

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.

FEBRUARY 14, 2021 | SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Give us the strength to look at a broken world and respond—that we can love as you love, boundlessly and with compassion.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

The Season of Lent starts this upcoming Wednesday, February 17.

Join us for Ash Wednesday Masses with the distribution of ashes at 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM We will broadcast both Masses on our Parish YouTube channel.

All are welcome to join us for Stations of the Cross in the church on the Fridays of Lent at 6:30 PM.

During the Season of Lent, the Church recommends time-honored practices to help us grow closer to God and our neighbor:

- **Prayer** Following the example of Jesus who spent 40 days of prayer and fasting in the desert, we enter Lent with a desire to spend time with God. One prayer source that may be helpful to you is reading Scripture and the daily Mass readings listed in the parish bulletin and at www.usccb.org. Prayer helps us to deepen our relationship with God and each other.
- Fasting The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke describe how Jesus spent forty days fasting in the desert. Fasting from food for short periods allows physical hunger to enter our lives. Such hunger allows us to be in solidarity with people in the world who lack basic access to food. The Church asks Catholics from age 18 until age 59 to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday which means having one full, meatless meal and two smaller meals as needed. People are excused from fasting if they are physically or mentally ill or if they suffer from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Pregnant or nursing women are also excused from fasting. Common sense should prevail, and people should not jeopardize their health by fasting. Alternatives to fasting from food include fasting from television, social media, complaining, or getting in the last word. Other alternatives to fasting include being cheerful, giving compliments to people, refraining from our favorite foods, or getting up a little earlier than usual for spiritual reading or prayer.

Abstaining from eating meat on the Fridays of Lent helps us to remember the sacrifice of Christ on Good Friday and unite to ourselves with that sacrifice through abstinence and prayer. The Church asks Catholics who are 14 years old and older to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and the Fridays of Lent.

• Almsgiving – This involves sharing our time, talent and treasure with people who are in need. One option is to give through Operation Rice Bowl. Small cardboard Rice Bowls are available in our Gathering Space. You can also go online to www.crsricebowl.org for more information.

May God bless you during the Season of Lent.

Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for February 2021: *Violence Against Women.* We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

Winter Clothing Needed—Thank you for your generosity!

"Lord when did we see You naked and we gave You no clothing?"

Drop off items at Progressive Baptist Church, 1505 Burns Ave—just blocks from St. Pascal's—on Friday, February 19 from 10:00-11:00 AM only.

People who lack appropriate housing this winter are in desperate need of warm winter clothing, including jackets, hats, gloves, mittens, boots, warm socks, etc. Respecting the dignity of others, please donate only clean items you yourself would wear. *Absolutely no items are to be left at St. Pascal's*.

Eucharistic Ministers Spring Schedule

It is time for the next schedule to be done. Many thanks to those of you who feel comfortable continuing this ministry. If you opted out of the previous schedule, but now feel ready to be back in serving, please note that we have three stations for Holy Communion at each Mass, and so need two lay ministers in addition to Father John. Please check your calendars for March, April and May, and let Joann know of your availability. She needs those dates by February 15. If you have questions or want more information you may contact Joann at 216.735.2762 or joann.bertini@gmail.com.

Lenten Fish Fry?

Sadly, the wildly popular St. Pascal's Men's Club Lenten Fish Fry has been cancelled for 2021. We will see you again in Lent 2022. Until then—stay healthy and hungry!

Women's Club News

Thank you! Thank you! The bakeless bake sale raised \$995. In addition, \$100 was specifically donated to Matre Dei Africa. We also received close to 26 membership dues. The Women's Club recently sponsored the Picture Trivia for the parish. We look forward to organizing a spring plant sale and eventually hosting a summer social. The Women's Club Board meets via zoom on the second Tuesday evening of the month. If you would like to join us, please contact Cindy Reisdorf at jireisdorf00@msn.com.

Young at Heart—Pray the Rosary!

Little did we know one year ago that our February 2020 meeting would usher in an entirely new way of living. Many of you are yearning to gather again to share the blessings of the Eucharist, have our meal together and enjoy some entertainment—but the date for that is on God's calendar! In the meantime, we will gather in spirit.

On Thursday, February 24 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. For more information, please contact Betty Hensel at bjhensel@comcast.net or 651.714.8958.

Why is it so important that you are with God and God alone on the mountain top? It's important because it's the place in which you can listen to the voice of the One who calls you the beloved.

REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS -

In honor of the feast of St. Valentine, we wanted to share some of the work that our students are doing in learning about virtues as well as what we have been doing lately to spread faith, love, and kindness throughout our building.

The seventh graders have been studying the virtues of temperance and humility, and in February, they are learning how to apply the verse, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows through it," (Proverbs 4:23) in their daily lives.

The second graders made faith shields to help them understand that their faith protects them and gives them hope.

Also this week, the first, third, fifth, and sixth grade classes participated in the "Somebody Loves You" activity. In this activity, students learned about how important it is to tell someone what they mean to you or to show someone that you recognize them, their actions, and their hard work. Students were then given paper hearts to pass on to people and asked to express to them the good things that they see or what they love about that person.

Kindness in the Time of Covid-19 Remember Our Senior Friends at Cerenity-Marian Center St. Paul

Marian Center residents have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic and are even more isolated right now—any daybrighteners are great! Anyone who would like to send a card or note to those at Marian, they are always welcomed! Send to:

Marian of Saint Paul "Share Some Love" 200 Earl Street St. Paul, MN 55106

Emergency Food Help

Progressive Baptist Church Parking Lot—1505 Burns Avenue

If you, your family, or neighbors you know need emergency food items, all are welcome to visit the food shelf curbside drive-up every Saturday from 10:30 AM - noon for a variety of nourishing items. No residency or parish membership requirements.

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD

Synod at Home: Tips and Tools for Growing in Faith

Dates: New sessions posted weekly *February 18 – March 18*

Location: Online (archspm.org/synod)

In the Synod process, the Church is taking time to listen to one another, pray, and discuss in order to determine priorities. These steps are important for every household, too, that wants to thrive. The *Synod at Home* series pairs helpful videos, tips and tools for growing in faith with family-friendly activities based on four pillars:

- · Prayer & Sacraments
- · Lifelong Learning
- · Generosity & Service
- · Traditions & Fun

Individuals, couples and families will find their faith and relationships strengthened by *Synod at Home*.

Find weekly videos and materials at archspm.org/synod, sign up for emails (archspm.org/synod/updates) or access through the Synod app (offered through myParish): text APP to 88202, download, then in the app under "Find my Parish" search for Archdiocesan Synod.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Open Wide Our Hearts: Lent 2021 Study Opportunity

Tuesdays (February 23, March 2, 9, and 16) from 6:30-7:30 PM

In November 2018, the Catholic bishops of the United States released a Pastoral Letter Against Racism called, "Open Wide Our Hearts." Beginning February 23, a series of four sessions will be hosted on Zoom to study the pastoral letter. The SignUp Genius link is available on the parish website and will be open through February 19. Links to the pastoral letter, study guide, and additional resources are posted on the parish website and emailed to participants. Hard copies of documents can be mailed upon request. Contact Kim Roering in the parish office for more information.

Sponsored by the Social Justice & Caring Committee and the Adult Faith Formation Team.

Lent Rice Bowls—Supporting Catholic Relief Services

Join our faith community—and more than 12,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from in the gathering space beginning February 7. If you would like one mailed to you, please call the parish office. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on how hunger and malnutrition affect our human family, and on the need to take action to end this global injustice. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

CONTACT US

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

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

School Office Hours

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

Sacramental Information

Reconciliation

Saturday from 4:00-4:25 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

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

Readings

February 14, 2021

Tuesday, February 16

8:00 AM + Stephen Flottmeyer

Wednesday, February 17

Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM + Judy Dellenbach

6:30 PM The people of the parish

Thursday, February 18

8:00 AM + Karon Ann Mondry-Anderson

Friday, February 19

8:00 AM + Jean Hammar

Saturday, February 20

4:30 PM + Dorothy Pretzki

Sunday, February 21

8:45 AM The people of the parish

10:30 AM + Bob & Lorraine Winkel

Heart Questions Models of Christ

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:1

Adults: Would you have the courage to tell others to do as you do in order to be a Christian? Why or why not?

Kids: What can you do this week to be an example to others?

Sunday:

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 1 Cor 10:31—11:1

Mk 1:40-45

Monday:

Gn 4:1-15, 25 Ps 50: 1, 8,16bc-17, 20-21 Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday:

Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10 Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3b, 9c-10 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday:

Ash Wednesday Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b, 12-14, 17 2 Cor 5:20—6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday:

Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday:

Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6b, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Saturday:

Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday:

Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-9 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-1

Together in Hope: The Catholic Services Appeal

The Catholic Services Appeal Foundation partners with parishes to share Christ's love with neighbors in need through ministries that serve the poor, support life and strengthen the Faith. Your gift brings hope by helping provide:

- Thousands with life-giving care via hospital chaplains
- 12,000 people / week with fresh groceries and hygiene items
- 1,200 hot meals monthly
- 635 people with housing/emergency shelter each month
- 33,000 young people with Faith-filled outreach
- 1,300 women and families with pro-life support
- 28,000 Catholic school students with in-person learning
- Over 50 seminarians studying to be future priests of our Archdiocese with tuition assistance, room and board.

Visit www.csafspm.org to learn more or www.GiveCSAF.org to donate today!

"Spirituality is not meant to be a panacea for human pain. Nor is it a substitute for critical conscience. Spirituality energizes the soul to provide what the world lacks."

—Joan D. Chittister, Heart of Flesh: A Feminist Spirituality for Women and Men

THE WEEKS AHEAD

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 for more information and for the status of upcoming parish meetings and events.

Sunday, February 14

1:00pm Baptism (Conley family)

Monday, February 15—Presidents Day

Offices closed

6:00pm Bell rehearsal: Church, Choir Room

Tuesday, February 16

9:00am E&A Lent decorating: Church Wednesday, February 17—Ash Wednesday

8:00am Mass (w/ashes) 11:15am Rosary: Church 6:30pm Mass (w/ashes)

Thursday, February 18

No scheduled events

Friday, February 19

6:30pm Stations of the Cross: Church

Saturday, February 20

10:30am Funeral for Ralph McDonough

Sunday, February 21—Lent 1

12:00pm Confirmation I: Brioschi Hall

Monday, February 22

6:00pm Bell rehearsal: Church, Choir Room

Tuesday, February 23

6:30pm Open Wide Our Hearts: Zoom

Wednesday, February 24

11:15am Rosary: Church 6:30pm RCIA: Founders Room

6:30pm Faith Formation at home session

Thursday, February 25

6:30pm Finance Council: Zoom

Friday, February 26

6:30pm Stations of the Cross: Church

Saturday, February 27

No scheduled events

Sunday, February 28—Lent 2

12:00pm Confirmation I: Brioschi Hall

Stewardship of Giving

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

	January	Year to Date
Sunday Giving	\$ 87,991.50	\$ 473,429.37
Budget	\$ <u>65,697.92</u>	\$ <u>459,885.40</u>
Surplus/Shortfall	\$ 22,293.58	\$ 13,543.97

Mortgage Reduction

Mortgage Balance

(as of January 7) \$ 3,299,039.11

Year to Date

Collected Donations \$ 160,286.85 Payment \$ <u>158,610.40</u> Surplus \$ 1,676.45

Many thanks for your overwhelming financial generosity. We look forward to the day you all return to worship.

ASH WEDNESDAY



Even Now

O God,

you show yourself throughout the ages as gracious, merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love.

You give us not what we deserve but turn your face toward us and rain down your blessings upon us.

Even now you call us to return to you.

Help us to answer you.

Give us the strength that we need to look at a broken world and respond, that in loving one another we can love as you love,

boundlessly and with compassion. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday, February 17, 2021 Called Together for a Broken World



Today's readings: Joel 2:12–18; Psalm 51:3–4, 5–6ab, 12–13, 14 and 17; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18. As the Church begins a period marked by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we hear Jesus teach us how we are to fast. Jesus tells us that our observance should be hidden, and that it will be seen by our Father, who sees what is hidden. And yet we wear our penitence marked upon our foreheads for all to see.

Jesus mentions that the "hypocrites" look gloomy and neglect their appearance because they seek social affirmation of their holiness. It is easy to judge these people of long ago and even easier to judge people we know. Is what they do so foreign to us? All of us desire to belong, to be embraced, to be part of a community.

The prophet Joel calls us to the kind of community we seek; rather than running after superficial approval, he calls all to a communal work, the great fast. When we look at the world around us, just like Joel, we see that everything is not as it should be. We recognize that the world is in dire need of God's mercy, love, and forgiveness. Joel calls us to rend our hearts. Let us blow the horn and gather the people to ask for God's mercy and forgiveness on behalf of a broken world. Marked with the sign of ashes, together we go into the world to be a sign of its impending redemption.

How is God calling you to respond to the world's brokenness this Lent?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, February 15

Prayer

We know that relationships cannot thrive without the gifts of time and attention. When we pray, we give this same time and attention to our most important relationship. Prayer is talking, but also listening. Determine a space in your day to carve out additional time and attention for prayer this Lent. *Today's readings: Genesis 4:1–15, 25; Psalm 50:1 and 8, 16bc–17, 20–21; Mark 8:11–13.*

Tuesday, February 16 Almsgiving

What does the world need? It can be a pretty overwhelming list. We know that we live in a world where many things are not as they should be. When you look at the world around you, what breaks your heart? What makes you outraged? These feelings can be a way that God calls you to live out the call you received at your baptism. Pay attention to what you feel passionately about, and then respond by being God's love in the world. *Today's readings: Genesis* 6:5–8; 7:1–5, 10; Psalm 29:1a and 2, 3ac–4, 3b and 9c–10; Mark 8:14–21.

Wednesday, February 17Fasting

When discussing the found sheep with a group of children, the topic of the ninety-nine left in the wilderness came up. One child said, "They have to fast from the Shepherd's presence in order for the flock to be whole again." Another child chimed in, "But they don't mind! They are glad to do it! That's how much they want everyone to be together." When the Church fasts together, we do so because we live in an inbetween time: Jesus has ascended to the Father, he has not yet come again. We fast in anticipation of Jesus' arrival, when there will be no more sorrow, tears, and pain. We fast willingly because we want our broken world to be whole. *Today's readings: Joel 2:12–18; Psalm 51:3–4, 5–6ab, 12–13, 14 and 17; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18.*

Thursday, February 18 In Surrender, Freedom

When we surrender our will to the will of God, we find freedom. It is a paradox that denying ourselves makes us free. Yet very often, we want what is not good for us. In our striving, we can gain the whole world and lose ourselves. Copy these words: take up your cross and follow me. As you look at the statement, ask yourself what crosses you face. How would your life change if you embraced your crosses rather than avoided them? *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 30:15–20; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 9:22–25.*

Friday, February 19 Act with Justice

The words of Isaiah direct our fast to the service of justice. We hear that the fast pleasing to the Lord is one that sets the oppressed free, feeds the hungry, brings homeless people into our homes, and clothes the naked. Think about one issue of justice that particularly touches your heart and get involved. You could serve at a soup kitchen, work at a homeless shelter, or host a baby shower for a local pregnant woman in need. This fast prepares us for the heavenly feast, where God shall wipe every tear from our eyes and his kingdom will have no end. *Today's readings: Isaiah* 58:1–9a; Psalm 51:3–4, 5–6ab, 18–19; Matthew 9:14–15.

Saturday, February 20 Follow Me

When Jesus told Levi "Follow me," Levi's response was clear: "leaving everything behind, he got up and followed him." Levi was probably no stranger to the judgments of the holy people of his day since tax collectors were reviled for collaborating with the Romans. Judgment never called Levi to a new way of living. What did? An encounter with a person who offered relationship and love. What joy Levi must have felt to offer a banquet at his home for Jesus, to be forgiven. Spend time in prayer thinking about what you must leave behind in order to respond to the call to follow Jesus. *Isaiah* 58:9b–14; *Psalm* 86:1–2, 3–4, 5–6; *Luke* 5:27–32.







Racism and Housing

In the November 2018 Pastoral Letter Against racism, *Open Wide Our Hearts*, the Catholic bishops of the United States urge all Catholics to acknowledge "the scourge of racism" that still exists in our hearts, words, actions, and institutions. Racism can be individual, when persons fail to recognize certain groups as created in the image of God and equal in dignity, or it can be systemic, where practices or policies treat certain groups of people unjustly. One area of systemic racism is unequal access to decent housing.

Decent housing is a basic human right—deserved by all due to their dignity as being created in God's image. Without decent, safe, and affordable housing, all aspects of family life suffer, and a life of dignity is impossible. Yet an affordable housing crisis is a current reality in the U.S. and, for minorities, it has been a reality throughout the nation's history.



After the Civil War, the great majority of freed slaves lived in the South, often in dilapidated shacks. Such housing was "While it is true that individuals and families have thrived, significant numbers of African Americans are born into economic and social disparity. The poverty experienced by many of these communities, which has its roots in racist policies that continue to impede the ability of people to find affordable housing, meaningful work, adequate education, and social mobility."

- U.S. bishops, Open Wide Our Hearts

provided by white land owners to Black sharecroppers who would work for free for the housing and a small portion of the crops. The workers did not own these dwellings and could be evicted from them at any time. With the Great Migration north in the beginning of the 20th century to seek employment and better lives, African Americans were crowded into low-income housing in cities like Chicago and Detroit in areas that increasingly became segregated.

Later in the twentieth century, African Americans seeking housing were faced with both private and governmental prejudice. Private homeowners, real estate agents, and private developers (such as the founder of Levittown) could, and would, refuse to sell to Black citizens, so they were confined to segregated areas. The U.S. Federal Housing Administration policies and programs in the 1930s-1950s used strategies to deny

mortgages, home loans, and home ownership to Blacks. For example, the practice of redlining—actually drawing red lines on maps around predominately African American neighborhoods to indicate where banks could not get federal insurance for loans they made—ensured that banks denied all mortgage requests from people in these areas. African American WWII veterans were denied access to the low-rate mortgages available to white veterans under the GI Bill.

The U.S. Government also <u>built segregated</u> <u>public housing</u> (as a part of the New Deal in the 1930s), first for low-income whites, then for low-income Blacks. With the housing boom after WWII, whites could leave public housing and buy low and moderate-priced



houses in the growing suburbs with new means of financing: both the new suburbs and new forms of mortgages were closed off for African-Americans. They were often trapped in decaying older housing stock in certain urban areas or in the blocks of public housing, poorly designed and poorly maintained by the Federal government.

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 required the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to take "affirmative" steps to end housing discrimination and promote integration. But, after five decades, the federal housing discrimination ban has failed to end segregation and provide equal access to housing opportunities for all, particularly African Americans. Today, many Latinos also face limited opportunities for decent housing; Native Americans on reservations continue to live in substandard housing. The plight of homelessness continues to be a major social problem, especially for minorities, who are a population more vulnerable to eviction. The American Dream of owning decent homes to raise families in safety and dignity still remains a distant dream for many in this country.

Pray with St. John Paul II

"Lord our God, you created the human being, man and woman, in your image and likeness, and you willed the diversity of peoples within the unity of the human family. At times, however, the equality of your sons and daughters has not been acknowledged, and Christians have been guilty of attitudes of rejection and exclusion, consenting to acts of discrimination on the basis of racial and ethnic difference. Forgive us and grant us the grace to heal the wounds still present in your community on account of sin, so that we will all feel ourselves to be your sons and daughters." (Universal Prayer on Day of Pardon)

