



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 28, 2021 | SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Provide us with the grace to look at the world's brokenness and not feel despair, but see your promise that all the world shall be transfigured by your love.

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 | email: church@stpascals.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Starting Palm Sunday (March 27-28), we will return to distributing Communion at the regular time during Mass. As I mentioned at Mass last weekend, we plan to return to distributing Communion at Mass at the regular time starting Palm Sunday. This means we will distribute Communion during the Communion Rite in front area of church near the sanctuary steps and then you will return to your pews while the Communion Song is sung, and then Mass will conclude in the regular way with the Final Blessing and Dismissal. Once we return to distributing Communion during Mass, we will need to continue the practice of physical distancing as we exit church at the end of Mass and not lingering in the Gathering Space for conversations. With the current number of new COVID-19 cases decreasing, with the increased availability of the COVID-19 vaccine, and with how well you are currently following our COVID-19 protocols at Mass (wearing masks, physical distancing, using hand sanitizer, signing in at the church entrance, etc.), I think we can safely implement this return to our normal practice of distributing Communion. If you have any concerns, please let me know. One thing I look forward to is giving you time after you receive Communion to return to your pew for prayer.

The 40 Days for Life Campaign started on Ash Wednesday and goes until Palm Sunday, March 28. Suggested prayer times are 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM on the sidewalk outside of the Planned Parenthood Clinic at 671 Vandalia Street in Saint Paul. This is a time of prayer and an outreach to the community to promote awareness about abortion and to people considering abortion. For more information, call Pro Life Action Ministries at 651.771.1500 or go online to www.40daysforlife.com/st.paul.

There is still time to join us for the Open Wide Our Hearts: Lent 2021 Study Opportunity. Open Wide our Hearts is the November 2018 Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter Against Racism. You are welcome to join us via Zoom for one or more of the remaining discussion sessions on March 2, 9 and 16 at 6:30-7:30 PM. Sign up at stpascals.org/adult-faith-formation, or contact Kim Roering in the parish office or 651.432.4958 or kim.roering@stpascals.org. The pastoral letter and study guide are free and can be accessed on our parish website or at usccb.org/committees/ad-hoc-committee-against-racism.

Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for March 2021: *Sacrament of Reconciliation*. Let us pray that we may experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

Congratulations Are in Order!

Congratulations to Vince and Leona Arceno who are celebrating their 78th wedding anniversary on February 27. We are proud of you and we thank you for your witness of marriage. May God grant you joy, good health and happiness.

St. Pascal's Women's Club Gertens Spring Plant Sale

The Women's Club will be selling Gertens plants and plant cards for their spring fundraiser. Lots of hanging flower baskets, patio containers, bedding flowers, vegetables and perennials will be available. We will start taking orders in a couple of weeks for delivery on May 15. Stay tuned! If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Aeling at 651.307.8241 or ellenoaeling@gmail.com.

Living Faith booklets

A limited number of *Living Faith* booklets for April-June 2021 and are available in the parish office. If you would like one mailed to you, please contact the parish office at 651.774.1585 or church@stpascals.org.

Social Justice and Caring Committee *We Care Campaign*

On the weekend of March 6-7, St. Pascal's parish will gather the loose change and bills from the collection and donate them to the Social Justice and Caring Committee's We Care Campaign. The three options chosen by the committee for its winter project are:

Option 1: Freedom House

Freedom House is a day shelter located at the former fire station on West 7th Street operated by the Listening House.

Option 2: Mosaic Christian Community

Mosaic Christian Community is a multi-ethnic church located on the eastside of St. Paul that is partnering with Settled to establish a tiny home community for the unsheltered. The community will offer affordable and sustainable homes, will create a space for social belonging and build a support system. The church is also offering its building as a shared space for the residents—including the use of its kitchen, shower rooms and some common areas.

Option 3: You Matter Outreach Ministry

You Matter Outreach Ministry is run by Jeanette Jones, a member of Progressive Baptist, to minister to the unsheltered in the Twin Cities by providing them with needed items such as hot food, sanitizing wipes, tarps and tents. Jeannette is currently supporting this ministry out of her personal funds. Contributing to this option will supplement her funds for this ministry.

We encourage you to consider making a personal contribution as well, using the envelope provided in the packet of envelopes sent by the parish every other month or found on the tables located near the entrances to the church. If you prefer to give to one or more of these charities, please indicate this by marking the appropriate option(s) on the envelope and your contributions will be distributed as requested. Any unmarked contributions will be divided equally among the three options. Thank you for your generosity.

"You cannot do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

— In Christ We Live Forever —

Please remember in your prayers...

Ralph McDonough

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

— REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS —

How will we be spending our \$500,000 transformational gift? Join us for our ELEVATE event on March 10th to find out!

ELEVATE will be a virtual event and Mass that will showcase our school and how we will be utilizing our gift. The event itself will highlight classrooms, students and some of the great things happening at St. Pascal. We will announce how the \$500,000 gift will help us ELEVATE St. Pascal Regional Catholic School into the future. We invite you to join us in supporting our school as we ELEVATE the opportunities for our students and encourage you to invite others.

Our school Mass will be shared virtually on this day and we invite you to join our students and staff for this wonderful morning.

Wednesday, March 10th

9:00am *Virtual Event*

9:30am *Virtual School Mass followed by repeat of the virtual ELEVATE event*

Go to: stpascalschool.org to RSVP and let us know that you will be joining us! We are excited to share the good news with you!

St. Pascal's Women's Book Club

Have you ever thought about coming to the St. Pascal's Women's Book Club? Do it this month! We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. During COVID we meet via Zoom. You can come as often as your schedule allows. This month, March 8, we will discuss Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, and next month, April 12, we'll discuss Delia Owens' *Where the Crawdads Sing*. Contact Toni Baker at toni@bakers.us, or 651.731.7763 for a list of the twelve 2021 selections, Zoom information, etc.

"One glance at a book and you hear the voice of another person, perhaps someone dead for 1,000 years. To read is to voyage through time." —Carl Sagan

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.

BETTER MEALS IN MADAGASCAR In Madagascar, half of all children are undernourished. That means 50% of kids won't grow to reach their full potential. But communities are changing this by focusing on improving health and nutrition. What role has food played in your life? How can you help those who lack access to enough nutritious food. Visit csrkricebowl.org to learn more.

— FAITH FORMATION —

Pre-Baptism Session

March 15, 2021

The next pre-baptism session at St. Pascal's will take place on Monday, March 15 at 6:30 PM. Parents interested in having their child baptized at St. Pascal's are asked to participate in one formation session prior to baptism. Pre-registration is required. To register for a session or schedule the celebration of a baptism, contact Kim Roering in the parish office.

NOTE: While pre-baptism is scheduled to take place in person at the parish, there is an option to use Zoom as well.

Donations Needed**for Freedom House/Listening House**

Freedom House and Listening House are in need of the following items:

Clothing

- Small and medium underwear for women*
- Backpacks and duffle bags*
- Long underwear or thermals (all sizes)
- Belts (all sizes)
- Womens' shoes and boots (all sizes)

Hygiene and Food

- Travel sized deodorants*
- Mini shampoo and conditioner*
- Self-contained fruit (apples, bananas, oranges)
- Hot cocoa and hot cups
- Mayo, mustard, hot sauce, soy sauce, any individual flavor packets

**Most needed items*

Drop off or deliver items seven days a week from 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM to Freedom House, 296 7th Street W, St. Paul.

Please do not drop off items at St. Pascal's.

You can also order from their Amazon Wish List and have items delivered directly to Freedom House. Go to www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/genericItemsPage/1VHWROM5SMWTA?ref_=wl_fw_le

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

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St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church

Mass Times & Intentions

Readings February 28, 2021

Tuesday, March 02

8:00 AM The people of the parish

Wednesday, March 03

8:00 AM + Mary Mondry-Regnier

Thursday, March 04

8:00 AM The people of the parish

Friday, March 05

8:00 AM Men's Club

Saturday, March 06

4:30 PM The people of the parish

Sunday, March 07

8:45 AM The people of the parish

10:30 AM + Don Hensel

Heart Questions

Assurance of Faith

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

Mark 9:5

Adults: How deeply do you believe that since God is for you, no one can destroy you?

Kids: What would you like to ask God to do for you and your family?

Sunday:

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Ps 116:10, 15-19

Rom 8:31b-34

Mk 9:2-10

Monday:

Dn 9:4b-10

Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13

Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday:

Is 1:10, 16-20

Ps 50:8-9, 16b-17, 21, 23

Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday:

Jer 18:18-20

Ps 31:5-6, 14-16

Mt 20:17-28

Thursday:

Jer 17:5-10

Ps 1:1-4, 6

Lk 16:19-31

Friday:

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Ps 105:16-21

Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday:

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20

Ps 103:1-4, 9-12

Lk 15:1-3, 11-3

Next Sunday:

Ex 20:1-17

Ps 19:8-11

1 Cor 1:22-25

Jn 2:13-25

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 \$ 158,610.40

Surplus \$ 1,676.45

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

Food Shelf Now Open

Progressive Baptist Church Parking Lot

1505 Burns Avenue—just blocks from St. Pascal's

Curbside drive-up every Saturday from 10:30 AM – noon

THE WEEK 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 28—Lent 2

12:00pm Confirmation I: Brioschi Hall

Monday, March 1

6:00pm Bell rehearsal: Church, Choir Room

6:30pm First Eucharist Parent/Child session: Zoom

Tuesday, March 2

6:30pm Pastoral Council: Zoom

6:30pm Open Wide Our Hearts: Zoom

Wednesday, March 3

11:15am Rosary

6:30pm Faith Formation at home session

6:30pm First Eucharist Parent/Child Session: Brioschi Hall

Thursday, March 4

6:30pm SJCC: Zoom

7:00pm Men's Club Board meeting: Zoom

Friday, March 5

6:30pm Stations of the Cross: Church

Saturday, March 6

We Care Campaign

No scheduled events

Sunday, March 7—Lent 3

We Care Campaign

No scheduled events

Monday, March 8

6:00pm Bell rehearsal: Church, Choir Room

7:00pm Women's Book Club: Zoom

Tuesday, March 9

6:30pm Open Wide Our Hearts: Zoom

Wednesday, March 10

11:15am Rosary: Church

6:30pm Faith Formation at home session

6:30pm RCIA: Founders Room

6:30pm Cub Scout parent meeting: Zoom

Thursday, March 11

3:00pm Lent Reconciliation Service: Church

6:30pm Lent Reconciliation Service: Church

Friday, March 12

6:30pm Stations of the Cross: Church

Saturday, March 13

No scheduled events

Sunday, March 14—Lent 4

Daylight Saving Time starts

No scheduled events

The way to any universal idea is to proceed through a concrete encounter. There are a number of ways to say the same thing: the one is the way to the many, the specific is the way to the spacious, the now is the way to the always, the here is the way to the everywhere, the material is the way to the spiritual, the visible is the way to the invisible. When we see contemplatively, we know that we live in a fully sacramental universe, where everything is a pointer and an epiphany.

—Richard Rohr, *Daily Meditations*

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Help Us to Love

Loving Father,
you sent us the gift of your Son,
One like us in all ways but sin,
to show us what it means to love as you love.
Listen to him, you tell us.
Provide us with the grace to hear
and respond to his voice,
to look at the world's brokenness and
not feel despair,

but see your promise that all the world
shall be transfigured by your love.
Allow us to be transfigured to do what
you will,
that we might use the life we have been
given to glorify you.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 28, 2021

Glimpses of Glory



Today's readings: Genesis 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18; Psalm 116:10, 15, 16–17, 18–19; Romans 8:31b–34; Mark 9:2–10. After Jesus first predicts that he will suffer, he takes Peter, James, and John apart from everyone else. These apostles see Jesus in his glory, in gleaming clothing with Moses and Elijah, whose presence communicates that Jesus is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. Then the apostles hear a voice from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” As quickly as the vision appears, it ceases.

As conflicts arose between Jesus and the leaders of the day, the apostles may have taken comfort in knowing that Jesus is God’s “beloved Son.” Walking through the passion with Jesus, they could cling to the glimpse of Jesus’ glory.

The words *beloved Son* also may have called to mind for them the sacrifice of Isaac. Abraham had been obedient to God and had not withheld his beloved son. Abraham knew God and, therefore, knew that God is a keeper of promises. Somehow, even when it seemed impossible, God’s promise would be fulfilled. Abraham would be the father of many through Isaac. He believed in God’s promise, even when it seemed that the promise could not be kept. In this moment we see another prefiguration of what is to come, the impossible hope that endures through Good Friday and is vindicated on Easter morning.

Where have you glimpsed resurrection? How can you hold to these moments in your times of trial?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 1

Mercy

Jesus instructs his followers to do the seemingly impossible: be merciful just as God is merciful. God's mercy is endless. How can we ever manage to love as he does? Living in a world that overflows with brokenness, we have endless opportunities to bring mercy to another. In our families, we have so many chances to forgive. How can you extend mercy to someone today? *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Luke 6:36–38.*

Tuesday, March 2

The Greatest among You

From birth, human beings prefer to look at other human faces more than anything else. We come into the world ready for relationships of love. Yet as we seek out that love, we miss the mark. Rather than authentic love, which both affirms us and challenges us, we seek out approval, acclaim, and status. We look for relationships that reflect us back to ourselves in a positive light. Humility is opting out of this unwinnable game. It is knowing that we have an identity that cannot be taken away from us: beloved child of God. Once we accept that this is the love we are looking for, the love that grounds our being, we no longer worry about where we fit. We can instead imitate the one who humbled himself, who came in our likeness, who lived in love. *Today's readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.*

Wednesday, March 3

St. Katharine Drexel

St. Katharine Drexel was an heiress in Philadelphia who felt incredibly moved by the plight of Native Americans and African Americans in the United States in the late nineteenth century. She recognized this pull on her heart as a call from God, and she gave up her fortune and founded a religious

order, establishing missions and schools that served these groups. She listened for God's voice and responded. How can you do the same? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.*

Thursday, March 4

St. Casimir

St. Casimir was a Polish prince with legendary generosity to the poor. Is there a sacrifice you could make today in order to give generously to the poor in his honor? Consider what Abraham said at the end of today's Gospel reading. How has Christ's rising from the dead persuaded you to be merciful? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19–31.*

Friday, March 5

Act with Justice

Over and over, the prophets and Jesus call us to give up our sinful ways and act with justice. We fail to recognize that the goods of creation are intended for all people and cling tightly to what we have when many do not have enough. Today choose to eat a simple lunch or dinner, and donate the cost savings to a charity that serves those who are food insecure. *Today's readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.*

Saturday, March 6

Merciful Love

Spend some time reflecting on the words of Jesus in the parable of the prodigal son, and allow yourself to hear it with new ears. The son behaved as though his father were dead, yet the father watched for the son, ran to him, embraced him, and threw a feast to celebrate his return. What does that tell you about the vastness of God's merciful love for you? Is there anything you could do for which God could not forgive? *Today's readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.*



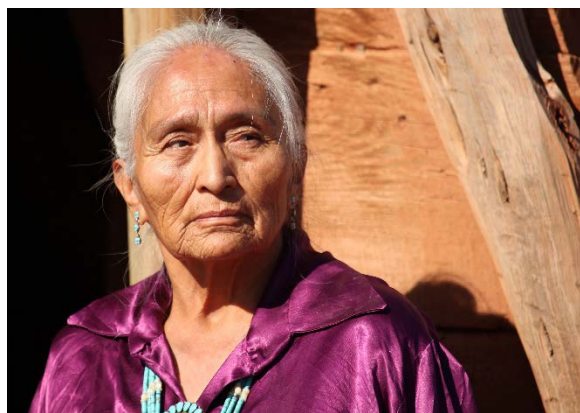


open wide our hearts

the enduring call to love *a pastoral letter against racism*

Racism and the Native American Experience

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 is rooted in a failure to acknowledge the human dignity of people of a different race. It does not reflect the inner life of God—the Triune unity of three-in-one—that we are called to imitate. Racism manifests itself in sinful individual actions, which contribute to structures of sin that perpetuate division and inequality. The Native American experience offers a particular illustration of racism in history and today.



When Europeans arrived on the shores of this country, they were often blind to the dignity of indigenous peoples. Colonial and later U.S. policies toward Native American communities were often violent, paternalistic, and directed toward the theft of Native American land. Native Americans

“Native Americans experienced deep wounds in the age of colonization and expansion, wounds that largely remain unhealed and strongly impact the generations to this day.”

– U.S. bishops, *Open Wide Our Hearts*

were killed, imprisoned, sold into slavery, and raped. These policies decimated entire communities and brought about tragic death.

The results were massive forced relocations of people as endured by the Cherokee people on the “Trail of Tears” and of the Navajo in the “Long Walk.” Thousands of men, women, and children died during those forced removals. Schools and orphanages began “Americanizing” Native children by forcing them to abandon all facets of their culture, including their native languages. The devastation caused by national policies of expansion and manifest destiny, fueled by racist attitudes, led to the near eradication of Native American peoples and their cultures.

The effects of this evil remain visible in the great difficulties experienced by Native American communities today. Poverty, unemployment, inadequate health care, poor schools, the exploitation of natural

resources, and disputes over land ownership in Native American communities are the legacy of these evils today.

In *Heritage and Hope: Evangelization in the United States* (NCCB Pastoral Letter, 1990), the U.S. Catholic bishops wrote, “As Church, we often have been unconscious and insensitive to the mistreatment of our Native American brothers and sisters and have at times reflected the racism of the dominant culture of which we have been a part.” All Catholics are called to give renewed attention to historical and present injustices resulting from racism against Native Americans, better integrate the needs and contributions of Native Catholics, and work for greater justice for the descendants of the first Americans.

“We ask the Catholic community to join us in seeking new understanding and awareness of their situation and in committing our Church to new advocacy and action with our Native American brothers and sisters on issues of social justice and pastoral life which touch their lives.”

- U.S. bishops, 1992: A Time for Remembering, Reconciling and Recommitting Ourselves as a People

For More Information

- [USCCB Subcommittee on Native American Affairs](#)
- [Native American Catholics at the Millennium](#), Ad Hoc Committee on Native American Catholics, 2003
- [1992: A Time for Remembering, Reconciling, and Recommitting Ourselves as a People: Pastoral Reflections on the Fifth Centenary and Native American People](#), National Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1991
- [Native American Protocols](#), Archdiocese of Los Angeles
- [Black and Indian Mission Office](#)

Pray with St. John Paul II

“Lord God, our Father, 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](#))

