrive and reveal your glory by yielding love and joy.

Sustain the Church in holiness and help it bear much fruit for your kingdom.

When our parched hearts begin to wither, draw us close to you and nurture us with your grace.

And on that final day, may we be found praising your holy name in the assembly of your people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, April 29, 2018

Pruning

God, the giver of joy, in Baptism you join us to Christ, the true Vine, and, through your Word, we are sustained in holiness and wisdom. Send your Holy Spirit upon your vineyard so that, each branch may thrive and reveal your glory by yielding love and joy. Sustain the Church in holiness and help it bear much fruit for your kingdom. When our parched hearts begin to wither, draw us close to you and nurture us with your grace. And on that final day, may we be found praising your holy name in the assembly of your people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Monday, April 30
Idols
It can be easy to get caught in the fame of a sports figure or celebrity and forget that Jesus is the true Savior. In the First Reading, Paul and Barnabas are misidentified as the gods Zeus and Hermes. Their words were so captivating that the people couldn’t hear the real message and began to honor them as gods. Quickly they admonished this action. How do we keep our eyes on the prize, especially when we hear so many “good” messages? Today, pray for all who are in positions of power that they might use their status for good and lead others to right living.


Tuesday, May 1
Make Known
As members of the Body of Christ, our lives proclaim the goodness of God’s mercy and compassion. Through our actions and words, we make known the splendor of God and teach others about Christ. The Psalm reminds us that we are God’s friends whose mouths must speak his praise. How do you offer praise to God, especially when the Good News is not welcomed? Think of a concrete way you might share the Gospel today.


Wednesday, May 2
Memorial of St. Athanasius
Today, the Church remembers St. Athanasius, who was bishop of Alexandria in the fourth century. He is an important figure and doctor of the Church because he staunchly fought against the Arian heresy, which denied Christ’s divinity. He was met with much opposition, but fervently taught the faith, especially the Incarnation.


Thursday, May 3
Feast of Sts. Philip and James
The two Apostles we commemorate today remind us that we are called to holiness. Both were members of the original Twelve who followed Jesus. Through their ministry, they led others to encounter Christ. Philip, as we see in today’s Gospel, took a long time to realize who Jesus was. There is not much known about James the Lesser, but tradition tells us that he is the author of the Letter of James and was the bishop of Jerusalem. Philip and James are the patrons of Uruguay. Honor these saints by praying for Uruguayans.


Friday, May 4
Love One Another
As we near the end of the Easter season, John’s Gospel account reminds us that Jesus’ death was the ultimate gift of love. Jesus commands his followers to love as he loves. It is not easy to do. Jesus was filled with compassion for the poor and marginalized. He revealed the undying and unbiased love God has for his children. Spend time meditating on Jesus’ words, “Love one another as I have loved you.”


Saturday, May 5
The World
In the Gospel, Jesus states, “You do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.” At Baptism, we were adopted as children of God and belong totally to God. We live in the world and our living helps make known the presence of Christ. As Christians, we are called to be radical witnesses of God’s truth and love. This message, especially when it contradicts worldly ideals, is not always welcome. Make notes of ways you might help foster love with those you encounter.

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.

Thursday, May 10, 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
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 25-29, 2018
9 am—12 Noon

$35/child or $90/family on or before May 31
$45/child or $115/family on or after June 1

All children ages 4 (by 9/1/18) thru completion of 5th Grade are invited to participate. Youth in grades 6-8 are welcome as assistants, and youth in grades 9-12 are welcome as assistants and leaders.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN ALL AREAS!

REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE IN KIOSKS, PARISH OFFICE, and ONLINE at www.stpascals.org

For more information contact Kim Roering at 651-774-1585, ext. 128 or kim.roering@stpascals.org