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.

OUR STAFF

Pastor
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john.mitchell@stpascals.org

Deacon
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thea.munoz@stpascals.org

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Mass Times
Saturday 4:30 PM  |  Sunday 8:45 & 10:30 AM (ASL)  |  Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 AM; Wednesday 9:30 AM
1757 Conway Street  |  Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106  |  651.774.1585
www.stpascals.org  |  church@stpascals.org
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

As we begin the Season of Lent, the Church recommends these spiritual practices:

**Prayer:** The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke tell us that Jesus spent 40 days of prayer and fasting in the desert. We can spend these 40 days of Lent in a renewal of our prayer life. Maybe we can set aside more prayer time by reducing our daily screen time (television, computer, cell phone, tablet) or by rising 10-15 minutes earlier in the morning.

**Fasting:** Fasting from food allows us to feel hunger and grow in sensitivity towards people around the world who lack access to food. Fasting involves saying no to a good thing (food) so that we can build up the spiritual discipline to say no to harmful things such as sin. 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.

**Abstinence:** 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. Since Jesus sacrificed his flesh for us on Good Friday, we refrain from eating flesh meat on Ash Wednesday, Lent Fridays and Good Friday to remember the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. Some options for meatless meals include pancakes, waffles, soup, cheese enchiladas, macaroni and cheese, fried egg sandwiches, grilled cheese sandwiches, cheese pizza, and of course, fish.

**Almsgiving:** Almsgiving 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 crsricebowl.org for more information.

You are invited to participate in **40 Days for Life** which is an internationally coordinated 40-day prayer vigil for all those affected by abortion. The local vigil is February 22 - April 2 from 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM. People meet to pray outside of Planned Parenthood, 671 Vandalia Street, St. Paul. You can also pray at home during these 40 days for people who need support with an unplanned or difficult pregnancy. For more information, go to 40daysforlife.com/en/st.paul or contact Brian Walker, brian.walker@plam.org or 651.797.6363.

**Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for February 2023:** For parishes. We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

**Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for March 2023:** For victims of abuse. We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

God Bless You,
Father John Mitchell

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RCIA

**Rite of Sending for Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion**

This year St. Pascal's is blessed to have two candidates, who are already baptized, preparing for confirmation or full communion with the Catholic Church in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This weekend we celebrate the Rite of Sending with them at the 10:30 am Mass. The Rite of Sending is our opportunity to surround the candidates with our prayer and support as they go forth to celebrate the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion at the Cathedral of St. Paul on Sunday afternoon.

The Rite of Election is a transition point in the RCIA journey, and after this point the catechumens (unbaptized) are referred to as the “elect” to signify their new status. This point is referred to as election “because the acceptance made by the Church is founded on the election by God, in whose name the Church acts” (RCIA #119). Election is about being chosen by God to be in relationship with God. God has chosen them to be baptized at the Easter Vigil and to continue Christ's mission in the world.

At this same celebration, the bishop recognizes the candidates—those who wish to participate in the full sacramental life of the Catholic Church either by being received into the Catholic Church or completing their initiation sacraments (Eucharist and/or Confirmation). The candidates are called to live in the example of Christ. Please continue to pray for our candidates, Pamela Voss and Frank Leach.

**RCIA Prayer Retreat**

Deacon Richard and the RCIA team invite St. Pascal's parishioners and friends to join us for a prayer retreat on the morning of Saturday, March 11 from 9:00 AM - Noon. We will spend the morning discussing prayer and experiencing different types of prayer. All are invited to join us in taking some time this Lent to deepen our understanding of prayer. We will meet in the Founders Room. To help us plan, please sign up using the link on the parish website or call the parish office.

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**In Christ We Live Forever**

Please remember in your prayers...  
**Donna Trumble**
who was recently buried from our church. We extend our sincere sympathy to her family and friends, and pray for her soul’s eternal peace.
REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS

Join us for Preschool at SPRCS!
Our preschool program provides students and their families with a warm, welcoming environment. The teachers use their knowledge and experience to develop activities that promote the skills needed to be successful in kindergarten and beyond. We believe in developing the whole child—socially, emotionally, cognitively, creatively, and spiritually. Preschoolers develop the joy of lifelong learning through play-based, child-centered learning. Summer preschool programs are available. Call the school office at 651.776.0092 or visit stpascalschool.org for more enrollment information.

Check It Out: St. Pascal’s Women’s Club Gertens Spring Plant Sale!
We are selling Gertens plants and plant cards online. Go to the Gertens’ fundraising site at gertensfundraising.com and enter the Women’s Club store number 447. Over 80 fantastic items are available: Gertens plant cards, hanging flower baskets, patio containers, bedding flowers, vegetables, and perennials. Order from the comfort of your own home. If you need help ordering, Women’s Club members will be available after all Masses on April 1 & 2. Sale ends on Thursday, April 6. Your orders will be available for pick up after all Masses on May 13 & 14. Just in time for Mother’s Day! This is a major spring fundraiser for the St. Pascal’s Women’s Club—please support us! If you have any questions or need help ordering, please contact Ellen Aeling at 651.307.8241 or ellenaoeling@gmail.com.

Social Justice & Caring

Faith in Action
Sign-up for Rent is Due March 1
March 1 from 8:30 - 9:00 AM via Zoom. Learn more about Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative and how you can get involved. Beacon has been working to increase the amount of deeply affordable housing for years. This year offers the best chance the Legislature will pass the Bring It Home, MN bill that will do just that. Be part of this important work without having to leave your home. Learn how on March 1. Use the convenient link on the parish website to register. Questions? Contact akarner24@gmail.com

Help Needed Friday and Saturday
Fridays at 9:30 AM or Saturdays at 9:00 AM Progressive Baptist Church 1505 Burns Ave. Join other St. Pascal’s parishioners as we prepare food boxes this Friday to help feed our hungry neighbors. On Saturday help distribute those boxes. Over 70 families are served by this amazing local effort to help those in need. Our faith calls us to “feed the hungry”. Can you help? For more information, contact Ann Karner at akarner24@gmail.com

Merrick Community Services at St. Pascal’s Food Distribution
Monday, February 27 in Brioschi Hall
We unload the food delivery at 1:30 PM, pack the food at 2:00 PM and distribute the food from 3:30 - 5:00 PM (or until gone). If you are interested in serving with our amazing team of volunteers or would like more information, please email Mary Weyandt at mltweyandt@mac.com.

Desserts for Funeral Lunches
Our funeral lunch list for desserts needs some updating. Would you be willing to bring two dozen bars or cookies for a funeral? They can be either homemade or commercial. Items are needed by 10:00 AM on the day of the funeral. We try to use a rotating list so you would not be called for every funeral. If you would like to join this ministry, please contact Chris Igielski at 651.336.1274 (text or phone) or email csiigelak@gmail.com. Also, I am asking long-time contributors to verify their phone numbers (if you have changed your number in the last year or so) and/or ask to be removed from the list if no longer able to help. Thank you for all you do for St. Pascal Baylon.

The St. Pascal's Men's Club Lenten Fish Fry—All Fridays of Lent
February 24 through March 31 from 4:30 to 7:00 PM in Brioschi Hall (Please use the Flandrau Street entrance.)
The “All-You-Care-To-Eat” buffet will offer fried and baked cod, coleslaw, mixed steamed vegetables, au gratin and seasoned fried potatoes, mac’n-cheese, dinner roll, and coffee/ water. Milk, bottled water, and pop are available for purchase.

Adults (12 and up): $16.00  |  Children (6-11): $8.00  |  5 and under: Free
Cash, check, or card accepted. Takeout is available if the hall is full or the wait is too long. All proceeds benefit St. Pascal Regional Catholic School’s K-8 PhyEd program and other parish/school needs.

Contact Us

Parish Office
Phone 651.774.1585
Email church@stpascals.org
For after-hours pastoral emergency (death, dying or anointing), call 651.774.1585 and dial 1.

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

School Office Hours
Mon-Fri 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Parish Councils
Parish Pastoral Council
Meetings 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM
Ann Karner, Chair  (akarner24@gmail.com)
Parish Finance Council
Meetings 4th Thursday at 5:30 PM
Mike Aeling, Chair

Sacramental Information
Reconciliation
Saturday from 3:45-4:15 PM or contact Fr. John in the parish office
Communal celebrations as announced

Baptism
One pre-baptismal session is required. To register for a pre-baptismal session 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  651.342.8879
Pat Kackman

Parish Communication

Bulletin Notices
Due 5:00 PM Monday
thea.munoz@stpascals.org

Mass Announcements
Due 12:00 PM Tuesday
keri.mader@stpascals.org

Like, follow & share us on Facebook:
St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church
**Mass Times & Intentions**

**Tuesday, February 28**
8:00 AM  The people of the parish

**Wednesday, March 01**
9:30 AM  The people of the parish

**Thursday, March 02**
8:00 AM  Jim Chandler

**Friday, March 03**
8:00 AM  Men's Club

**Saturday, March 04**
4:30 PM  + Georgine Miskanis

**Sunday, March 05**
2nd Sunday of Lent
8:45 AM  The people of the parish
10:30 AM  + Bob & Lorraine Winkel

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**Readings**

**February 26, 2023**

**Sunday**

**First Sunday of Lent**

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Ps 51:3-7, 12-13, 17
Rom 5:12-19
Mt 4:1-11

**Monday:**

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18
Ps 19:8-10, 15
Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday:**

Is 55:10-11
Ps 34:4-7, 16-19
Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday:**

Jn 3:1-10
Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19
Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday:**

Est C12, 14-16, 23-25
Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8
Mt 7:7-12

**Friday:**

Ez 18:21-28
Ps 130:1-8
Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:**

Dt 26:16-19
Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8
Mt 5:43-48

**Next Sunday:**

**Second Sunday of Lent**

Gn 12:1-4a
Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22
2 Tm 1:8b-10
Mt 17:1-9

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**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Sunday, February 26—Lent 1**
11:30am  Confirmation I: Staff Lounge

**Monday, February 27**
1:00pm  Merrick Setup: Brioschi Hall
3:30pm  Merrick Food Distribution: Flandrau lot
7:00pm  Boy Scouts: Brioschi Hall

**Tuesday, February 28**
8:45am  Bible Study: Parish Conference Room
9:30am  School Reconciliation: Church
6:30pm  Bible Study: Parish Conference Room

**Wednesday, March 1**
9:00am  Rosary: Church
9:30am  School Mass: Church
6:30pm  Choir: Church
6:30pm  RCIA: Founders Room
6:30pm  Faith Formation: Campus

**Thursday, March 2**
9:30am  Bible Study: Parish Conference Room
6:00pm  Spirit Song: Church
6:30pm  SJCC: Zoom
7:00pm  Men’s Club Board Meeting: Brioschi Hall

**Friday, March 3**
9:00am  Men’s Club Fish Fry Setup: Brioschi Hall, Kitchen
4:30pm  Men’s Club Fish Fry: Brioschi Hall, Kitchen
7:00pm  Stations of the Cross: Church

**Saturday, March 4**

We Care Campaign

**Sunday, March 5—Lent 2**

We Care Campaign

11:30am  Women’s Club Board Meeting: Brioschi Hall

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**2023 Friends and Family Event**

**We have a theme:** The next running of “Off to the Races”. We will have indoor horse racing down the middle of Brioschi Hall.

**We have a date:** Saturday, April 22, 2023

**We have a location:** Brioschi Hall

Now all we need is YOU! Please save this date on your calendar. We would like everyone to be there to make this a success.

We will need some help to run all the games, dessert auction, registration, selling tickets and more. If you would like to help in the planning or help on the day of the event, please let us know.

We are looking for a few people to take over this event in future years so please consider this. We are more than willing to work with you to learn all the things we do to make this event a success. To volunteer or for more information:

- Mike Aeling: 651.307.8237 or mjaeling@gmail.com
- Ellen Aeling: 651.307.8241 or ellenaoeling@gmail.com

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**CRS Rice Bowls: The First Sunday of Lent**

**A Season for Slowing Down**

During this sacred season, we will intentionally slow down so that we can pay closer attention to our relationship with God, our neighbors and our planet. Reflect on how the pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey for a more enriching Lenten experience. How can practicing these pillars help you to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.
The Lord Alone

Faithful God, from the very beginning you have called your people to worship you with single-minded focus. You are the one true God, source of all goodness and mercy. Grant us the strength to resist earthly temptations, the will to turn from distractions, and the desire to orient our lives toward loving you first. We ask for your patience as we seek to grow in holiness this Lent through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 26, 2023

God First

Today’s readings: Genesis 2:7–9; 3:1–7; Psalm 51:3–4, 5–6, 12–13, 17; Romans 5:12–19 or 5:12, 17–19; Matthew 4:1–11. Jesus gets the last word when the devil tries to lure him with earthly temptations. He quotes the Shema from Deuteronomy, chapter 6: “Hear O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone! Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength” (6:4–5). This most fundamental expression of faith orients our spiritual focus for the season of Lent. It is a clear invitation from the Scriptures to turn our hearts toward God.

A simple pie chart of how the majority of our time is spent during any week will reveal the priorities around which our lives are ordered and what or whom we worship. Do we seek the accumulation of possessions or power; do we worship celebrities or ideologies; do we serve egocentric goals or addictions? Lent offers us the opportunity for meta-noia, the profound transformation of mind and heart. Now is the time to take a self-inventory and make deliberate choices that place God first in our heart and mind. These choices are expressed in the activities and gestures of our daily living. Sketch out your pie chart and take an honest look at it. Then write a love letter back to God, telling him your plan for how you intend to place God at the center of your life this Lent.
**THIS WEEK AT HOME**

**Monday, February 27**

**Mercy Works**

How shall we grow in holiness this Lent? We don’t have to guess. Today’s Scriptures lay out the blueprint. The instructions from Leviticus give clear direction for avoiding sin. Equally important, the Gospel passage from Matthew calls us to active engagement in the corporal works of mercy. We have six weeks before Easter. Pick one work of mercy to focus on each week of Lent; resolve to try the works of mercy you find most challenging first. *Today’s readings: Leviticus 19:1–2, 11–18; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Matthew 25:31–46.*

**Tuesday, February 28**

**Our Father**

Each Lent we are invited to deepen our prayer life. In today’s Gospel, Jesus teaches us exactly how to do just that through giving us the words of the Lord’s Prayer. How can we magnify our prayer life? A possible start could be by praying the Lord’s Prayer more intentionally. Write or type the prayer line by line on a sheet of white paper. Cut into strips. Reflect on each line of the prayer. Make the practice part of your daily prayer routine this Lent. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 55:10–11; Psalm 34:4–5, 6–7, 16–17, 18–19; Matthew 6:7–15.*

**Wednesday, March 1**

**Create in Me A Clean Heart**

Responsorial Psalm 51 is prayed repeatedly through the season of Lent because it expresses the humble stance we are called to assume: “A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.” Catholics celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation each Lent as an essential step of spiritual preparation for Easter. Seek reconciliation early in Lent as a way to turn over the soil of your heart and make room for the new seeds of faith to grow in the coming weeks. *Today’s readings: Jonah 3:1–10; Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 18–19; Luke 11:29–32.*

**Thursday, March 2**

**Ask, Seek, Knock**

Today’s Scriptures are deeply reassuring. The psalmist glorifies God, “on the day I asked for help, you answered me.” Jesus promises, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” What do you need to ask God for today? Write a letter to God and lay out all the burdens you carry. Ask for what you need with confidence in God’s faithfulness. *Today’s readings: Esther C:12, 14–16, 23–25; Psalm 138:1–2ab, 2cde–3, 7c–8; Matthew 7:7–12.*

**Friday, March 3**

**Time to Heal**

Jesus reminds the disciples, and us, of how broken relationships harm the soul. Lent is the time for reconciliation with God and with the people in our lives. Do you have an estranged relationship? What steps can you take toward healing? For starters, name a relationship that seems to hold you in bondage. Ask God to guide you in seeking freedom from anger, judgment, frustration, and resentment. Attend to the ways God provides opportunities to take repairing steps in the coming days. *Today’s readings: Ezekiel 18:21–28; Psalm 130:1–2, 3–4, 5–7a, 7bc–8; Matthew 5:20–26.*

**Saturday, March 4**

**Lifting Up a Relationship**

The call to pay attention to difficult relationships in our lives continues in today’s Scripture readings. Jesus tells us the first steps toward healing: pray for that person daily as part of your Lenten sacrifice. This can be challenging. Praying for those who cause us distress requires humility. Heed the advice of our Lord and take note of the movement of your heart as you do so in the coming weeks. *Today’s readings: Deuteronomy 26:16–19; Psalm 119:1–2, 4–5, 7–8; Matthew 5:43–48.*
“We Care Campaign”  
March 4 & 5, 2023  

to support

Friends of San Lucas

Friends of San Lucas is a MN-based non-profit dedicated to generating support for the Mission in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala. The mission, founded in 1963 by Fr. Greg Schaffer, is managed by 100 Guatemalan staff and helps over 30,000 people who live there. Contributions to the mission support seven program areas including education, healthcare, housing, coffee trade, charity with dignity, a women’s center, and a visitor’s program. More information can be found at sanlucasminssion.org

St. Pascal’s Social Justice and Caring Committee (SJCC) typically selects three options for the We Care campaigns that take place.

*For this particular campaign, donations are for the sole purpose of supporting the Mission in San Lucas Toliman.*

*Please see reverse side for more history and the connection St. Pascal Baylon has with the San Lucas Toliman Mission.*
St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church and the San Lucas Toliman Mission: A Connection Through the Years

From St. Pascal’s Social Justice and Caring Committee

San Lucas is a Catholic mission community in the Toliman mountains of Guatemala.

Father Greg Schaffer, a Minnesota native, came to San Lucas in the 60s with the School Sisters of Notre Dame to serve the needs of the local church community.

In 1972, Father Greg embarked on a 3,000 mile walk of epic proportions from the steps of the Minnesota Capitol to the church of San Lucas. This year marks the commemoration of that walk 50 years ago. Father took a big risk which was born of desperation and a lot of faith for San Lucas, a community that found itself trying to address inequalities of historic proportions. The mission community of some 30,000 had been decimated by systemic economic and social injustice. The people at the mission could not find any sustained income other than near slave labor working for the wealthy plantation owners who owned most of the land and dominated the economy. Father Greg called it “the process of poverty,” which robbed people of the resources to maintain their sense of dignity.

Father Greg completed his walk of 3,087 miles with a small group of supporters and raised over $75,000, which equates to just over $500,000 in today’s money. The money was used to develop programs of education, health care, an orphanage, the production and sale of coffee, housing, and visitor support. It was largely successful in sustaining the mission despite the Guatemalan government’s opposition to the needs of the population. Father Greg’s leadership at that crucial time, and for the next 30 years, was largely responsible for the growing success of the community. Yet, even today the community needs continuing support.

St. Pascal Baylon Parish has a special connection to San Lucas. In the 1970s and 1980s Father Greg, who grew up in New Ulm, visited our church. His brother lived on 4th Street with his wife and children who attended St. Pascal Baylon school. Father Greg’s nephew, his brother’s son who is also named “Gregory Schaffer”, was a graduate of St. Pascal Baylon School. He also became a priest and now serves at the Venezuelan Mission of Jesucristo Resucitado in Ciudad Guayana, and provides the same leadership his uncle did at San Lucas.

From 1997-2003, three different week-long mission trips to San Lucas took place involving some 35 members of the St. Pascal’s community. A number of these members are still attending St. Pascal Baylon. They went to San Lucas to help serve the needs of the mission, but also to learn about the role of the church in furthering God’s work in this poor community.

Father Schaffer spent a judicious amount of time with his guests on each trip from our church, but he also did the same for many other mission groups to San Lucas from across the country. He explained what the Catholic communities in many poor central and south American areas were up against to survive and prosper. “Liberation Theology” is the overriding label of the church’s continuing effort even today to help many of these areas that are still struggling to survive. As Father Greg, now deceased, said “the process of poverty” still exists because of continuing government indifference.

Please consider making a good contribution to the “WE CARE CAMPAIGN” for San Lucas.