



ST. PASCAL BAYLON

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 or looking for a parish home, 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 in Brioschi Hall after Mass for hospitality and to find out more.

DECEMBER 23, 2018 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH OFFICE

Pastor

Fr. John Mitchell | john.mitchell@stpascals.org

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Richard Moore | richard.moore@stpascals.org

Business Administrator

Theresa Ruttger | theresa.ruttger@stpascals.org

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Keri Mader | keri.mader@stpascals.org

Pastoral Associate for Music

Sharon Balcom | sharon.balcom@stpascals.org

Pastoral Care Minister

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Communications & Office Manager

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Welcome Desk

Karri Creamer | karri.creamer@stpascals.org

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EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Director

Laurie Jennrich | mslaurie.jennrich@stpascals.org

Administrative Assistant

Andrea Mathison | msandrea.mathison@stpascals.org

PARISH SCHOOL

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Inna Collier | inna.collier@stpascals.org

Advancement Director

Leah Eviston | leah.eviston@stpascals.org

Administrative Assistant

Kaitlyn Baker | kaitlyn.baker@stpascals.org



Art by / Ilustración de Tamar Messer © LTP

Mass Times

Saturday 4:30 PM | Sunday 8:45 & 10:30 AM (ASL) | Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7:30 AM | Wednesday 9:30 AM

1757 Conway Street | Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106 | 651.774.1585

website: www.stpascals.org | email: church@stpascals.org



Merry Christmas

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

On behalf of all of us here at St. Pascal Baylon Parish and School, I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I pray that the joy of Jesus' birth will fill your heart with peace and hope. Jesus was born in our world long ago, but every Christmas gives us an opportunity to enter anew into the joy of the Christmas story. We remember all the difficulties that Joseph and Mary faced during their journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. We hear the good news of great joy that was announced to the shepherds about the birth of our Savior. We imagine the vulnerability of the baby Jesus lying in the manger. Jesus was born into an imperfect world, and today we still live in an imperfect world that includes suffering, violence and pain. At the same time, Christmas reminds us that Jesus chose to enter our world and experience suffering, violence and pain. Each day Jesus shows His love for us through the Sacraments we celebrate, through His real presence in the Eucharist, through the compassion we experience in our parish community, in the Christian service we offer to the poor and needy, and in the beauty of our Church's liturgy filled with Scripture, song, prayer and art. God's love is very real, and Christmas reminds us that Jesus is real. I am grateful to serve as your pastor, and I thank you for all your prayers and support. You are an amazing parish filled with a strong faith, and I pray that this Christmas you will experience once again God's deep love for you.

Update on Bonnie Steele, our Director of Pastoral Ministry. Bonnie is doing well in her recovery from surgery in late October to correct the malformation of an arteriovenous fistula in the area of her head behind her eyes. The surgery went well, and her doctors are pleased with Bonnie's recovery. Bonnie hopes to return to work here at St. Pascal's Church in January, but that will depend on how she does with her occupational therapy, her fatigue level, and the assessment from her doctors. She is resting, praying and recovering, and when she gets impatient with her progress, her doctors remind her, "You had brain surgery! Your recovery is going to take time." Bonnie is grateful for your prayers, and she is praying for all of us, too.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

ISAIAH 9 : 6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Christmas Season

Holy Day Liturgy Schedule

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Monday, December 24: 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM

Tuesday, December 25: 10:00 AM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Monday, December 31: 4:00 PM

Tuesday, January 1: 9:00 AM

Cana Dinner, Save the Date

St. Pascals is joining forces with Blessed Sacrament for a Cana Dinner on Saturday evening February 9. Look for more information in the coming month. We are also looking for a couple of people to be part of the committee for this event. If you are interested contact Deacon Richard, richard.moore@stpascals.org.

Catch The Dream

Gala for St. Mary's Mission: Update

Dear Friends,

St. Mary's Mission would like to take this opportunity to say, "thank you."

The "Catch the Dream" Gala has had six successful years with you, our friends, at St. Pascal's. We will never forget how you all pulled together to come out in the snow and freezing rain to welcome us and make the first Gala a success.

It is with a sad heart that we must move our Gala this year. You helped make it so successful, but we have outgrown the space at St. Pascal's. We hope you will join us as we move over to St. Patrick's, in Edina. They have graciously opened their doors to us, as you had.

Please mark your calendars, for Thursday, April 25, 2019. We will be sending out more information after the first of the year. We will keep in touch, as we finalize the plans, and hopefully many of you will be able to join us for the 7th Annual "Catch the Dream Gala."

Blessings,

Father Jerry, Sister Patrice and Patti Spry

Baptized in Christ

We welcome into our community of faith

Alice Nicole DeGonda
child of Nicholas & Kathryn

Griffin David Reisdorf
child of Joseph & Kara

Penelope Kate Carlton
child of Jared & Ashley

who were recently Baptized in our church.
May God bless these households of faith.

OUR SCHOOL

I am the light of the world; anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark, but will have the light of life.

John 8:12

We are blessed to be part of the St. Pascal Baylon community, and all connections to the school. Thank you for your donations, volunteering, and talents that continue to encourage the children and staff.

Wishing you the blessings of this holy season and best wishes for the coming year.

St. Pascal Baylon Catholic School

2019 Friends & Family

Mark your calendar: The 16th annual St. Pascal's Friends & Family event is Saturday, May 4, 2019.

The Friends and Family event needs lots of stocking stuffers! Though May seems like a long time from now—*now* is the perfect time to get deals on gift cards and the Friends & Family event needs to collect many. Please keep it in mind if you see a deal for gift cards! Gift cards can be dropped in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Friends & Family". Questions call or email Mike Aeling at 651.307.8237 or mjaeling@gmail.com.

Counseling Services at St. Pascal's

Holidays can be wonderful, warm times of personal and family celebration. They can also bring moments of stress, excessive demands on the self and communication challenges. So perhaps 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 and is now at St. Pascal's to see clients every Monday afternoon. Insurance and private fee payment are accepted. If you are interested to see if this would be a good resource for you, please call Jean at 651.321.3445.

Year-End Financial Gifts

As this calendar year quickly comes to a close you may consider a special year-end financial gift to the parish in support of our many ministries and/or to support our mortgage reduction efforts. Last year, we received over 35 special year-end gifts of cash or stock. These gifts are greatly appreciated and certainly encouraged! Remember, all gifts must be received by December 31, 2018 to be considered for the 2018 tax year. Stock transfers and sales do take some time so please take that into consideration as you consider a gift to St. Pascal's. Thank you for your generous consideration.

Please remember to mail or drop your 2019 pledge cards in the collection basket. Our many ministries rely on your continued generosity. Thank you!

FAITH FORMATION

Confirmation I—9th Grade Families

Registration forms for Confirmation I are now past due. Families of 9th graders should have received a mailing in November. If you have a 9th grader and did not receive the mailing, please contact Kim Roering in the parish office. Youth in 9th grade and older who wish to prepare for the sacrament are welcome to be a part of the process.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Early Learning Scholarships

Application process for 2019-20 now open!

The Schulze Early Learning Scholarship Program was created to assist middle-income families in gaining access to excellent preschool programs for their children. The Foundation firmly believes in and supports the strength of the academic experience, the caring community and the spiritual development that is provided by Catholic elementary schools. Scholarships will be awarded ranging from \$500 to \$3000 and will be sent directly to the preschool to pay for tuition.

You are eligible to apply if your child:

- Will be 4 years old by September 1, 2019
- Will be attending St. Pascal's Early Learning Center Pre-Kindergarten program in the fall of 2019-2020 AND
- Will be in their last year of preschool and attending kindergarten the following year (2020-2021)

Your family:

- Is a middle-income family
- Needs this scholarship to be able to enroll your child in St. Pascal's Early Learning Center Pre-K program

Visit schulzefamilyfoundation.org and click on "Early Learning Scholarships" for the Schulze Early Learning Scholarship application. If you have questions, please contact Marla Friederichs at mjfriederichs@schulzefamilyfoundation.org or 952.324.8933.

CONTACT US

Parish Office

Phone 651.774.1585
 Fax 651.774.9152
 Email church@stpascals.org

For after-hours pastoral emergency (death, dying or anointing): Call the parish office.

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Holidays as announced

Early Learning Center

Phone 651.505.2900
 Fax 651.774.9152
 Email mslaurie.jennrich@stpascals.org

ELC Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM

School Office

Phone 651.776.0092
 Fax 651.774.9152
 Email inna.collier@stpascals.org

School Office Hours

Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Parish Councils

Parish Pastoral Council

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

Parish Finance Council

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

Sacramental Information

Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 and by appointment
Communal celebrations as announced

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

Email notices by 3:00 PM Monday to thea.munoz@stpascals.org.

Mass Announcements

Please direct to Keri Mader at keri.mader@stpascals.org by 3:00 PM on Wednesday.

Mass Times & Intentions

Readings
December 23, 2018

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM The people of the parish
10:00 PM The people of the parish

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day

10:00 AM The people of the parish

Wednesday, December 26

9:30 AM + Bernard Vagnoni

Thursday, December 27

7:30 AM + A deceased member of the parish

Friday, December 28

7:30 AM + Jim Brown

Saturday, December 29

4:30 PM + Rosita O'Connell

Sunday, December 30

8:45 AM The people of the parish
10:30 AM The people of the parish

Christmas Blessings

Celebration is an attentive and gracious joy of presence. When you celebrate, you are taking time to recognize, to open your eyes and behold in your life the quiet miracles and gifts that seek no attention; yet each day they nourish, shelter, and animate your life. The art of belonging in, with, and to your self is what gives life and light to your presence; it brings a radiance to your countenance and a poise to your carriage. When your heart is content, your life can always find the path inwards to this deep stillness in you.

—John O'Donohue

Excerpt from ETERNAL ECHOES
Oughterard / Co. Galway --
December 2016

St. Pascal's Legacy Society

Where there is will there is a way—to be an angel for our parish.

Please remember St. Pascal's in your estate planning. Your lawyer can add a simple, inexpensive amendment (codicil) to your will. If you want more information on St. Pascal's Legacy Society, please call Theresa Ruttger at the parish office at 774.1585 or talk to a member of the Legacy Committee—Ellen and Mike Aeling, Susan Hommes, Joe Sullivan, and Brigid O'Malley.

Sunday:

Mi 5:1-4a
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Heb 10:5-10
Lk 1:39-45

Monday:

Day
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29
Lk 1:67-79

Monday:

Christmas Eve

Vigil & Midnight

Is 9:1-6
Ps 96:1-3, 11-13
Ti 2:11-14
Lk 2:1-14

Tuesday:

Christmas Day

Is 62:11-12
Ps 98:1-6
Ti 3:4-7
Lk 2:15-20

Wednesday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Ps 31:3-4, 6-8, 16-17
Mt 10:17-22

Thursday:

1 Jn 1:1-4
Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Friday:

1 Jn 1:5—2:2
Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8
Mt 2:13-18

Saturday:

1 Jn 2:3-11
Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6
Lk 2:22-35

Next Sunday:

The Holy Family
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
Ps 128:1-5
Col 3:12-21
Lk 2:41-52

Sunday, December 23—4th Sunday of Advent

After Masses New Member Registration: BH

Monday, December 24, 2018—Christmas Eve

Parish office closed
3:30pm Lessons & Carols Begin
4:00pm Liturgy
9:30pm Carols Begin
10:00pm Liturgy

Tuesday, December 25—Christmas Day

Parish office closed
9:40am Carols Begin
10:00am Liturgy

Wednesday, December 26, 2018

9:00am Rosary: CH
9:30am Mass (Not a School Mass)

Thursday, December 27, 2018

6:30pm Finance Council: FR

Friday, December 28

No scheduled events

Saturday, December 29

No scheduled events

Sunday, December 30, 2018—Holy Family

No scheduled events

Monday, December 31, 2018

Parish office closed
4:00pm Vigil Mass for Mary Mother of God

Tuesday, January 1, 2019—Mary Mother of God

Holy day of obligation
Parish office closed
9:00am Mass

MEETING LOCATION KEY:

BH: Brioschi Hall, CH: Church, FR: Founders Room

It's not too late for Christmas flowers! The Christmas season continues through the Baptism of the Lord on January 13, 2019.

**REMEMBER SOMEONE IN A SPECIAL WAY
THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON**

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.

I would like to purchase a Christmas plant (circle one)

In Honor of / In Memory of

From:

Thank you for your generosity and care!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The Abundant Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit,
Lord and giver of life,
you spoke through the prophets,
and they foretold the coming of the Savior.
You came upon the young virgin,
and she conceived in her womb the Son
of the Most High.
You gave Elizabeth your gift of knowledge,
and she called Mary “the mother of
my Lord.”
You filled John the Baptist with joy at
the sound of Mary’s greeting,
and he leaped in his mother’s womb.
We, too, desire your transformative
power in our lives.
We ask you to fill us to overflowing
so we may
boldly proclaim the coming of Christ,
give birth to him each day in our hearts,
know his presence in all we meet,
and rejoice in the sure knowledge that
he has come among us.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 23, 2018

The Spirit Speaks through Elizabeth



Today’s Readings: Micah 5:1–4a; Psalm 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19; Hebrews 10:5–10; Luke 1:39–45. When we meet Elizabeth in today’s Gospel, she is caught up in astonishing events. She is carrying a child in her old age while her husband, Zechariah, has been rendered mute after questioning an angel who gave him a message that the child would be conceived.

When her relative from Nazareth comes for a visit, Elizabeth grasps that something even greater is now happening. Her baby leaps in her womb; and Elizabeth, bursting with the Holy Spirit, knows at once the news that Mary has come to tell her. She is overwhelmed that her relative has been chosen to bring to birth the promised Messiah, and she recognizes God’s abundant blessing in both Mary and this child.

Mary, who had shared the news from the angel Gabriel with Joseph alone, now hears Elizabeth’s words echoing the words of the angel. Gabriel had called Mary “favored one”; Elizabeth calls her “blessed among women.” The angel had said the child to be born would be “holy, the Son of God”; Elizabeth calls him “Lord” (Luke 1:35).

Both Gabriel and Elizabeth echo Micah’s long-ago prophecy of the Messiah: “his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth: he shall be peace.”

With Christmas nearly here, let us welcome Christ into our hearts with the same joy that Elizabeth did, and pledge to be instruments of his peace in our families and our world.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, December 24

Giver of All Gifts

Our gifts are bought and ready to be presented to loved ones. David, too, wants to give a gift—a house for God. God reminds David that God is the giver of all gifts, that all David has is from him. God shows his generosity by promising David a different kind of “house”—a kingship through his descendants that will last forever. Jesus, King over all peoples, fulfills the promise. We give thanks for God’s extravagant gift of his Son. *Today’s Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Luke 1:67–79.*

Tuesday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

Finally the waiting is over and we celebrate the birth of Jesus. When you place the image of the Infant Jesus in the manger of your crèche, remember this is no ordinary child! Jesus, the Word, was present in the beginning; and the world was created through him. “And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” How blessed we are that our God desires to dwell with us. Let us rejoice that Emmanuel—God with us—is born! *Today’s Readings (Mass during the Day): Isaiah 52:7–10; Psalm 98:1, 2–3, 3–4, 5–6; Hebrews 1:1–6; John 1:1–18.*

Wednesday, December 26

St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Even as the Church joyfully celebrates the birth of Jesus for three more weeks, the feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr, refocuses us on the cost of discipleship. Stephen, a deacon in the early Church, was stoned by a mob while preaching the Gospel. With his dying breath, he begged God to forgive his killers. What is the cost of discipleship for us? Do you need to forgive someone who has wronged you? *Today’s Readings: Acts 6:8–10, 7:54–59; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Matthew 10:17–22.*

Thursday, December 27

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

John and his brother James were fishermen who abandoned their nets and their father when Jesus called them to follow him. Although the authorship of the Gospel of John has been debated since AD 200, many Church fathers have attributed it to the Apostle John. The “beloved disciple” mentioned several times is believed to be John himself, who rested on Jesus’ breast during the Last Supper, remained with him at the Cross, and “saw and believed” at the empty tomb. *Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:1–4; Psalm 97:1–2, 5–6, 11–12; John 20:1a, 2–8.*

Friday, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Today we remember the boys Herod slaughters when he learns that Jesus, the “newborn king,” has escaped his grasp. He cannot abide a rival king even though his own people are joyful at Jesus’ birth. When we believe someone has taken something that is rightfully ours, we too can become enraged. What a different response Jesus counsels—to turn the other cheek! *Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:5–2:2; Psalm 124:2–3, 4–5, 7b–8; Matthew 2:13–18.*

Saturday, December 29

Living in the Light of Christ

John juxtaposes light and darkness to compare our words with our deeds: “Whoever says he is in the light, yet hates his brother, is still in the darkness.” The Church continues to celebrate this holy Christmas Time; lights still brighten our homes and yards to welcome Christ, our Light. But do we truly live in the light? The test given by John is whether we harbor hatred for anyone. It is never too late to request or give forgiveness, to give up a grudge, to reconcile with another. Only then will we truly live in the light of Christ, whose forgiveness and mercy toward us have no bounds. *Today’s Readings: 1 John 2:3–11; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2b–3, 5b–6; Luke 2:22–35.*





2019-2020 K-8 Registration Open

Whether your child is just starting school or currently enrolled at another school, we would like you to consider St. Pascal Baylon Catholic School for the 2019-2020 school year.

Mission: St. Pascal is a school of excellence in the East Metro where our students' lives are transformed in a Catholic, faith-centered environment focused on innovation, service to our community and the cultivation of each student's potential.

At the center of our success is our **greatest asset – our teachers**. These professionals bring to the classroom the highest degree of skill, commitment and caring.

St. Pascal Baylon Catholic School is **Thriving** in our commitment to our students:

- Small class sizes with large classroom space
- Large STEM Innovation room with 3-D Printing
- Individualized student attention
- Before and After School Care
- Reinforcing Catholic Identity:

Grade level commitments:

Kindergarten: Love	1 st Grade: Kindness	2 nd Grade: Faith
3 rd Grade: Compassion	4 th Grade: Gentleness / Patience	5 th Grade: Justice / Humility
6 th Grade: Hope / Humility	7 th Grade: Temperance / Humility	8 th Grade: Fortitude/ Humility

All school virtue: Prudence

Our small class sizes and academic excellence make St. Pascal Baylon Catholic School stand out among other schools in the area. We would like you to come and see the difference St. Pascal Baylon Catholic School can make in your child's life.

Open Houses

January 10, 2019	Preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten; 4-6 pm
January 27, 2019	All School; 9:30-11 am

www.stpascalschool.org



Priority Registration and Incentives 2019-2020 Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten

St. Pascal's Early Learning Center is offering PRIORITY REGISTRATION to all current and/or new children registering for Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year. And, a spectacular incentive for all who register BY **JANUARY 10, 2019!**

**Our Early Learning Center has a Parent Aware 4-Star rating...
the highest attainable! Visit ParentAware.org for an application.**

In addition, the Schulze Family Foundation has created the Schulze Early Learning Scholarship Program to assist middle-income families in gaining access to excellent pre-Kindergarten programs for their children. The Schulze Early Learning Scholarship application is online at schulzefamilyfoundation.org and click on Early Learning Scholarships for 2019-2020. *ONLY available for 4-year old children in Pre-K.

What is priority registration?

This is a special opportunity to register early and save a spot in our Early Learning Center program. Online registration for 2019-2020 school year is available now. We have enjoyed getting to know many of you and look forward to having you all back next year! There are many new families waiting to join our Mighty Knight family but there are limited spots to fill.

What are early registration incentives?

Preschool and Pre-K families registered by **Thursday, January 10** will receive TWENTY (20) HOURS FREE Extended Day Care (a \$100 value); or \$100 off their first month's tuition. Your choice!

How to register for next year?

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

Current families: The TADS registration portal opens Friday, December 14th. Sign-on to your TADS account and select enrollment under the 2019-2020 school year. After registering your child for Pre-K, you may also add younger siblings who are eligible for preschool (33 months). Add younger siblings as a new student and complete an admissions application to start the process. \$50.00 registration fee per child.

New families: Go to www.stpascalschool.org - Admissions - Choose Preschool/PreK.

Click on the 2019-2020 school year and create an account (be sure to remember your password!) Complete the Admissions steps. Preschool and PreK families choose option and number of days attending. Preschool offers a half-day (9:00 - 12:30) and a full day (9:00 - 3:30) program. The PreK program is a full day kindergarten readiness program (9:00 - 3:30). \$50.00 registration fee per child.

We'll look forward to seeing you at the Open House on Thursday, January 10 from 4:00-6:00 pm. It's a great opportunity to meet our Preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers and for your child to see their new classroom!