



**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.

**DECEMBER 6, 2020 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



***When we wander off, you seek us out and lead us back.  
Guide us onto the right path.***

**Mass Times**

Saturday 4:30 PM | Sunday 8:45 & 10:30 AM (ASL) | Tuesday - Friday 8:00 AM

1757 Conway Street | Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106 | 651.774.1585

website: [www.stpascals.org](http://www.stpascals.org) | email: [church@stpascals.org](mailto:church@stpascals.org)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

### Free Virtual Bingo Night! Friday, December 18 from 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

Add fun to your winter evening by joining us for six games of Bingo via Zoom, free of charge. Register with a convenient link to SignUp Genius at [stpascals.org/parish-news](http://stpascals.org/parish-news). Or you can register by calling our parish office (651.774.1585) by December 14. Each participant will receive two bingo cards that you can use for all six Bingo games. We will send a digital version of your Bingo cards to you via e-mail, and you can print the cards from your printer. If you do not have a printer, do not worry. Call the parish office by December 14, and we will send your Bingo cards to you through the regular mail. Deadline to register for mailed-out cards: December 14. Deadline to register for e-mailed cards: December 18 at 12 noon. If you do not have a computer, tablet or smart phone, you can play Virtual Bingo using a regular phone by dialing into the pre-assigned meeting phone number and passcode. Call the parish office for more details. All ages can play. Win a fun prize and see your parish friends on the Zoom screen. Prizes include gift cards, beverages and more.

### Our parish is participating in the Catholic Charities Annual Giving Tree.

Gift items include clothing, housewares, personal items and toys. Take a tag from the Giving Tree in the Gathering Space or go to the Advent/Christmas page on the parish website for a convenient link to the Wish List.

**Step 1:** Select an item(s) from the Giving Tree list.

**Step 2:** Shop for your selected gift(s) online or at your favorite store.

**Step 3:** Drop off your unwrapped gift at one of the locations listed below:

#### Mall of America North Parking Lot

60 E. Broadway, Bloomington, MN 55425

Friday, December 18 – Sunday, December 20 (10:00 AM - 4:00 PM)

#### Catholic Charities Administrative Center

1200 2nd Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55403

Monday - Friday (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)

#### Catholic Charities Distribution Center

341 Chester St., Saint Paul, MN 55107

Monday - Friday (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)

*You can also purchase your gift(s) online and ship your gifts to:*

*341 Chester St., Saint Paul, MN 55107*

#### St. Pascal Baylon Church

1757 Conway St., Saint Paul, MN 55106

Please drop off your gift(s) before December 25.

*The Giving Tree bin is located inside the Main Church doors (Door #3).*

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

## Sign up for our Christmas Liturgies!

**Thursday, December 2 at 4:00 PM**

**Friday, December 25 at 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

Everyone is strongly encouraged to sign up in advance for our Christmas Masses. Because we need to know how many people to expect, we will give priority seating in the church to those who are signed up in advance. Walk-ins will be seated in Brioschi Hall unless it is determined that extra space is available in the church.

You may sign up online through our website or phone the parish office at 651.774.1585 to reserve your spot. Each household must sign up separately, so if you are expecting guests for the holiday, please have each household sign up separately. Sign-ups will close at 3:00 PM on December 23.

The 4:00 PM and 10:30 AM Masses will be livestreamed beginning at 3:45 PM and 10:15 AM respectively. These can be accessed through our website or the St. Pascal's YouTube channel.

## Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on *Tuesday, December 8, at 8:00 AM*. Because of the COVID-19 situation, there will be NO evening Mass, but the morning Mass will be livestreamed and available for viewing on the parish YouTube channel. For a convenient link, visit [stpascals.org](http://stpascals.org) and click the "Livestream" button.

## Winter Clothing Needed

*"Lord, when did we see you naked and we gave you no clothing?"*

People who lack appropriate housing this winter (including those living in tents) are in desperate need of warm clothing including jackets, hats, gloves, mittens, boots, warm socks, etc. Progressive Baptist Church is collecting items on the following two weeks:

*Fridays: December 4 & 18— 9:30-10:30 AM*

*Saturdays: December 5 & 19 — 9:00-10:00 AM*

Items can be dropped off only during those times at Progressive Baptist Church, 1505 Burns Avenue—just blocks from St. Pascal's. ABSOLUTELY NO DONATIONS ARE TO BE LEFT AT ST. PASCALS.

*Respecting the dignity of others, please donate only items you yourself would wear.*

## Women's Club News

***Oh, how we wish we were signing up for our annual Christmas Party!***

It is not too late to send in your dues for the year. Dues are only \$10 and can be sent to the parish office (clearly marked for Women's Club), or put it in an envelope (clearly marked for Women's Club) in the Sunday collection.

Thank you to those who supported our Christmas Poinsettia Sale. Many plants were donated to the residents of the Marian Center. We hope to have a Spring Plant Sale also. If you would like to join the Women's Club Board (we meet via Zoom), please contact president Cindy Reisdorf at [jjreisdorf00@msn.com](mailto:jjreisdorf00@msn.com).

## 2021 Church Calendars

The complimentary calendars will arrive before Christmas. We apologize for the delay. This year our calendar is sponsored by The Catholic Cemeteries of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and we thank them for their generous sponsorship. The calendars are being printed through Catholic Extension.

## — In Christ We Live Forever —

Please remember in your prayers...

*Florence Horky*

who was recently buried from our church. We extend our sincere sympathy to her family and friends, and pray for her soul's eternal peace.

— REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS —

**St. Pascal Regional Catholic School:  
*The Ultimate Question Survey***

We invite members of the St. Pascal Baylon parish community to participate in The Ultimate Question Survey to rate St. Pascal Regional Catholic School. This survey will help us gather opinions and input about how well St. Pascal Regional is doing this year.

There is a rating process between 1-10, and also the opportunity to share ideas for improvement as well as share comments on what is working well.

Thank you for helping us continue to strive for excellence in all that we do.

To take the survey in English, please use this link: <https://bit.ly/SPRCSult>

Para realizar la encuesta en español, utilice este enlace: <https://bit.ly/ESPult>

**St. Pascal's Women's Book Club**

***Have you ever thought about coming to the St. Pascal's Women's Book Club?***

In non-COVID times, we meet at St. Pascal's at 6:30 PM on the 2nd Monday of each month. But for now, we are ZOOMing to you in your home! Same time! Log in as often as your schedule allows.

On December 14, we will discuss Wally Lamb's *Wishin and Hopin*. All parish women are invited to join the group for its monthly discussions.

For more information, a list of the 2021 selections and log in, contact Toni Baker at 651.731.7763 or [toni@bakers.us](mailto:toni@bakers.us). Make a New Year's resolution to join the group on January 11 and get yourself reading. Start your 2021 resolution early and log in to ZOOM this month!

**From the Archdiocese—*Consecration to St. Joseph***

The formal opening to the Archdiocesan Year of St. Joseph takes place on Tuesday, December 8 (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception), 7:00 PM at the Cathedral of Saint Paul. COVID-19 protocols will be observed for those in attendance, and the event will be livestreamed. During the Mass, Archbishop Hebda will offer a special prayer consecrating the Archdiocese to St. Joseph as preparations for Synod 2022 continue. For more information about the Year of St. Joseph go to [www.archspm.org/synod/stjoseph/](http://www.archspm.org/synod/stjoseph/)

**St. Pascal's Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot—Celebrating 51 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 Regional Catholic School. Sale hours are:

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

*COVID-19 policies are in effect.*

— FAITH FORMATION —

As a parish staff, we continue to monitor the guidance from the Center for Disease Control and the Minnesota Department of Health. Out of an abundance of caution as COVID-19 numbers continue to rise and Minnesotans are being encouraged to stay close to home and limit gatherings, Fr. John and I have made the following decisions regarding faith formation and sacrament preparation:

1. Wednesday Faith Formation sessions will continue to take place at home for the remainder of the academic year. Lesson overviews and additional materials will be sent out to families before January 1. Zoom opportunities will also be offered.
2. The celebration of First Reconciliation, originally scheduled for December 1, was cancelled. Opportunities for those who have been preparing to celebrate will be offered after January 1.
3. First Eucharist preparation sessions are set to take place via Zoom. We will decide closer to the time if sessions can be done safely in person. These begin in February.
4. Confirmation II sessions are now taking place via Zoom, and the celebration of the sacrament will take place at the parish on February 6. (Confirmation celebrations at the Cathedral have been cancelled through Easter.) Confirmation I sessions for 9th graders beginning in January will be via Zoom to start.
5. RCIA sessions are taking place via Zoom through at least December.

Kim Roering  
Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

C O N T A C T U S

**Parish Office**

Phone 651.774.1585  
Email [church@stpascals.org](mailto:church@stpascals.org)

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

**Parish Office Hours**

Mon-Fri 9:00 AM - 3:00 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  
*Mike Aeling, Chair*

**St. Pascal  
Regional Catholic School**

Phone 651.776.0092  
Email [icollierpaske@stpascalschool.org](mailto:icollierpaske@stpascalschool.org)

**School Office Hours**

Mon-Fri 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Sacramental Information**

**Reconciliation**

Saturday from 4:00-4:15 PM  
or contact Fr. John in the parish office  
*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**

Due 3:00 PM Monday  
[thea.munoz@stpascals.org](mailto:thea.munoz@stpascals.org)

**Mass Announcements**

Due 3:00 PM Tuesday  
[keri.mader@stpascals.org](mailto:keri.mader@stpascals.org)

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*St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church*

**Mass Times & Intentions**

**Readings**  
December 6, 2020

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Tuesday, December 08**

*Immaculate Conception*

8:00 AM The people of the parish

**Wednesday, December 09**

8:00 AM Women's Club

**Thursday, December 10**

8:00 AM The people of the parish

**Friday, December 11**

8:00 AM The people of the parish

**Saturday, December 12**

4:30 PM + Jim Stach

**Sunday, December 13**

8:45 AM + Larry & Rosemary Hall

10:30 AM The people of the parish

**Young at Heart**

***Pray the Rosary!***

On Thursday, December 17 and on the 4th Thursday of the coming months, we encourage you pray the rosary at noon wherever you are. This will unite us in spirit. With Our Blessed Mother on our side, we will eventually meet in person for our Young at Heart meetings. Until then, let us be united in prayer on the 4th Thursday in the coming months.

For more information, please contact Betty Hensel at 651.714.8958 or [bjhensel@comcast.net](mailto:bjhensel@comcast.net).

**Sunday:**

Is 40:1-5, 9-11

Ps 85:9-14

2 Pt 3:8-14

Mk 1:1-8

**Monday:**

Is 35:1-10

Ps 85:9ab, 10-14

Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday:**

Gn 3:9-15, 20

Ps 98:1-4

Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

Lk 1:26-38

**Wednesday:**

Is 40:25-31

Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10

Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:**

Is 41:13-20

Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13b

Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:**

Is 48:17-19

Ps 1:1-4, 6

Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:**

Zec 2:14-17

Jdt 13:18bcde, 19

Lk 1:26-38

**Next Sunday:**

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11

(Ps) Lk 1:46-54

1 Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

St. Pascal's is committed to help you to navigate through the upcoming weeks of COVID-19 safety measures. We have cutback programs and community gatherings in an effort to keep all in our community healthy and safe. Visit [www.stpascals.org](http://www.stpascals.org) for more information and for the status of upcoming parish meetings and events.

**Sunday, December 6—2nd Sunday of Advent**

9:00 AM Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot Open: Conway Lot

12:00 PM Confirmation II: Zoom

**Monday, December 7 - Friday December 11**

3:00 PM Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot Open: Conway Lot

**Monday, December 7**

No scheduled events

**Tuesday, December 8—The Immaculate Conception**

8:00am Holy Day Mass: Church & Livestream

6:30pm JustFaith-Zoom

**Wednesday, December 9**

11:00am Rosary: Church

6:30pm RCIA-Zoom

6:30pm Faith Formation: At-home session

6:30pm Advent Evening of Reflection: Church & Livestream

**Thursday, December 10**

7:00pm Men's Club Membership meeting-TBD

**Friday, December 11**

No scheduled events

**Saturday, December 12**

9:00 AM Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot Open: Conway Lot

**Sunday, December 13—3rd Sunday of Advent**

9:00 AM Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot Open: Conway Lot

**Prayer for the Second Week of Advent**

*God desiring to always be with us, encourage me to prepare the world for you in its good times and its challenging times.*

—Janet Schaeffler, OP, *Miracles Abound (Advent 2020)*

**Living Faith Booklets**

A limited number of Living Faith booklets for January - March 2021 are available in the parish office. If you would like one mailed to you, please contact the parish office at [church@stpascals.org](mailto:church@stpascals.org) or 651.774.1585.

**Stewardship of Giving**

*Financials for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021*

**October 2020**

Sunday Giving	\$	58,343.50
Budget	\$	<u>65,697.92</u>
Surplus	\$	-7,354.42

**Year to Date**

Sunday Giving	\$	226,677.77
Budget	\$	<u>262,791.64</u>
Deficit	\$	-36,113.87

**Mortgage Balance**

(as of 11/7/2020)	\$	3,323,928.07
Principal Paid	\$	12,180.61
Interest Paid	\$	<u>12,209.23</u>
Total Payment	\$	24,389.84

*Many thanks to all for helping us put a dent in the budget deficit. We are doing everything possible to watch expenses while maintaining our presence in the community; through worship, education, and outreach.*

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

Make a donation (any amount) to honor or remember 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. Funds will be used for flowers and other liturgical needs for the church.

*I would like to make a donation (circle one)*

In Honor of / In Memory of

From:

***Thank you for your generosity and care!***

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## The Path

God of power and might,  
you sent the prophets Elijah, Isaiah,  
and John the Baptist  
to call your people to the path  
of righteousness.  
When we wander off,  
you seek us out and lead us back.  
Guide us onto the right path.  
Remove the obstacles that block our way.

Strengthen us to continue forward in faith  
and hope.  
Protect us from all that endangers us.  
Compel us to support each other when  
we stumble or falter.  
Help us to walk the path of holiness more  
quickly every day  
until we are running with joy into  
your kingdom.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, December 6, 2020**

**Hasten the Day**



*Today's Readings: Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11; Psalm 85:9–10, 11–12, 13–14; 2 Peter 3:8–14; Mark 1:1–8.* All three readings today urge us to participate in the completion of God's reign. God tells Isaiah to speak words of consolation. God's people had sinned, and as a result they had been defeated by a foreign nation and scattered from their homeland. God declares that he has forgiven them and is bringing them safely back. The glorious restoration of God's people, however, will only be possible if they turn back to God and undertake the journey home.

John the Baptist declares that the Lord's day is coming whether people want it to or not, but he also insists that people can prepare themselves for it. They can acknowledge

their sins so as to receive God's mercy and be empowered by God's Spirit when the Lord comes.

Remarkably, in our Second Reading, we are told not only to prepare, but that by striving to live as holy, faithful people, we bring God's kingdom closer to completion. For those who wonder why Christ has not yet returned in glory, St. Peter replies that God is giving us time to repent. The more quickly we allow God's Spirit to work within us, the sooner God will transform our world. We depend on God for "new heavens and a new earth," but when God sees that we are preparing ourselves and helping others to prepare for this transformation, he will hasten the day of his Son's return.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, December 7 St. Ambrose of Milan

God will heal his people of all that afflicts them so that they will return to their homeland and begin their lives anew. The man whom Jesus heals in the Gospel passage is also given a new life. How will we live differently when we encounter God's healing and mercy? St. Ambrose's life changed dramatically when the people of Milan asked him to become their bishop. He wasn't even baptized, but he accepted the new path that God laid out for him. May we do the same. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 35:1–10; Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11–12, 13–4; Luke 5:17–26.*

### Tuesday, December 8 Immaculate Conception

Our belief that God kept Mary free from sin in order to bear the sinless Son of God sets Mary apart from us. For some, Mary is too perfect to be relatable. The Second Reading reminds us that God planned for all of us to be holy. God overshadows us with his Spirit so that we, too, will live according to his will. Carefully read through today's Gospel. Then imagine the angel Gabriel appearing to you. What does God ask of you? How do you respond? *Today's Readings: Genesis 3:9–20; Psalm 98:1–4; Ephesians 1:3–6; 11–12; Luke 1:26–38.*

### Wednesday, December 9 Yoked

When Jesus urges us to yoke ourselves to him, we might think we are the oxen and he is walking behind us, steering us. Instead, he probably means that he is yoked alongside us, sharing the weight of whatever we are pulling. As we hear in the First Reading, God so lightens our burdens and strengthens us that we seem to have wings. Every few hours, imagine Jesus walking beside you, listening and supporting you. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 40:25–31; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 8 and 10; Matthew 11:28–30.*

### Thursday, December 10 Obstacles

God tells his people that they will cut through the mountains that block their path as they return home after being scattered by war. This time of renewal points ahead to the kingdom that Jesus brings. Those who strive to enter God's kingdom will also face obstacles, but their faithful perseverance will bring them into the fullness of God's reign. Offer people a glimpse of God's kingdom by volunteering at or donating to a local food pantry. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 41:13–20; Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10–11, 12–13ab; Matthew 11:11–15.*

### Friday, December 11 Wisdom

In the Old Testament, God's wisdom is personified as Lady Wisdom. She dwells among people, teaches them, and draws them down the path of righteousness. Jesus both teaches and embodies God's wisdom. Despite the crowd's refusal to believe it, Jesus is doing the work of God. He remains with us today, guiding us down the path of righteousness. The Book of Proverbs 10–29 is a collection of wise sayings. Choose several that apply to you, and bring them into your prayer. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 48:17–19; Psalm 1:1–6; Matthew 11:16–19.*

### Saturday, December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

The angel greeted Mary by calling her "favored one." This term implied that Mary had a patron who had commissioned her for some kind of work. Since Mary was a young woman from an insignificant village and God was her patron, she was understandably worried about what she could do for God. As it turned out, she could do a great deal. Just as God favored her, so she revealed God's favor to others, such as the indigenous people of Mexico. What do you need Our Lady of Guadalupe to reveal to you? *Today's Readings: Zechariah 2:14–17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26–38 or Luke 1:39–47.*

