



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.

MARCH 7, 2021 | THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Though we fall time and again, give us the strength to do your will,

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

Keri Mader, our Pastoral Associate for Liturgy, is retiring at the end of May. She made this decision so that she could have more time to spend with her family. We are happy for her and grateful for the years she has worked here, but we are sad for us. Keri has been our Pastoral Associate for Liturgy since 2018. She has been a joy to work with. Keri works with our Liturgy program and trains and supports our volunteers; she plans the sacramental celebrations of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation; she plans and coordinates our funeral liturgies; she works with volunteers to decorate the church environment throughout the year; she promotes liturgical education for our parish; she prepares weekly presider sheets; and she orders liturgical and sacristy supplies. Keri has also been especially helpful during the pandemic to provide us with a safe environment in our church and gathering space. Please join me in thanking Keri for her service to our parish. God Bless You, Keri!

Culver's Night is back! On Monday, March 15, from 4:00-7:00 PM, you are invited to the Culver's Restaurant at 2065 Old Hudson Rd, St. Paul, near Sun Ray Shopping Center, to purchase food and beverages for dine-in, take-out or drive-thru. Culver's will donate a percentage of all sales between 4:00-7:00 PM to St. Pascal Baylon Church. Thank you to Culver's owner Doug Swalboski and Family for their generosity in sponsoring Culver's Night.

Global Solidarity Sunday, March 13-14, is an opportunity to share with our struggling brothers and sisters around the world during Lent. We observe Global Solidarity Sunday with the theme "For God so loved the world..." (Jn. 3:16). A special Lenten collection will be taken for four global priorities of the U.S. Catholic Bishops: Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe as well as humanitarian activities of Catholic Relief Services. You can give to this collection through these options:

- through the March 28 special envelope in your Sunday packet
- through our parish website at the "GIVE" drop-down menu
- by writing a check payable to St. Pascal Baylon Church with your donation amount and "Global Solidarity Collection" in the Memo Line and placing it in an envelope and sending it to the parish office or placing it in the collection box by the baptismal font.

Thank you!

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

Support Merrick's March Food Drive: *Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign*

The 2021 March Food Drive is here and we'd like to invite you to participate. As we step into a new March, it is more important than ever to walk alongside our East Side Saint Paul neighbors facing hunger. Each March, Minnesotans rally together to support food shelves and help those who are hungry. Merrick's food shelf relies on strong food and cash donations in March to keep the shelves stocked throughout the year.

From March 1 – April 12, you can drop your donations on Mondays from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM and Fridays from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Merrick Community Service's food shelf at 1669 Arcade Street North, St. Paul, MN 55106. Any donations are appreciated but here are the top five food-appropriate items that the community needs:

Cooking oils and vinegar | Spices | Cooking Sauces | Proteins | Grains

QUESTIONS? For more information about drop off locations and hours or food donations contact: Joshua Bau, Food Services Manager at jbau@merrickcs.org or 651.219.5535.

Lent Reconciliation Services

Thursday, March 11, at 3:00 PM and 6:30 PM

Two Communal Reconciliation services will be held for your convenience. These will include general absolution for all those attending. For privacy reasons, there will be no advance signups; however, you will be asked to provide a phone number when you arrive (no names) for contact tracing purposes.

Winter Clothing Needed

Friday, March 19 from 10:00-11:00 AM only

Items may be dropped off at Progressive Baptist Church, 1505 Burns Avenue—just blocks from St. Pascal's.

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. Thank you for your generosity.

ABSOLUTELY NO DONATIONS ARE TO BE LEFT AT ST. PASCALS.

NOTE: After this date there will likely be a shift to collecting spring clothing. Continue to watch the bulletin and Pulse for details.

— ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD —

Archdiocesan Year of Saint Joseph

Join those throughout the universal Church in celebrating the Year of Saint Joseph, now through December 8, 2021. Here in the Archdiocese, Saint Joseph is also celebrated as patron of the second year of the Synod. Find ways to participate—such as making an individual consecration to Saint Joseph, watching the Cuppa Joe series (archspm.org/cuppajoe), or taking a local pilgrimage—as well as indulgence opportunities and prayer cards in many languages, at archspm.org/stjoseph.

Prayer for the Year of Saint Joseph

Heavenly Father,
Who gave St. Joseph to Jesus and Mary
As protector and guide,
Grant that our Archdiocesan Synod,
Under his protection and guidance,
May help us discern your direction for our Church.
May we listen as he listened,
Trust as he trusted,
Obey as he obeyed,
Receive as he received,
Love as he loved,
And share in his life of devotion to Jesus and Mary.

Amen.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

— REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS —

Staffing Update

We are pleased to announce new staffing assignments within our school office. Donna Woodard will be joining us as the new Advancement Director responsible for the areas of development, enrollment, and marketing. Mrs. Woodard has 25 years of experience as a teacher, principal, school president, admissions director, board chair, and a variety of other roles within schools and parishes. Her knowledge and experience will allow us to build on the momentum generated from the tremendously generous gift of our anonymous donor.

Leah Eviston will be assuming the position of Office Administrator. Ms. Eviston has already been with St. Pascal Regional for a few years and has a deep understanding of our operations. In this new role, she will be able to support our efforts for increasing efficiencies within our office. We are excited to grow our staff so that we can continue the push for excellence in all that we do.

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. 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.

SUSTAINABILITY IN EL SALVADOR

Drought has become a big problem across El Salvador, making it difficult for farmers to produce enough crops to support their families. But new farming techniques—and a new generation of young farmers—are making a difference. What would you do if your livelihood was threatened? How can you support young people in your community and around the world? Visit crsricebowl.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.

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.

Remember Our Senior Friends at Cerenity-Marian Center St. Paul

St. Pascal's parishioners: Even as vaccines roll out and the number of infections during this phase of the pandemic begin to wane, Marian Center residents remain pretty isolated—so any day-brighteners are great! Anyone who would like to send a card or note to those at Marian, know that they are always welcomed! Send to:

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

C O N T A C T U S

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 March 7, 2021

Tuesday, March 09

8:00 AM + Bill Heturung

Wednesday, March 10

8:00 AM Women's Club

Thursday, March 11

8:00 AM + Terrance Lemke

Friday, March 12

8:00 AM + Mary Tauber

Saturday, March 13

4:30 PM + Georgine Misukanis

Sunday, March 14

8:45 AM + Ralph McDonough

10:30 AM The people of the parish

Heart Questions *Trust and Doubt*

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles.

—1 Corinthians 1:22-23

Adults: When has the message of the cross seemed absurd to you, and when have you seen its wisdom?

Kids: What puzzles you in the gospel stories? Which story makes you the most hopeful?

"The cross solved our problem by first revealing our real problem, our universal pattern of scapegoating and sacrificing others. The cross exposes forever the scene of our crime."

—Richard Rohr, *Falling Upward*

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.**

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, March 7—Lent 3

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 Cub Scout parent meeting: Zoom

6:30pm RCIA: Founders Room

6:30pm Faith Formation at home session

Thursday, March 11

3:00pm Lent Reconciliation Service

6:30pm Lent Reconciliation Service

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—*remember to turn your clocks forward one hour at bedtime on Saturday!*

No scheduled events

Monday, March 15

4:00pm Culver's Night (Parish Fundraiser): Sun Ray Culver's

6:00pm Bell rehearsal: Church, Choir Room

6:30pm Pre-baptism session: Founders Room

Tuesday, March 16

6:30pm Open Wide Our Hearts: Zoom

Wednesday, March 17—St. Patrick's Day

11:15am Rosary: Church

6:30pm Faith Formation at home session

Thursday, March 18

No scheduled events

Friday, March 19

6:30pm Stations of the Cross: Church

Saturday, March 20

10:00am Palm Sunday Proclaimer Practice: Church

11:00am Easter Vigil Proclaimer Practice: Church

Sunday, March 21—Lent 5

12:00pm Confirmation I: Brioschi Hall

St. Pascal's Legacy Society

Tax Efficient Legacy of Faith. Gifts of life insurance policies to St. Pascal's can yield substantial tax savings to you while maximizing your Legacy gift. Consult with your tax advisor. If you want more information on St. Pascal's Legacy Society, please call Theresa Ruttger at the parish office at 651.432.4960 or talk to a member of the Legacy Committee—Ellen and Mike Aeling, Susan Hommes, Joe Sullivan, and Brigid O'Malley.

"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

—Luke 6:38

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



The Gift of the Law

Loving God,
you gave the gift of the law to Moses
that the people might walk in the light
of your love.

In every age you call us back—
heart, mind, soul, and strength
turned to you,

our neighbor loved as ourselves.
Though we fall time and again,
give us the strength to do your will,
to act justly, be merciful, and walk humbly
with you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 7, 2021
Keep My Commandments



Today's readings: Exodus 20:1–17; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; 1 Corinthians 1:22–25; John 2:13–25. The Ten Commandments are often considered to be a list of rules. Even when followed with great care, a person may miss out on the broader vision they embody. What if every person chose to live in accord with God's law? What if each person strove toward this ideal?

The Ten Commandments set out the framework for a just and peaceful society. If the Commandments are approached as a vision, we can see how they help us live in right relationship with those around us. In the reading from Exodus, God proclaims a blessing that proceeds to “the thousandth generation . . . of those who love me and keep

my commandments.” How many receive blessing from the righteousness of the just one!

The ripple effect of sin is evident. Family patterns that are damaging are hard to break, and the actions of those around us affect the way we live in the world.

Jesus often came into conflict with the religious leaders of his day because they differed in their interpretation of what it meant to keep God's law. There was not anything wrong with their desire to obey God's Commandments. Perhaps, though, the intensity of their focus caused them to lose a sense that the law was a vision for a just and peaceful society. Pray with the Commandments. How can they help you work toward a just world?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 8

St. John of God

St. John of God turned away from God in his youth, but returned with his whole heart and lived his life in gratitude for the great mercy he had received. He spent his life in extraordinary works of charity and love on behalf of those who were in greatest need, always with tremendous respect for those he served. God's mercy and forgiveness is always waiting for us. When have you felt God's forgiveness most fully? How can you respond with a grateful heart? *Today's readings: 2 Kings 5:1–15b; Psalm 42:2–3, 43:3–4; Luke 4:24–30.*

Tuesday, March 9

Not Seven but Seventy-Seven Times

Why is it so difficult to forgive? Even though we know that holding onto our anger hurts, we brood over every small wrong. In today's parable of the unforgiving servant, the difference between the value of the two debts is enormous. This contrast shows us the tremendousness of God's love and forgiveness and startles us with our own stinginess. What would it mean for you to forgive seventy-seven times? To forgive as you have been forgiven? *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 3:25, 34–43; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6, 7bc, 8, 9; Matthew 18:21–35.*

Wednesday, March 10

Whoever Obeys and Teaches

Some people focus on following their own way, no matter the cost. We know, though, that our will often leads us astray, seeking after things that are not good for us, and that we engage in self-deception about what we really need. The Ten Commandments provide objective standards for behavior, even as complete freedom is within them. *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Psalm 147:12–13, 15–16, 19–20; Matthew 5:17–19.*

Thursday, March 11

Miraculous Growth

Today we hear that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus casts out a demon, revealing a glimpse of the coming kingdom and making space for its miraculous growth. By giving up our sins and selfishness, we too make space for miraculous growth of God's love within us. Pray the Rosary today in the hope that the spirit it cultivates will cast out all that is not of God and help bring about this miraculous growth. *Today's readings: Jeremiah 7:23–28; Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7, 8–9; Luke 11:14–23.*

Friday, March 12

The Summary of the Law

Today the Gospel tells us that love of God and love of neighbor are the primary principles that ought to govern our lives. What would it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength? How would our lives be different if we loved our neighbor as ourselves? Does this necessarily mean putting ourselves last? It says love your neighbor as yourself. How can we respect our needs so that we are able to love others more fully? *Today's readings: Hosea 14:2–10; Psalm 81:6c–8a, 8bc–9, 10–11ab, 14 and 17; Mark 12:28–34.*

Saturday, March 13

O God, Be Merciful

When we look at our lives, we see how much we are in need of God's mercy and forgiveness. It is always there for us, requiring only that we seek it. People have used the words of the tax collector in today's reading from Luke, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner," in their prayers expressing contrition. Try incorporating this prayer into your daily prayer as a means of letting God's mercy act on you. *Today's readings: Hosea 6:1–6; Psalm 51:3–4, 18–19, 20–21ab; Luke 18:9–14.*





open wide our hearts

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

Racism and Migration in the United States

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 different ethnic backgrounds. It does not reflect the love of neighbor that the Lord calls us to have. It denies the beauty of the diversity of God’s plan. Racism manifests itself in sinful individual actions, which contribute to structures of sin that perpetuate division and inequality. One area where racism has become evident is in the way that the United States has approached the issue of migration, historically and even today.



Ethnicity has long been a factor guiding migration policy in the United States. One of the earliest and most overt examples of this was the forced migration and enslavement of millions of African people to colonial North America. Slavery, and the racist ideas the slave trade was

built upon, informed the development of migration policy. Another example was the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, a federal law that effectively barred Chinese migration to the United States.

In the early twentieth century, eugenics became popular among many of the political and scientific elite. Though false, it was upheld as science wherein biological principles were used to differentiate between what were perceived as superior and inferior races. Opponents of mass immigration believed that non-Catholic Northern European or Anglo-Saxon bloodlines were superior to those who originated outside of northern Europe. Policies enacted based on eugenics responded to fears that unrestricted migration from Southern and Eastern Europe, Asia, or Africa, would “dilute” the Anglo-Saxon nature of life in the United States.

This same ideology reached a high point with the passage of the National Origins Act in 1924, which imposed a quota system that significantly restricted immigration from countries in the Eastern hemisphere into the United States. Western hemisphere countries were exempt. This system remained in place for four decades, ending with the passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965.

Although the overt racial discrimination that was built into the quota system was eliminated, many migrant communities continue to experience racism in life in the United States. Hispanics and other migrant populations are often

discriminated against in hiring, housing, educational opportunities, and in the criminal justice system.

Though the Gospel calls us to welcome the stranger, many immigrants and refugees are met with fear, judgement and hatred. Racist rhetoric that marginalizes and causes discrimination against migrant populations is common. In response, the church must provide a counter-example for those who use race to deny the God-given dignity of people who are migrants. As Catholics, we are called to welcome newcomers upon their arrival and help to ease their transitions into life here in the United States. A truly welcoming community does not emerge by chance but is established through the hard work and conviction of local residents, through direct

service, sharing experiences, faith, advocacy, and institution building.

In their pastoral letter *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope*, the bishops of the United States and Mexico emphasized the importance of encounter in the process of conversion. *Strangers No Longer* reminds us that “part of the process of conversion of mind and heart deals with confronting attitudes of cultural superiority, indifference, and racism; accepting migrants not as foreboding aliens, terrorists, or economic threats, but rather as persons with dignity and rights, revealing the presence of Christ; and recognizing migrants as bearers of deep cultural values and rich faith traditions.”

For More Information

- [Justice for Immigrants Campaign](#)
- [USCCB Committee on Migration and Refugee Services](#)
- [Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope](#), Pastoral Letter of the U.S. and Mexican Bishops
- [USCCB Committee on Cultural Diversity](#)

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](#))

