



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS | 1946-2021

**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 12, 2021 | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## OUR STAFF

### Pastor

Fr. John Mitchell | ext 125  
john.mitchell@stpascals.org

### Deacon

Rev. Mr. Richard Moore  
richard.moore@stpascals.org

### Business Administrator

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### Director of Facilities and Maintenance

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### Pastoral Associate for Music

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### Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

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### Communications & Office Manager

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### Administrative Assistant

Marla Eberhardt | ext 132  
marla.eberhardt@stpascals.org

### Welcome Desk

Karri Creamer | ext 120  
karri.creamer@stpascals.org

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

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## 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

**This weekend we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent also known as Gaudete Sunday.** The word "Gaudete" (Latin for "rejoice") is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass today which is: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." This is a quotation from Philippians 4:4-5. Advent is a season to prepare for the coming of the Lord, and it is appropriate to rejoice as we experience the mid-point of the Advent Season this weekend. Priests and deacons may wear rose/pink vestments on Gaudete Sunday rather than violet/purple vestments because the rose color is a sign of joy which characterizes Gaudete Sunday.

**Mark your calendars: Advent Evening of Reflection on Thursday, December 16 at 6:30 PM.** How and where do we find Jesus in our daily life? Come to the Advent Evening of Reflection, led by Deacon Rich Moore and me. You will hear Scripture passages, reflect on Advent symbols, and ponder real life situations where we can find Jesus in our daily routines, work, school, neighborhoods and homes. All are welcome! *The service will be livestreamed.*

**Angel Tree.** St. Pascal Baylon Church's Social Justice and Caring Committee is partnering again this year with Angel Tree ministries to provide gifts to five children on behalf of an incarcerated parent. Angel Tree tags have been placed on the Christmas tree in the Gathering Space. You will recognize the Angel Tree tags since they are angel-shaped. Angel Tree gifts can be returned to church and placed in the Angel Tree box in the Gathering Space. Please note: the deadline for Angel Tree gifts is *Sunday, December 19* to ensure that the gifts get to the children by Christmas. Please email Mary Weyandt at [mlweyandt@mac.com](mailto:mlweyandt@mac.com) if you would like additional information or to assist with the Angel Tree project.

**Giving Tree.** We are also participating in Catholic Charities Giving Tree to ensure children and adults have access to essential items such as clothing, housewares, self-care items and toys. Take a tag from the Giving Tree in the Gathering Space or go to the following link: [cctwincities.org/our-organization/events/giving-tree/](https://cctwincities.org/our-organization/events/giving-tree/).

**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:

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES DISTRIBUTION CENTER

341 Chester St., Saint Paul, MN 55107  
Monday - Friday (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)

### ST. PASCAL BAYLON CHURCH, (before December 25)

1757 Conway St., Saint Paul, MN 55106 The Giving Tree bin is located inside the Main Church doors (Door #3).

### SHIP YOUR GIFT DIRECTLY TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Purchase your gift online and ship it directly to the Catholic Charities Distribution Center, 341 Chester Street, St. Paul, MN 55107.

**Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for December 2021: *Catechists.*** Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

## Christmas Masses

### **Friday, December 24**

4:00 PM Liturgy (no incense)  
*Carols 20 minutes before Mass*

10:00 PM Liturgy  
*Carols 20 minutes before Mass*

### **Saturday, December 25**

10:00 AM Liturgy  
*Carols 15 minutes before Mass*

Please note: There is no 4:30 PM Anticipatory Mass for December 26 (Feast of the Holy Family).

## Third Sunday of Advent:

### ***The Motivation We Let In***

*"Teacher, what should we do?"*

—Luke 3:12

"Well, I guess that's my prayer now...what am I to do? Zeke was responding to my question as we shared beers on the porch. Already in his mid-fifties, he had just lost his job due to the pandemic. The question, *What should I do now?* was before him. Being a deeply spiritual man, Zeke had always approached his work as a vocation.

Within our culture, we are often taught to approach decisions about work and career in a way that is self-serving or ego-serving. For many, the ultimate goal is to win the lottery and free ourselves from having to do anything at all. Eventually, of course, we discover that true happiness and fulfillment are found when we invest our time, talent, and energy in living out Christ's mission.

In the final analysis, Christianity is more of an action than it is an idea. After John the Baptist tells his followers to prepare the way, they respond by asking what they should do. This isn't a simple matter of praying hard and avoiding sin. Advent calls us to prepare to be active.

*Draw two overlapping circles. Label one "what humanity needs" and label the other "gifts I have." What lies in the space where the circles overlap? This is where you will find your joy.*

—S. James Meyer

## Parish 75th Anniversary Celebration

### ***AKA Friends and Family***

### **Save the Date: April 23, 2022**

Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend. We will be celebrating St. Pascal's 75th Anniversary with a night of fun and games (new ones as well as returning favorites) and a fantastic catered dinner from Tinnucci's.

Do you have St. Pascal's memorabilia? We are planning to create a display from our archives and parishioners! Further details about the event will be announced in February.

## — REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS —

As we head into the last week before Christmas break, we have a lot happening in our building. Students and teachers are making their final touches to their Christmas songs and greetings that will be sent to families and posted on social media next week. On Tuesday, the 3rd through 8th grade students will take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation to help them continue to prepare during this Advent season for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. During the Wednesday all-school Mass, the school will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a procession of Roses as well as some yummy treats after Mass. Students will also be doing some Christmas shopping at the Santa Shop on December 14th and 15th in order to surprise their family members with wrapped presents under the tree. *We are still in need of some volunteers.* If you are interested in helping, please sign up at [bit.ly/SantaShop-1](https://bit.ly/SantaShop-1). Last but not least, the whole school will wear red and green on Friday before heading into the Christmas break.

**Act of Christmas Kindness**

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

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

**Winter Weather****Cancellation of Events & Building Closure**

When St. Paul Public School District closes city schools due to weather, both St. Pascal Regional School and the parish office close and all scheduled activities and meetings are cancelled. Weekday Mass will not be offered when the building is closed due to weather. *The building may also be closed at the discretion of the pastor or business administrator.*

**St. Pascal's Men's Club Christmas Tree Lot: An East Side Tradition for 52 Years**

*Now through December 23 or until sold out*

Stop on in at the Conway Street lot and get yourself a beautiful real tree this year. We have an excellent selection of Fraser fir, balsam fir, Scotch pine, and white pine trees. We're a one stop shop with trees, stands, tree bags, and wreaths and swags as well. Don't have a truck, don't worry, we'll tie it on your car for you too! 100% of all proceeds go right back to the St. Pascal Regional Catholic School and St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church. Tree Lot sale hours are:

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

## — HELPING OUT IN ADVENT —

**Canned Goods Needed**

Canned FRUITS AND VEGETABLES are needed by the Fishes and Loaves food pantry staffed by parishioners of St. Pascal's and Progressive Baptist Church. The pantry is supplied in part by food from Second Harvest which is facing the same supply challenges all of us are facing as we shop. There is a noticeable shortage of healthy canned fruits and vegetables. Place your donation in the container in the coat room at any time before New Year's. Any amount helps. For questions contact Ann Karner at [akarner24@gmail.com](mailto:akarner24@gmail.com) or 651.330.0024.

**Food Pantry Help Needed**

*Friday & Saturday, December 17 & 18*

St. Pascal parishioners have been helping at Progressive Baptist Church on Burns Avenue to meet the food insufficiency needs of our neighbors. With Christmas fast approaching, help is needed on Friday, December 17 from 9:30 AM-Noon to prepare food boxes. Help is also needed on Saturday, December 18 from 9:00 AM-Noon to set-up and distribute the food at Progressive. If you can help for even part of either of these times or want more information, please contact Ann Karner at [akarner24@gmail.com](mailto:akarner24@gmail.com) or 651.330.0024.

**Ramsey Family Service**

Grace Lutheran and St. Pascal's share a ministry of service at the Ramsey Family Service Center by Aldrich Arena. If you like to help with dinner or lunch service on occasion or regularly, sign up at [saintpascalandgracelutheran.cctwincities.volunteerhub.com](https://saintpascalandgracelutheran.cctwincities.volunteerhub.com).

Our immediate need is for 1 DINNER server (5:15-6:45 PM) on the 4th Monday of the even months (next December 27).

For more info, contact John Gambino (Catholic Charities) at 612.204.8485 or [john.gambino@cctwincities.org](mailto:john.gambino@cctwincities.org) or Toni Baker at 651.731.7763 or [toni@bakers.us](mailto:toni@bakers.us).

John can help volunteers find dates other than the present need listed above.

## CONTACT US

**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*

**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

**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*

**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](mailto:thea.munoz@stpascals.org)

**Mass Announcements**

Due 3:00 PM Tuesday  
[john.mitchell@stpascals.org](mailto:john.mitchell@stpascals.org)

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*St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church*

## Mass Times & Intentions

## Readings December 12, 2021

### Tuesday, December 14

8:00 AM + June Fremont

### Wednesday, December 15

8:00 AM + Florence Rieschl

### Thursday, December 16

8:00 AM Robert Cowden

### Friday, December 17

8:00 AM The people of the parish

### Saturday, December 18

4:30 PM + Stephen Flottmeyer

### Sunday, December 19

*Third Sunday of Advent*

8:45 AM The people of the parish

10:30 AM + Don Hensel

### Sunday:

Zep 3:14-18a

Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Phil 4:4-7

Lk 3:10-18

### Monday:

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a

Ps 25:4-5b, 6, 7bc, 8-9

Mt 21:23-27

### Tuesday:

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13

Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23

Mt 21:28-32

### Wednesday:

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25

Ps 85:9ab, 10-14

Lk 7:18b-23

### Thursday:

Is 54:1-10

Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b

Lk 7:24-30

### Friday:

Gn 49:2, 8-10

Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17

Mt 1:1-17

### Saturday:

Jer 23:5-8

Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19

Mt 1:18-25

### Next Sunday:

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Mi 5:1-4a

Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-4

## Heart Questions

### *The Joy of Kindness*

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone.*

Philippians 4:4-5

**Adults:** What might John the Baptist challenge you to do differently in your life?

**Kids:** Do you have extras that you can share with others this week?

## Year-End Financial Gifts

As this calendar year quickly comes to a close, consider a special year-end financial gift to the parish in support of our many ministries and/or to support our mortgage reduction efforts. Last year, we received many special year-end gifts of cash or stock. These gifts are greatly appreciated and certainly encouraged! Remember, all gifts must be received or postmarked by December 31 to be considered for the 2021 tax year. Stock transfers and sales do take some time so please take that into consideration as you consider a gift to St. Pascal's.

*Thank you for your generous consideration.*

## 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 adviser. If you want more information on St. Pascal's Legacy Society, please contact Theresa Ruttger at the parish office at 651.774.1585 or [theresa.ruttger@stpascals.org](mailto:theresa.ruttger@stpascals.org), or talk to a member of the Legacy Committee—Ellen and Mike Aeling, Susan Hommes, Joe Sullivan, and Brigid O'Malley.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Sunday, December 12—ADVENT 3

*Retirement Fund for the Religious*

9:00am Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

4:00pm Piano Recital: Church

### Monday, December 13

9:00am Piano Tuning: Church, Choir Room

3:00pm Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

6:30pm Spirit Song Rehearsal: Church

7:00pm Women's Book Club: Staff Lounge

7:00pm Boy Scouts: Brioschi Hall

### Tuesday, December 14

9:00am A&E Christmas Tree Decorating: Atrium

9:30am Advent School Reconciliation: Church

3:00pm Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

6:30pm Spirit Song (Recording): Church

### Wednesday, December 15

10:00am SPRCS Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration: Brioschi Hall

11:15am Rosary: Church

3:00pm Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

6:30pm Choir: Church

6:30pm RCIA: Founders Room

6:30pm Faith Formation: Campus

### Thursday, December 16

3:00pm Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

6:00pm Cub Scouts: Old Church

6:30pm Advent Evening of Reflection: Church, Brioschi Hall

### Friday, December 17

3:00pm Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

### Saturday, December 18

9:00am Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

After Mass Fellowship

### Sunday, December 19—ADVENT 4

9:00am Men's Club Christmas Tree Sales: Conway Lot

After Masses Fellowship

## REMEMBER SOMEONE IN A SPECIAL WAY THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

Make a donation (any amount) in memory of (or in honor of) 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 on or before December 20. Suggested donation is \$10. *Memorials fund flowers & worship space needs.*

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

In Honor of / In Memory of

From:

*Thank you for your generosity and care!*

*Please note: Memorials/Honorariums received after December 20 will not appear on the Christmas Flowers bulletin insert on December 26 (Holy Family).*



# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Make Us an Image of Justice

Loving Father,  
in your goodness  
you have made us in your image.  
Make us an image  
of your justice, mercy, and peace  
that, like John,

we might point the way to you.  
Bring all the world into the light of your love  
that we might see your glory forever.  
Let our rejoicing now be the seed  
of the joy that is to come.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Rejoice!



*Today's readings: Zephaniah 3:14–18a; Philemon 4:4–7; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4, 5–6; Luke 3:10–18.* The nearness of Jesus, our salvation, is now made present and brings with it a call to rejoice.

In today's Gospel, the people ask John the Baptist what they are to do. His answer is always the same: act with justice. The Jewish people, then and now, await a messiah who will bring about perfect justice. John speaks to people waiting and watching, yesterday and today: act with justice.

Often, a need to change is not associated with "good news." Yet the people feel something in their hearts when they are with John. They experience his preaching as good news even when it is challenging. They desire the kingdom

of God and see that the world is not there yet. They are called to change. John also makes clear that they themselves do not have to do everything. That is also a hopeful message. Each person does their part, and their part is enough. It is God who brings about the kingdom of justice and peace, fulfilling the work begun in creation.

John speaks of a baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. Fire can purify metal, and its heat in boiling water sterilizes objects. While preparing for Jesus' coming, we might ask the Spirit to purify our hearts so that we seek to act justly. What could you do this week to live the value of justice? What in you must be taken away to live this more perfectly?



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, December 13

#### St. Lucy

St. Lucy was an early Christian martyr who died during the Roman persecutions. Accounts say that her eyes were gouged out when she was martyred, and therefore she is the patron of those with eye illnesses. Her feast day is often celebrated with candles because, in the Northern Hemisphere, the day is among the shortest days of the year. St. Lucy is one of eight women included in the canon of the Mass. *Today's readings: Numbers 24:2–7, 15–17a; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6, 7bc, 8–9; Matthew 21:23–27.*

### Tuesday, December 14

#### St. John of the Cross

St. John of the Cross, a doctor of the Church, was a priest, mystic, and writer who lived in Spain in the sixteenth century. One of his best-known works is *The Dark Night of the Soul*. He was a close collaborator of St. Teresa of Avila. *Today's readings: Zephaniah 3:1–2, 9–13; Psalm 34:2–3, 6–7, 17–18, 19, 23; Matthew 21:28–32.*

### Wednesday, December 15

#### Signs

“The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” Often we wish for miraculous signs that will help us know where to go. But these actions of Jesus are that and more. The hope of the people of Israel was in a person who would bring about a new kingdom in which the sufferings of this world would be left behind. These particular signs are a message to John the Baptist: Jesus is the long-awaited messiah. *Today's readings: Isaiah 45:6b–8, 18, 21c–25; Psalm 85:9ab, 10, 11–12, 13–14; Luke 7:18b–23.*

### Thursday, December 16

#### God's Faithfulness

God's love will be constant, the covenant of peace unbroken, even if the mountains fall. While people often disappoint us when commitments are not kept, God's promise is not reliant on our faithfulness but on the faithfulness of God. We know that God is a keeper of promises: promises kept to Sarah, to Hannah, to Elizabeth, to Mary, to Noah, to Abraham, to Moses, to John the Baptist. We can trust that even in our darkest moments God is faithful to us as well. *Today's readings: Isaiah 54:1–10; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5–6, 11–12a, 13b; Luke 7:24–30.*

### Friday, December 17

#### O Wisdom

Within the Church's liturgical tradition, the “O” Antiphons are prayed the seven days before Christmas. Each of these antiphons presents a title for the messiah. Many are familiar with these seven titles because they begin the verses of the hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” The first antiphon, which is used on December 17, is O Wisdom. You might sing this verse of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” or you might pray Evening Prayer. You can find resources online, including apps to assist you, in praying the Liturgy of the Hours. *Today's readings: Genesis 49:2, 8–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 3–4ab, 7–8, 17; Matthew 1:1–17.*

### Saturday, December 18

#### The Dream of St. Joseph

St. Joseph was a righteous man, meaning he followed the law of Moses, and according to the Law, Mary would be put to death. St. Joseph also must have been a man of great compassion who was accustomed to God's voice. When the angel came to him in a dream, he immediately believed. Moreover, he immediately acted. Today, spend time in silent prayer so that, like Joseph, you may know your call when it comes and answer with your whole heart. *Today's readings: Jeremiah 23:5–8; Psalm 72:1–2, 12–13, 18–19; Matthew 1:18–25.*

