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.
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The Season of Advent has a twofold character: “as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s first coming to us is remembered and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation” (General Norms for the Liturgical Year, paragraph 39). The four weeks of Advent help us to focus our lives on Jesus and fill up our hearts with joyful expectation of His return at the end of time. None of us knows when Christ’s Second Coming will happen, but we do not fear the Second Coming because Jesus said: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am, you also may be” (John 14:1-3).

Disciple Maker Index Survey Coming in February 2020. Our parish and all parishes in the Archdiocese will have the opportunity to participate in the Catholic Leadership Institute’s Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey in February. Archbishop Hebda has requested that all parishes engage their parishioners in the DMI Survey as part of the Archdiocesan Synod preparation process. The DMI Survey consists of 70 questions and takes 10-15 minutes to complete. It will be offered on-line and in paper form. Parishes will advertise the DMI Survey, and the Catholic Leadership Institute will do all the processing and will provide the results to all parishes. The survey asks parishioners to reflect on their own spiritual growth and identify the ways in which their parish effectively supports that growth. The survey results will be valuable for all parishes as they seek ways to best support everyone in their discipleship journey. The survey results will also be supplementary information for the Archbishop as he discerns what focus areas to select this Spring for parish small group discussion in Fall 2020 as part of the Archdiocesan Synod preparation. Stay tuned for more information about the Disciple Maker Index Survey here at St. Pascal Baylon Parish.

God Bless You,
Father John Mitchell

Advent Reconciliation
Regional School & Parish Reconciliation
Friday, December 13 at 9:25 am
All are welcome as we celebrate God’s love and forgiveness. A number of priests will be available to hear individual confessions. A social will follow in Brioschi Hall.

Can You Help?
We are in need of people to provide cookies and bars for the Advent Evening of Reflection on Monday, December 9. Volunteers are also needed to help with set up, serving, and clean up. If you are able to assist with any of this, please contact Kim Roering in the parish office.

Immaculate Conception
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on Monday, December 9, at 8:00 AM. This feast is not a holy day of obligation this year.

Christmas Season
Holy Day Liturgy Schedule
Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
Tuesday, December 24:
4:00 PM (no incense) & 10:00 PM
Wednesday, December 25:
10:00 AM
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Tuesday, December 31:
4:00 PM
Wednesday, January 1:
9:00 AM

JustFaith Catholic
This fall two small groups have been meeting as a part of JustFaith Catholic Phase One, with a focus on “Journey to Compassion.” Phase Two—“Journey to Justice”—will begin at the end of January. Through its focus on the U.S. criminal justice system and income inequality, Phase Two challenges participants to revisit how our faith informs our responsibility to each other. One can join Phase Two even if they did not participate in Phase One. JustFaith Catholic at St. Pascal’s is sponsored by the Social Justice and Caring Committee and the Adult Faith Formation Committee. Watch the bulletin and website for more information about Phase Two or contact Ann Karner at 651.330.0024.

Archdiocesan Synod 2021
Wondering how you can participate in the Synod?
- Please pray for the Synod and our Archdiocese
- Pray the pre-synod prayer and the monthly prayer intention
- Year 1 (2019-2020): Attend one of the 20 prayer and listening events
- Year 2 (Fall 2020): Join a parish small group

Learn more at www.archspm.org/synod

Young at Heart Mass & Luncheon
Early Meeting: Thursday, December 12 at 11:00 AM in the Church and Brioschi Hall
We will begin with Fr. John celebrating the Eucharist with us. Our meal will be Marsala Chicken for which we will ask a $10.00 donation payable on the day of the meeting. The entertainment will be The Banjo Variety Band, four men with eight instruments. Please RSVP by Monday, December 9 to Betty Hensel at 651.714.8958 or bjhen@q.com or Barb Kendle 651.738.3799. We look forward to seeing you. Bring your friends for a good time!

Coming to St. Pascal’s in 2020—Mark your calendar!
Our 10th Taste of St. Pascal Potluck Dinner
Sunday, February 23 from 4:00-6:00 PM in Brioschi Hall
Watch the bulletin for more information in the coming weeks.
Contact Toni Baker at 651.731.7763 or toni@bakers.us if you can help with entertainment, set up (3:00-4:00 PM), serving or clean up (6:00-7:00 PM).

2020 Friends and Family Event: The 2nd Running of “Off to the Races”
Saturday, April 18, 2020 in Brioschi Hall
Now all we need is YOU! We would like everyone there to make this a success. We need your help to run all the games, dessert auction, registration, selling tickets and more. If you would like to help in the planning or help on the day of the event, please let us know.

As you are picking up items for your Christmas shopping, please consider picking up a gift card or two for this event. We use lots of gift cards for prizes and for the games.
Mike Aeling 651.307.8237 or mjaeling@gmail.com
Ellen Aeling 651.307.8241 or ellenoaeling@gmail.com
Advent blessings from St. Pascal Regional Catholic School! We have had another busy and exciting week at school. Did you know that there is a very special feast happening during the next week? This feast day would be a wonderful time to offer prayers.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe—December 12

In the year 1531, Mary appeared to an Aztec Indian named Juan Diego. Juan saw the Mother of God dressed as an Aztec princess. She promised to help all who call on her. The vision of Mary’s message brought faith and comfort to the Aztec people, who had been treated with great cruelty by some of the Spanish explorers. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patron of Mexico, and on this day she is honored throughout the Americas.

There will be recognition during the School Mass on December 11, with a short program and refreshments afterward in Briscoii Hall. Please join us! We look forward to celebrating with you and the students.

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 many 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 to be considered for the 2019 tax year. Should you consider a gift to St. Pascal’s, please remember that stock transfers and sales do take some time. Thank you for your generous consideration.

Each of us is called to be a good steward of what God has given. We are caretakers of what God has given to us—we don’t own it and we won’t have it forever. We don’t earn any of these things—God bestows them abundantly upon us.

Fr. John Mitchell

Confirmation Preparation for 9th Grade Families

Recently a mailing was sent to families of 9th graders regarding registration for confirmation. 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. Registration forms are due December 16.

St. Pascal’s Women’s Book Salon Holiday Gathering

Monday, December 9 at 6:30 PM

The ladies will share some Christmas goodies and a discussion of Shepherds Abiding by Jan Karon. All parish women are invited to join the group for its monthly discussions. We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Founders Room. Contact Toni Baker at 651.731.7763 or toni@bakers.us for a list of the 2020 selections or for more information. Make a New Year’s resolution to join the group on January 13 and get yourself reading. Feel free to start early by coming this month!

Emergency Food Help

Progressive Baptist Church, 1505 Burns Ave.

If you or neighbors you know are in need of emergency food items, all are welcome to visit the food shelf on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 PM for a variety of nourishing items. No residency or parish membership requirements.

Winter Came—It’s Time to Review Winter Weather and Office Closure

On days when the St. Paul Public School District closes city schools due to weather, St. Pascal Regional Catholic School close its school as well. When this happens, all school and parish activities and meetings will be cancelled. The building may also be closed at the discretion of the pastor or business administrator. Daily Mass will be offered on weather-related days provided that the pastor can get to the church.

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St. Pascal’s Men’s Club Christmas Tree Lot—Celebrating 50 Years!

Now through December 23 or until sold out

We’re a one-stop shop with tree stands, tree bags plus swags & wreaths. Check out our excellent selection of Fraser fir, balsam fir, Scotch pine, and white pine trees. No truck? No worries—we will tie the tree on your car for you! 100% of all proceeds go right back to St. Pascal’s parish and St. Pascal’s Regional School. Sale hours are:

Monday through Friday from 3:00-9:00 PM
Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM

No worries—we will tie the tree on your car for you! 100% of all proceeds go right back to St. Pascal’s parish and St. Pascal’s Regional School. Sale hours are:

Monday through Friday from 3:00-9:00 PM
Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Parish Office

Phone 651.774.1585
Email church@stpascals.org
For after-hours pastoral emergency (death, dying or anointing): Call the parish office.

Parish Office Hours

September 3, 2019- June 5, 2020
Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Holidays as announced

Parish Councils

Parish Pastoral Council
Meetings 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM
Mary Weyandt, Chair

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

St. Pascal Regional Catholic School
Phone 651.776.0092
Email icollierpaske@stpascalschool.org

School Office Hours

September 3, 2019- June 5, 2020
Mon-Fri 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Sacramental Information

Reconciliation
Saturday at 3:45 PM (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
Mary Butler-Levine
651.735.0004
4:00 - 6:00 PM
Pat Ackman
651.774.3248

Parish Communication

Bulletin Notices
Due 3:00 PM Monday
thea.munoz@stpascals.org

Mass Announcements
Due 3:00 PM Tuesday
keri.mader@stpascals.org

Like, follow & share us on Facebook:
St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church
### Mass Times & Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, December 09</strong></td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>The people of the parish</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Women's Club</td>
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<td>The people of the parish</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, December 15</strong></td>
<td>8:45 AM</td>
<td>A deceased member of the parish</td>
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<td>Monday, December 09</td>
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### THE WEEK AHEAD

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

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<tr>
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<td>Sunday, December 08—2nd Sunday of Advent</td>
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### Readings

**Sunday:**

*Immaculate Conception*

- Is 11:1-10
- Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
- Rom 15:4-9
- Mt 3:1-12

**Monday:**

- Gn 3:9-15, 20
- Ps 98:1-4
- Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
- Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:**

- Is 40:1-11
- Ps 96:1-3, 10-13
- Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday:**

- Is 40:25-31
- Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10
- Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:**

- Zac 2:14-17
- (Ps) Jdt13:18bc,19
- Lk 1:26-38

**Friday:**

- Is 48:17-19
- Ps 1:1-4, 6
- Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:**

- Sir 48:1-4, 9-11
- Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
- Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Next Sunday:**

- Is 35:1-6a, 10
- Ps 146:6-10
- Jas 5:7-10
- Mt 11:2-11

### Heart Questions

**Our Need to Change**

[John the Baptist] is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Matthew 3:3

**Adults:** What can you change so that others can observe in you that Christ walks among us?

**Kids:** How can you show others what it means to follow Jesus?

### Stewardship of Giving

**Financials for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Collection</strong></td>
<td><strong>62,456.61</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budgeted</strong></td>
<td><strong>68,337.51</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Variance</strong></td>
<td><strong>-5,880.90</strong> (-8.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YTD Sunday Giving</strong></td>
<td><strong>231,297.76</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budgeted</strong></td>
<td><strong>273,349.92</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Variance</strong></td>
<td><strong>-42,052.16</strong> (-15%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mortgage**

| Loan Balance (11/15/19) | **3,508,283.99** |
| Payment                 | **24,389.84**    |

Thank you for your support!
John the Baptist warned people to change their lives or be excluded from God's kingdom. His water ritual was a way for people to show that they believed him, but it wasn’t the only sign they were to give. When some Jewish religious leaders said they wanted to be baptized, John demanded that they prove it. These leaders thought that, simply because they were Jewish, God would include them in his kingdom.

We cannot claim that our Christian Baptism guarantees us a place in God's kingdom, either. In the Second Reading, St. Paul makes it clear that although God has extended salvation to all, both Jews and Gentiles must treat one another with patience, mercy, and love. Everyone who wants to live in a world without violence or pain, danger or devastation, must surrender to God’s Spirit, just as Jesus did.

Sometimes we think of Advent as a season of waiting for God, but John the Baptist reminds us that God is waiting for us, too. God waits for us to blossom into holiness, to spring up with deeds of love. If we don’t get busy preparing for God’s arrival, “the ax lies at the root of the trees.” But if we demonstrate our sincere desire to turn toward the Lord, we become signs for others to follow. And then, with Christ in our midst, “the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord” and God’s kingdom “shall be glorious.”
**THIS WEEK AT HOME**

**Monday, December 9**  
**Immaculate Conception**  
It is impossible for us to prevent sin from passing into the next generation. We see how quickly children imitate us and our sins. In the dogma of Mary’s Immaculate Conception, we celebrate a moment in which God kept someone free from sin so that she could be mother to the sinless Son of God. This perfect Son, who came into our world as an infant, gives us hope that one day our children will perfectly imitate our Savior. Ask God to forgive you for a time that a child saw or heard you act sinfully. *Today’s Readings: Genesis 3:9–20; Psalm 98:1–4; Ephesians 1:3–12; Luke 1:26–38.*

**Tuesday, December 10**  
**Shepherding the Lost**  
Jesus offered consolation and forgiveness instead of immediate condemnation. He looked upon God’s people differently than they looked upon themselves. Where some saw only hopeless sinners, Jesus saw people who yearned to be led back to God. Show that you are ready for God to find you by asking someone for forgiveness and by letting go of a grudge. *Today’s Readings: Isaiah 40:1–11; Psalm 96:1–3, 10–13; Matthew 18:12–14.*

**Wednesday, December 11**  
**Burdens**  
God helps us carry our burdens. He lifts us up when our bodies drag us down. He yokes himself beside us in the person of his Son. We must, therefore, ask ourselves what burdens we ought to carry and what loads we can set down. Our arms might be full of things we do not need to hold onto. Check your Christmas to-do list, and cross off anything that doesn’t truly help you and others prepare to celebrate the gift of God’s Son. *Today’s Readings: Isaiah 40:25–31; Psalm 103:1–10; Matthew 11:28–30.*

**Thursday, December 12**  
**The Faces of Grace**  
The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrates Mary’s appearance to Juan Diego, an appearance that inspired thousands to convert to Christianity. Many have venerated since childhood the image of Mary that was revealed to Juan Diego. We rejoice that God makes himself known across cultures and languages. Pray with an image of Mary or Jesus from a different part of the world, and reflect on God’s love for all people, everywhere. *Today’s Readings: Zechariah 2:14–17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26–38 or Luke 1:39–47.*

**Friday, December 13**  
**Expectations**  
Sometimes we refuse to see God at work. We dismiss a teaching or invitation from God because it doesn’t fit our expectations of how God should act. We might even think it is foolish. Jesus insists that what seems silly to us is wise to God. It seemed absurd that God would become human, yet that’s exactly what happened. God’s way is difficult for us to accept, but it is the only way for us to become one with God who came to be one with us. Make a list of things you expect from God, and surrender that list in prayer. *Today’s Readings: Isaiah 48:17–19; Psalm 1:1–6; Matthew 11:16–19.*

**Saturday, December 14**  
**Turn**  
We read in 2 Kings 2:11 that the prophet Elijah was taken up to heaven. In the centuries that followed, people came to believe that Elijah would return to prepare people for the day of judgment and a new era. The most significant similarity between Elijah and John the Baptist was that both devoted themselves to turning people back to God. In this season of preparation, the words of Elijah and John echo in our ears. Participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Acknowledge the ways you have turned away from God, and renew your efforts to turn back to him. *Today’s Readings: Sirach 48:1–11; Psalm 80:1–19; Matthew 17:9–13.*
Women’s Club Annual Christmas Bake Sale December 14-15
We need Bakers and buyers with a sweet tooth!
Visit us in Brioschi Hall after all Masses!

Drop off baked goods before all masses or leave in Brioschi Hall Kitchen.