



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 11, 2024 | SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR STAFF

Pastor

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

Deacon

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

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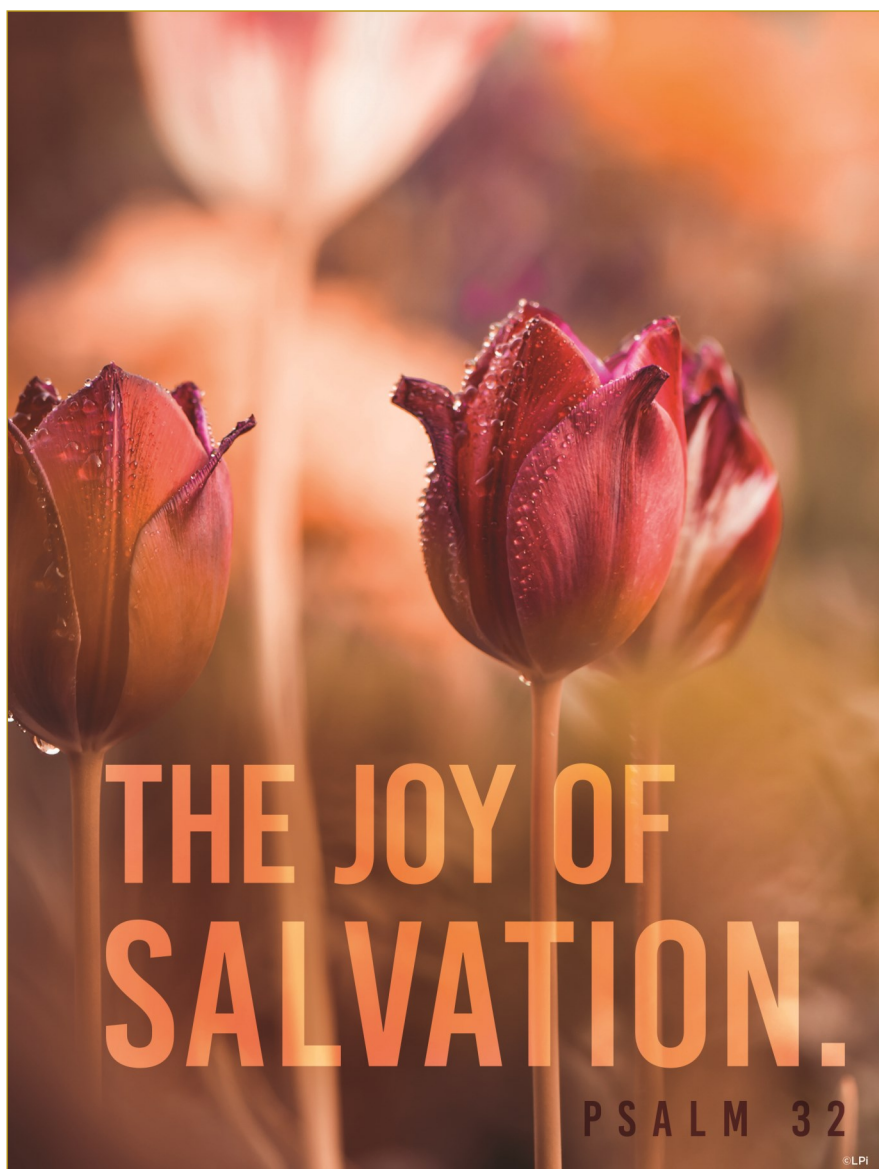
Keri Mader | ext 127
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Communications & Office Manager

Thea Munoz | ext 133
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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:

This upcoming Wednesday, February 14, is Ash Wednesday, and we begin the Season of Lent. The Church invites us to practice three activities during Lent:

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. While it can be challenging to find more time in our daily schedule for prayer, there could be opportunities to pray more often by reducing our screen time (television, computer, cell phone, tablet) or by rising 10-15 minutes earlier in the morning to pray. We can also join in communal prayer with Stations of the Cross at our church on Lent Fridays at 7:00 PM or virtually through various Stations services shown online.

Fasting. Fasting from food allows us to feel hunger and grow in sensitivity towards people around the world who lack access to food. Another benefit of fasting from food is that we practice saying no to something good such as food so that we build up our 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 eating 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. Instead of fasting from food, we could fast from carbonated beverages, or fast from speeding in our car, or fast from going ahead of other people waiting in line at the grocery store or places where there is a crowd. Look for creative ways to temporarily give up items or activities you enjoy and discover how God could invite you to simplify your life.

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 fish.

Almsgiving. This involves sharing our time, talent and treasure with people who are in need. We might choose to give money to Operation Rice Bowl (crsricebowl.org). Small cardboard Rice Bowls are available for you in our Gathering Space. Instead of giving money for almsgiving, alternatives could be giving time to a neighbor who needs help with a task or project, or giving attention to a person we normally walk past or ignore, or sharing our talent for baking, cooking or handy-person home repair projects with someone who would appreciate some help.

I hope you have a blessed Lent. You are in my prayers.

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille. Thinking about separation or divorce? Hurting? Angry? Feel helpless? Retrouvaille is a lifeline for troubled marriages. Couples learn the tools to rediscover each other and heal their marriage. 100% confidential. Where: Best Western Hotel, Eagan, MN. Register: www.helpourmarriage.org. Call 1.800.470.2230.

Monthly Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for February 2024: *For the terminally ill.* We pray that those with a terminal illness and their families receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

God Bless You,

Father John Mitchell

— SOCIAL JUSTICE & CARING —

Faith in Action: *Giving Up or Taking Up?*

Lent, a time when many of us were taught to “give up something”, begins next Wednesday. Giving up something is a good spiritual practice, but sometimes taking up a new charitable act can also be valuable. We have opportunities through the parish with such things as the Merrick and Progressive Baptist Church food distributions, or you can help advocate for more deeply affordable supportive housing with Beacon. Helping a neighbor or family member also “counts”. Even better, give up a guilty pleasure and take up a new activity that could bring extra blessings. Happy Lent.

February Collection: Listening House

Items needed include:

- Men's long sleeve shirts (XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Men's sweats (L, XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Men's coats (L, XL, 2XL)
- Men's jeans (size 34)

Items will be collected in the donation closet through February 25. Thank you for your generosity.

Many Thanks

The food drive to support food distribution at Progressive Baptist Church was a great success—thanks to the generous support of everyone who brought food. Each week the donations were taken to Progressive, boxed that Wednesday and distributed the next Saturday. Not only is Progressive grateful for the food, but also for the dedicated volunteers who come to prepare the boxes each Wednesday and/or distribute it on the first and third Saturdays each month. St. Pascal people are amazing. Thank you so very much.

Eucharistic Ministers: *Spring Schedule*

It is time for the next schedule to be done. We could use more ministers. We need a total of 8 with Father John. If you would like to join this ministry, please contact Joann or the parish office. Please check your calendars for March, April and May and let Joann know of your availability. She needs those dates by February 15. If you have questions or want more information, you may contact Joann at 651.735.2762 or joann.bertini@gmail.com.

— BAPTIZED IN CHRIST —

We welcome into our community of faith...

Izaak Layton Cardinal
child of Andrew and Jennifer

who was recently baptized in our church.
May God bless this household of faith.

— REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS —

Join Us! Kindergarten - 2nd grade Information Night

Thursday, February 15 from 6:00-6:30 PM
Enter through Door 5. Childcare is available during the event.

St. Pascal Regional offers:

- FREE Kindergarten
- An Individualized Learning Plan for EVERY scholar
- Generous financial aid. No one is turned away due to financial circumstances

Please contact us at 651.776.0092 or icollierpaske@stpascalschool.org for more information.

St. Pascal's Women's Book Club

Monday, February 12 at 7:00 PM

Have you ever thought about coming to the St. Pascal's Women's Book Club? Do it in February! We meet on the second Monday of each month in the Staff Lounge. All parish women are invited to join the group for its monthly discussions. You can join us as often as your schedule allows. This month we will discuss Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*. On March 11, we will share thoughts on *Hidden Valley Road* by Robert Kolker. Contact Toni Baker at toni@bakers.us (651.731.7763) for more information or a list of the twelve 2024 selections.



"The world was hers for the reading."

—Betty Smith, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*

St. Pascal's Women's Club Fish Fry Bake Sale is Back and We Need Bakers!

We are asking for baked goods to support the Fish Fry Bake Sales on all Fridays of Lent from Friday, February 16 to Friday, March 22. Can you bake for one or two Fridays?

- Drop off baked goods at the parish office on Fridays before 3:00 PM or at the Bake Sale table outside Brioschi Hall.
- Profits from the sales will stay within the parish and support our local community.

If you have questions or would like to help at a Bake Sale event, please contact:

Kathy Meyer (320.223.5130), grammyofive@outlook.com
Chris Igielski (651.336.1274), csigielski@gmail.com

The St. Pascal's Men's Club Lenten Fish Fry—All Fridays of Lent

Friday, February 16 through Friday, March 22 from 4:30 - 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.

— WOMEN'S CLUB NEWS —

Annual Puzzle and Game Exchange

Two Weekends: February 17/18 and 24/25
Join in the fun! Gather up your puzzles and games bring them through next weekend. There will be a place for them in the Gathering Space. (Please tape the boxes shut.) Then, after all Masses on the last two weekends of February, the puzzles and games will be ready to find a new home.

Spring Plant Sale Update!

The online store for Gertens Spring Plants and plant cards opens February 12!
Go to www.gertensfundraising.com and enter the Women's Club store number 447. Over 80 fantastic items are available: Gertens plant cards, hanging baskets, patio containers, bedding flowers, vegetables, and perennials. Order from the comfort of your home—and in your pajamas if you like! Sale ends Wednesday, March 28. Your orders will be available for pick up after all Masses on May 11 and 12. Just in time for Mother's Day!

This is a major fundraiser for the St. Pascal's Women's Club, please support us. If you have any questions, contact Ellen Aeling at ellenoaeling@gmail.com.

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 use of LOTS of grocery bags to pack food for those in need. Please bring your extra bags and leave them in the donation closet. Thanks for your help!

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 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

February 11, 2024

Tuesday, February 13

8:00 AM The people of the parish

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday

9:30 AM The people of the parish

6:30 PM The people of the parish

Thursday, February 15

8:00 AM + LaDonna Reisdorf

Friday, February 16

8:00 AM The people of the parish

Saturday, February 17

4:30 PM + Jim Stach

Sunday, February 18

1st Sunday of Lent

8:45 AM + William and
+ Darlene Timm

10:30 AM 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!



CRS RICE BOWL—Lent Is Coming!

Join our faith community in a transformative Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl to meet people in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia who are working hard to overcome the challenges of hunger and the impact of climate change. Pick up your family's Rice Bowl from the Gathering Space beginning February 10/11. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to ensure our sisters and brothers worldwide can thrive. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Support Mater Dei Africa!

There is still time to support the Women's Club's international charity, Mater Dei Africa! We will be collecting funds until the end of February. We have collected over \$2,000, and our goal is to collect \$3,000 to support 33 families with the supplies and training to begin their beekeeping business in Tanzania. You can make a donation by writing a check to "St. Pascal's Women's Club" and note "Mater Dei Africa" in the memo line. Thank you for your contributions! If you have questions, please email Carmen Álvarez at carmenalvarez@technologynorth.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, February 11

11:30am Confirmation I: Staff Lounge

2:00pm NFMC Recital: Church

Monday, February 12

10:00am Small Group 1: Spiritual Direction Room

2:30pm Small Group 2: Spiritual Direction Room

6:30pm Boy Scouts: Brioschi Hall

6:30pm Small Group 3: Spiritual Direction Room

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

Tuesday, February 13

8:45am Small Group 5: Parish Conference Room

9:00am Lent Decorating: Church

10:00am Small Group 4: Spiritual Direction Room

6:30pm Parish Life and Activities: Zoom

6:30pm Small Group 6: Spiritual Direction Room

Wednesday, February 14—Ash Wednesday

9:00am Small Group 7 (time TBD): Spiritual Direction Room

9:00am Rosary: Church

9:30am School Mass w/ashes: Church

1:30pm Small Group 8: Founders Room

6:30pm Mass w/ashes: Church

Thursday, February 15

9:30am Small Group 9: Spiritual Direction Room

6:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting: Old Church

6:30pm Small Group 10: Spiritual Direction Room

Friday, February 16

8:00am Men's Club Fish Fry Setup: Brioschi Hall, Kitchen

4:30pm Men's Club Fish Fry: Brioschi Hall

4:30pm Women's Club Bake Sale: Gathering Space

7:00pm Stations of the Cross: Church

Saturday, February 17

After Mass Fellowship: Brioschi Hall

After Mass Women's Club Puzzle Exchange: Brioschi Hall

Sunday, February 18—Lent 1

After Masses Fellowship: Brioschi Hall

After Masses Women's Club Puzzle Exchange: Brioschi Hall

RCIA: Rite of Sending for Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion

St. Pascal's is blessed to have a candidate, Anna McCallum, who is preparing this year for full communion with the Catholic Church in the RCIA. On Sunday, February 18 at the 10:30 AM Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Sending for Anna. It is our opportunity to surround her with our prayer and support as she goes forth to celebrate the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversation 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 (those not baptized) 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 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) as Anna does. The candidates are called to live in the example of Christ. *Please continue to pray for Anna McCallum.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



In His Mercy

Loving Father,
you sent a rainbow
as a sign of your mercy
and of our relationship with you.
Soften our hardened hearts.
May the mercy that we show others

be a sign that through the waters of baptism
you live in us and that we are your
adopted children.
May our Lenten prayer and sacrifice
fortify us to continue your mission on earth.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 18, 2024

Abundant Mercy



Today's readings: Genesis 9:8–15; Psalm 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; 1 Peter 3:18–22; Mark 1:12–15. “See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every little creature.” With these words, God shows his love as he promises anew to be in relationship with creation. In the reading from the First Letter of Peter, we hear that God saved the eight who were aboard the ark through the waters of the flood and now saves us through the waters of baptism. God, whose love brought us into being, seeks relationship and communion with us. To reconcile us with him, he sent his Son, who prepared for his mission by fasting for forty days in the desert.

During the forty days of Lent, many of us give in to temptation and find ourselves repenting time and again. Knowing that God is merciful and understands our shortcomings, we can always resolve to begin anew. God yearns for relationship with us and does not give up on us.

As one of your Lenten practices, you may have chosen to read the day's Scriptures attentively. Try to approach the readings with fresh eyes willing to allow the text to relate to your life today. Familiar texts can speak to us in the new circumstances, challenges, joys, and sorrows of our lives. All we need is an openness to the Word. God's Word is always relevant.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, February 19 The Neighbor

In Matthew 22:36–39, Jesus tells the scholar about the two greatest commandments: loving God and loving neighbor. Today's passage from Matthew depicts how our actions show love for both God and neighbor. Inviting the sheep on his right to the kingdom, the Son of Man recounts that their feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and welcoming the stranger also fed, clothed, and welcomed Christ. When a reminder is needed on how God expects us to treat our neighbor, return to this passage. *Today's readings: Leviticus 19:1–2, 11–18; Psalm 19:8–10, 15; Matthew 25:31–46.*

Tuesday, February 20 Patiently Waiting

Both the psalm and Gospel show us how to pray. Portraying the need for trust, the psalmist sings, “I sought the LORD and he answered me, / delivered me from all my fears.” In the Gospel, Jesus tells his followers that they need to come to God with humility as they pray that his will be done. Instead of expecting instant gratification from prayer requests, keep in mind that God acts in his time, not ours. Be patient and trust; God will not leave you alone. *Today's readings: Isaiah 55:10–11; Psalm 34:4–7, 16–19; Matthew 6:7–15.*

Wednesday, February 21 Grateful Hearts

Jesus comments in today's Gospel on the generation's desire for a sign. How many times have you prayed and asked for a sign? Many of us want proof that God will come through for us. Remember that God knows what is best for each of us. During this Lent, seek to discern and appreciate what you have been given and thank God for what he has provided. *Today's readings: Jonah 3:1–10; Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 18–19; Luke 11:29–32.*

Thursday, February 22 The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Upon Peter's assertion that Jesus is the Messiah, we hear Jesus tell Peter that he is the rock upon which the Church shall be built. As Christ's followers, we too must voice that Jesus is our Savior. Our faith can be the foundation upon which others' faith can grow. Pope Francis implores us to go out in mission so that through encounters with others, the Church will grow. Our faith is not a secret but a wonderful gift. This Lent, how will you contribute to strengthening the foundation of the Church? *Today's readings: 1 Peter 5:1–4; Psalm 23:1–3a, 4–6; Matthew 16:13–19.*

Friday, February 23 Continuing the Mission

On the optional Memorial of St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr, the Church recalls a second-generation Christian who was a disciple of the apostle John. Before St. Polycarp was burned at the stake, he put his trust in God. He was unafraid of what would happen to him. Pray to be able to trust that God is with you, no matter the trial you face. *Today's readings: Ezekiel 18:21–28; Psalm 130:1–2, 3–4, 5–7a, 7bc–8; Matthew 5:20–26.*

Saturday, February 24 Learning to Love

“If you love those who love you, what recompense will you have?” we hear in today's Gospel. To love without conditions can be difficult. Yet this is what Jesus asks from us. When we have been wronged, it is tempting to seek revenge. Yet, Jesus shows us a higher path. Instead of revenge, Jesus loves everyone and instructs us to forgive. What would it mean for you to love your enemy and to forgive someone who has hurt you? *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 26:16–19; Psalm 119:1–2, 4–5, 7–8; Matthew 5:43–48.*



DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE



CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR ST. PASCAL REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH | 4-8PM

2303 WHITE BEAR AVE N STE H
MAPLEWOOD, MN 55109

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **DGWNV8L**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.