



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 17, 2023 | 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

Theresa Ruttger | ext 130
theresa.ruttger@stpascals.org

Director of Facilities and Maintenance

Mike Kelleher | ext 134
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Pastoral Associate for Music

Sharon Balcom | ext 126
sharon.balcom@stpascals.org

Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

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Pastoral Associate for Pastoral Care

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barb.ua@stpascals.org

Liturgy Assistant

Keri Mader | ext 127
keri.mader@stpascals.org

Communications & Office Manager

Thea Munoz | ext 133
thea.munoz@stpascals.org

Welcome Desk & Admin Assistant

Amber Green | ext 132
amber.green@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

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Mark your calendars for **Winter Game Night on Friday, January 26, 2024 from 6:30-8:30 PM in Brioschi Hall**. Free. All ages welcome, families and friends welcome. Games will include bingo, jigsaw puzzle assembly and contest, trivia game, and all around fun. Bring a snack to share. Break up the winter doldrums with a fun evening of games.

Reminder for next weekend's Masses

Saturday, December 23

4:30 PM Mass (4th Sunday of Advent)

Sunday, December 24

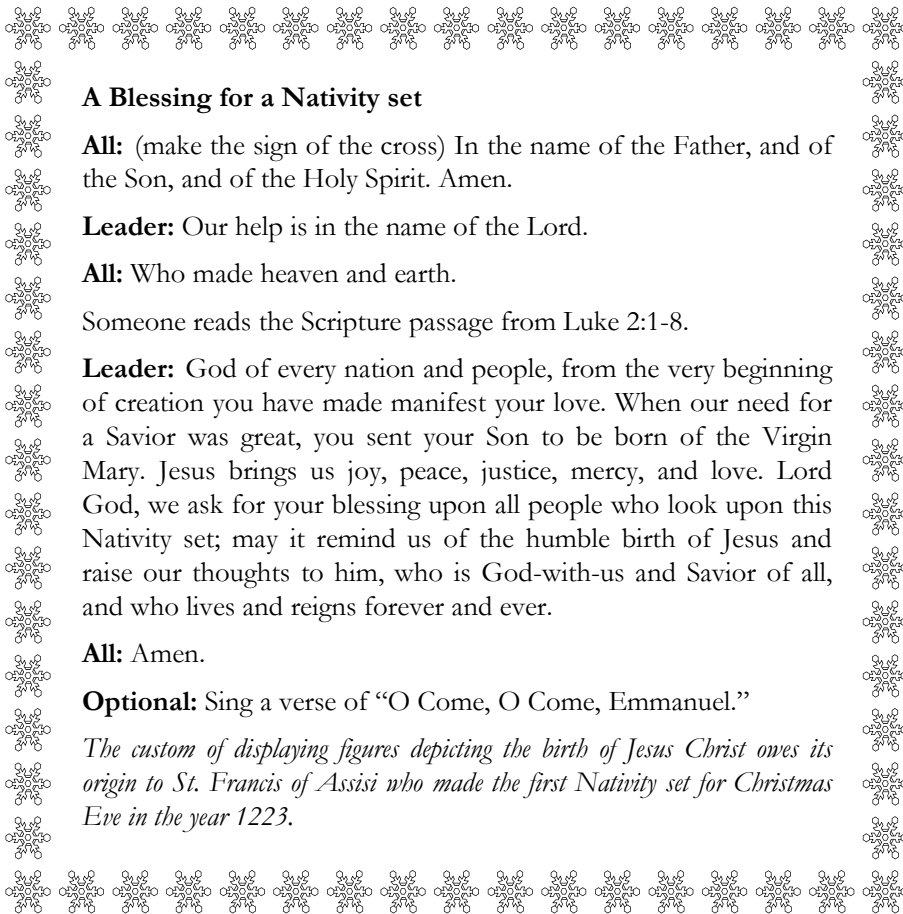
8:45 AM Mass (4th Sunday of Advent)

10:30 AM No Mass

4:00 PM and 10:00 PM (Christmas Eve Masses)

Monday, December 25

10:00 AM (Christmas Day Mass)



A Blessing for a Nativity set

All: (make the sign of the cross) In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

Someone reads the Scripture passage from Luke 2:1-8.

Leader: God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love. When our need for a Savior was great, you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus brings us joy, peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord God, we ask for your blessing upon all people who look upon this Nativity set; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

All: Amen.

Optional: Sing a verse of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

The custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi who made the first Nativity set for Christmas Eve in the year 1223.

Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for December 2023: For persons with disabilities. We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

"Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home."

—G. K. Chesterton

— SOCIAL JUSTICE & CARING —

Faith in Action for the Holidays

God has made us stewards of the earth. What types of lights are we using on our Christmas trees? If they need replacing be sure to recycle the old ones rather than throwing them in the trash. When we treat the ice around our homes do we use salt and other chemicals? Would ground cherry pits serve just as well? Holiday gatherings are great fun but think about organic recycle for uneaten food. We can enjoy the holidays and yet be faithful stewards at the same time. These are simple actions but they put our faith into action.

Catholic Charities Giving Tree

There is still time to donate items!

Catholic Charities Annual Giving Tree is a program that provides essential items such as clothing, housewares and self-care items to children and adults. Folded flyers are available on a Christmas tree in the Gathering Space which list the items being collected. Simply take a flyer, purchase your gift(s) and then place the UNWRAPPED gifts in the bin located in the Gathering Space by December 25th.

Thank you for your continued care and generosity towards the people of this parish community and beyond.

Food Distribution Ministry

Paper and Plastic Bags Needed!

The Progressive Baptist Fishes and Loaves Weekly Food Shelf and St. Pascal's monthly food distribution with Merrick Community Services are in need of LOTS of grocery bags to pack food for those in need. Please consider bringing extra bags you have and placing them in the donation closet.

Volunteers Needed!

It takes many hands to get food ready for our neighbors in need. New volunteers are always welcome to help with food distribution at both St. Pascal's and Progressive.

To volunteer or learn more, please contact Mary Weyandt at mlweyandt@mac.com (Merrick/St. Pascal's) or Ann Karner at akarner24@gmail.com (Progressive). We look forward to working together for the support of our local community.

— In Christ We Live Forever —

Please remember in your prayers...

Dean Larson

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 —

Parking Lot Safety

Please note that both driveways going into the church parking lot from Flandrau Street and the driving lane near the dumpsters are chained off during school recess from 10:50-11:40 AM to keep the school children safe while playing at recess. Parking is available near Door 5 (entering off Third Street), in the Conway lot, or on the street during that 50-minute period. Parking in the main church lot WILL be available for funerals and parish events. If you have questions, please call the school office at 651.776.0092. Thank you for helping us keep our children safe.

Davanni's Night is Coming!**Washington, D.C. Fundraiser for SPRCS**

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 from 4:00 - 8:00 PM

Help support students from St. Pascal Regional who will be going to Washington, D.C. next year. Stop by our nearby Davanni's at 310 White Bear Avenue for something delicious to eat. 20% of your total order will be donated to this fundraising effort. Thank you for your support while enjoying some great Davanni's food! *Be sure to bring the coupon inserted in this bulletin or to mention St. Pascal's when you order*

Grief Tips for Managing Holidays #6

Be compassionate with yourself. Reflect on all you have to be grateful for. This is not to deny your grief, for the pain of loss does take precedence now. Consider all the things that are day brighteners for you: the lights, music, people, foods of the season, gathering with family and friends, etc. For additional grief information find the blue sheets in the kiosk in the Gathering Space or contact Barb Uschold Anderson, Pastoral Care Associate 651.432.4959.

"I am lonesome for all the conversations we never had."

—John O'Donohue, from *To Bless the Space Between Us: A Book of Blessings*

Great News for St. Pascal's—Congratulations!

"The Catholic Community Foundation is delighted to share with you that the Advisory Committee for the Parish Net Zero Covenant Grant Program recently reviewed applications and selected the Church of St. Pascal Baylon to receive a grant for \$6,500. This grant will cover all but \$1,000 of the cost of an energy audit and in-depth analysis of greenhouse gas emissions. The analysis will include a detailed work plan for getting your parish to net zero emissions. We are eager to learn alongside you what it takes to get to net zero and how you will walk that path."

Our parish has made great strides through composting, rainwater runoff/rain garden installation, and LED retrofitting. Having a comprehensive, long-range plan that has been developed by professionals in the field ensures that we have expert help in making the best choices for boilers and other systems that can help us achieve net zero.

—Theresa Ruttger, Parish Administrator

— AROUND THE PARISH —

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The parish office will be closed Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday and on Monday, January 1, 2024 for New Year's Day. *Have a beautiful and safe holiday season!*

Join Us for Our Weekly Rosary**All are welcome!**

The gentle repetition in the Rosary is meant to lead one into restful and contemplative prayer related to each Mystery and to help us to enter into the silence of our hearts. Join us every Wednesday at 9:00 AM in the church to pray the Rosary together.

Pascal's Pulse Weekly E-Newsletter

Get the latest news and event reminders (exclusive content, too!) delivered every Thursday to your inbox. We also send important, off-schedule announcements (like unexpected building closures and snow emergencies that impact weekend Masses). And remember: We will never share your email address and you may unsubscribe at any time. Sign up at stpascals.org/e-newsletters or contact the parish office.

As We Enter the Winter Season...**Winter Weather Policy: Cancellation of Events and Building Closure**

The parish office will close and all activities and meetings will be cancelled at the discretion of the pastor or business administrator. Weekday Mass will be offered on weather-related days assuming that the pastor/presider can get to the church and there is someone to unlock the building.

Coming to Mass During the Flu Season

Out of concern for the health and wellbeing of all of our parishioners and visitors, we urge you to be vigilant about your personal health and hygiene. If you have flu-like symptoms (cold, running nose or temperature) it may be best to stay home and watch the Mass on YouTube. And, as always, masks are welcome at all gatherings and meetings at St. Pascal's.

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 4:30 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

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St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church

Mass Times & Intentions

Readings

December 17, 2023

Tuesday, December 19

8:00 AM The people of the parish

Wednesday, December 20

9:30 AM The people of the parish

Thursday, December 21

8:00 AM + Patricia Hawes

Friday, December 22

8:00 AM + Don Hensel

Saturday, December 23

4:30 PM The people of the parish

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:45 AM The people of the parish

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM The people of the parish

10:00 PM The people of the parish

Use Your Smartphone to Make a Donation to St. Pascal's!

1. Scan this QR code.
2. Open the secure link and follow the prompts.
3. Thank you!



St. Pascal's Legacy Society

5 Things You Can Do to Leave a Legacy

1. Prepare a will.
2. Leave a gift (called a bequest) in your will or revocable trust for the not-for-profit organizations that make a difference in your life.
3. Name your favorite not-for-profit as a beneficiary of your IRA or pension plan.
4. Name your favorite not-for-profit as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy.
5. Remember loved ones with memorial gifts.

Please make St. Pascal's an important part of your legacy by remembering St. Pascal's in your estate plan. 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.

Sunday:

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11

(Ps) Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

1 Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday:

Jer 23:5-8

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

Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a

Ps 71:3-6, 16-17

Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday:

Is 7:10-14

Ps 24:1-6

Lk 1:26-38

Thursday:

Sg 2:8-14

Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21

Lk 1:39-45

Friday:

1 Sm 1:24-28

(Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7,

8abcd

Lk 1:46-56

Saturday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24

Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10, 14

Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday:

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29

Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:26-38

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, December 17—Advent 3

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

After Masses Fellowship: Brioschi Hall

After Masses Women's Club Holiday Bake Sale: Brioschi Hall

11:45am Baptism (Rog Family): Church

2:00pm Piano Recital: Church

Monday, December 18- Friday, December 22 (TBD)

4:00pm Men's Club Tree Sales: Conway Lot

Monday, December 18

1:00pm Merrick Set Up: Brioschi Hall, Kitchen

3:30pm Merrick Food Distribution: Flandrau Lot

6:30pm Boy Scouts: Brioschi Hall

Tuesday, December 19

5:30pm SPRCS Lessons & Carols: Church, Brioschi Hall

6:30pm Beacon Team Meeting: Zoom

Wednesday, December 20

9:00am Rosary: Church

9:30am School Mass: Church

6:30pm Choir: Church

6:30pm Faith Formation: Campus

Thursday, December 21

6:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting: Old Church

Friday, December 22

10:00am Christmas Pre-Setup: Founders Room

11:00am E & A Crew Lunch: Brioschi Hall

Saturday, December 23

4:30pm Mass (4th Sunday of Advent)

Sunday, December 24—Advent 4 & Christmas Eve

8:45am Mass (4th Sunday of Advent)

10:00am Christmas Decorating: Church

4:00pm Mass (Christmas Eve)

10:00pm Mass (Christmas Eve)

Monday, December 25—Christmas Day

10:00am Mass (Christmas Day)

Parish office closed—Have a very merry and blessed Christmas

Last Week to Donate to Our Christmas Environment!

REMEMBER SOMEONE IN A SPECIAL WAY THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

Make a donation (any amount) in memory of a family member or loved one, or in honor of 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 in the parish office after December 20 will not appear on the Christmas Flowers bulletin insert on December 25.