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. Please join us in Brioschi Hall after Mass for hospitality and to find out more.

DECEMBER 22, 2019  |  FOURTH 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
mike.kelleher@stpascals.org

Pastoral Associate for Liturgy
Keri Mader  |  ext 127
keri.mader@stpascals.org

Pastoral Associate for Music
Sharon Balcom  |  ext 126
sharon.balcom@stpascals.org

Pastoral Associate for Social Justice
Bonnie Steele  |  ext 129
bonnie.steele@stpascals.org

Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation
Kim Roering  |  ext 128
kim.roering@stpascals.org

Communications & Office Manager
Thea Munoz  |  ext 133
thea.munoz@stpascals.org

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

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

Mass Times
Saturday  4:30 PM  I  Sunday  8:45 & 10:30 AM (ASL)  I  Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  8:00 AM  I  Wednesday 9:25 AM
1757 Conway Street  I  Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106  I  651.774.1585
website: www.stpascals.org  I  email: church@stpascals.org
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

On behalf of all of us here at St. Pascal Baylon Parish, I wish you a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year 2020. I pray that the joy of Jesus’ birth will fill your heart with peace and hope. Jesus was born in our world long ago at Bethlehem, and we can imagine the vulnerability of the baby Jesus lying in the manger. Jesus was born into an imperfect world, and today we still live in an imperfect world that includes suffering, violence and pain. At the same time, Christmas reminds us that Jesus chose to enter our world because of His love for us. Each day Jesus shows His love for us through the Sacraments we celebrate, through His real presence in the Eucharist, through the compassion we experience in our parish community, in the Christian service we offer to the poor and needy, and in the beauty of our Church’s liturgy filled with Scripture, song, prayer and art. I am grateful to serve as your pastor. You are an amazing parish filled with a strong faith, and I pray that this Christmas you will experience once again God’s deep love for you.

Baby Bottle Fundraiser Coming in January. From January 5-26, we will have a fundraiser to support the work of Options for Women East LifeCare Center (891 White Bear Ave., St. Paul, 651.776.2328, optionsforwomeneast.com). Options for Women East offers services and resources at no cost to women who are unexpectedly pregnant. After all the weekend Masses on January 4-5, a plastic baby bottle will be available to each person who would like to take the bottle home and fill it with cash or a check. Then you can bring the bottle back to church and deposit the bottle and its contents into the large baby bottle receptacle which will be in our Gathering Space. If you prefer electronic giving, the donor website for Options for Women East is ofwepartners.com.

Thank you letters from the Archdiocesan Center for Mission. This past October and November, I received two thank you letters from the Center for Mission. The first letter thanked our parish for the gift of $4,852.78 that we collected in June when Father John Extejt, OSFS, (Oblates of St. Francis de Sales) visited our parish to preach at all the Masses for the Missionary Cooperation Plan. The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales serve the poor, hungry and needy in Haiti, India, Namibia, South Africa, Brazil, Ecuador, Uruguay, Columbia, Benin and the Ivory Coast. The second letter thanked our parish for the gift of $2,526.00 that we collected in November for World Mission Sunday which supports over 1,100 struggling mission dioceses worldwide. Thank you for your financial and prayerful support of the missionary work of the Church.

Pope Francis’ Petitions for December 2019 and January 2020

December 2019: The Future of the Very Young: That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

January 2020: Promotion of World Peace: We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

God Bless You,
Father John Mitchell

Christmas Season

Holy Day Liturgy Schedule

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
Tuesday, December 24:
4:00 PM (no incense) & 10:00 PM
Wednesday, December 25: 10:00 AM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Tuesday, December 31: 4:00 PM
Wednesday, January 1: 9:00 AM

Archdiocesan Synod 2021

Wondering how you can participate in the Synod?

1. Please pray for the Synod and our Archdiocese
2. Pray the pre-synod prayer and the monthly prayer intention
   - Attend one of the 20 prayer and listening events
   - Complete the “Disciple Maker Index” Survey, rolling out in February 2020
4. Year 2 (Fall 2020):
   - Join a parish small group

Learn more at www.archspm.org/synod.

Winter Weather and Office Closure

On those days when the St. Paul Public School District closes city schools due to weather, St. Pascal Regional Catholic School closes its school as well. When this happens, all school and parish activities and meetings will be cancelled. The building may also be closed at the discretion of the pastor or business administrator. Daily Mass will be offered on weather-related days assuming that the pastor/presider can get to the church.

Spiritual Care Volunteers

Cerinity-Marian of Saint Paul is in need of Spiritual Care Volunteers and Eucharistic Ministers for those who cannot attend our daily Mass. Both tenants in the apartments and residents in our care center may receive communion and a visit. If you are interested in this opportunity or any of the others below, please contact Jackie Bruns at 651.793.2116 or jackie.bruns@bhshealth.org.

Other needs: Outing escorts, 1:1 visitors/befrienders for lonely residents, nail painters, activity assistants and more.

In Christ We Live Forever

Please remember in your prayers…

Mary Ann Schwab

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.
SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Ramsey Family Service Center
It’s time to make our schedule for 2020 Ramsey Family Service Center Meal Services.
St. Pascal volunteers have served meals to those who often go without since March of 1983—beginning at the Neighborhood House on St. Paul’s Westside, then at the Lowry Family Shelter in downtown St. Paul, and currently at Ramsey Family Service Center near Aldrich arena. Some volunteers serve an evening weekday meal from 5:00-7:00 PM (3rd, 4th or 5th Monday and 2nd Wednesday of the month), others serve lunch on Monday. All assignments are every other month (6 times a year).
Some of our groups need callers to remind the volunteers of their service night. Could you make 4-5 calls a few days before the team is scheduled to work? It’s an easy volunteer job that can be done from home! Contact Toni Baker at 651.731.7763 or toni@bakers.us for more information, to volunteer, to change your service time, etc.

Financial Updates
Year-End Financial Gifts: As this calendar year quickly comes to a close you may 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 by December 31 to be considered for the 2019 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.
Each of us is called to be a good steward of what God has given. We are caretakers of what God has given to us—we don’t own it and we won’t have it forever. We don’t earn any of these things—God bestows them abundantly upon us.
Fr. John Mitchell

Many Thanks! Thank you to the Men’s and Women’s Clubs and an anonymous donor for funding plumbing work in the breezeway bathrooms. There was a history of water pressure problems in both the girl’s and boy’s room sinks resulting in little water available for hand washing. Our plumbers from Gilbert Mechanical are scheduled for over the school Christmas break and school students should enjoy the soap bubbles for years to come.

Confirmation Preparation
9th Grade Families
In November a mailing was sent to families of 9th graders regarding registration for confirmation. If you have a 9th grader and did not receive the mailing, please contact Kim Roering in the parish office. Youth in 9th grade and older who wish to prepare for the sacrament are welcome to be a part of the process. Registration deadline has been extended to January 6.

Seeking Dismissal Leaders for RCIA
This year we have one young person, a 5th grader, preparing to celebrate the initiation sacraments at the Easter Vigil. As a part of the RCIA process, catechumens—those who have not yet been baptized—are dismissed from Mass following the homily to reflect on the readings with a member of the parish. Dismissals will begin on January 11 and will rotate among all three Masses. If you are willing and able to help with this ministry, or would like more information, please contact Kim Roering in the parish office.

JustFaith Catholic
The Gospel invites us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, going where Jesus goes and loving who Jesus loves. To love like Jesus is to love our family and friends AND the poor and vulnerable. If you would like to explore this ministry of love, you are invited to participate in the JustFaith Catholic program. This fall, two small groups met as a part of JustFaith Catholic Phase One, with a focus on "Journey to Compassion." Phase Two—"Journey to Justice"—will begin at the end of January. Through its focus on the U.S. criminal justice system and income inequality, Phase Two challenges participants to revisit how our faith informs our responsibility to each other. One can join Phase Two even if they did not participate in Phase One. JustFaith Catholic at St. Pascal’s is sponsored by the Social Justice and Caring Committee and the Adult Faith Formation Committee.
Registration forms are now available in the kiosks and on the parish website. Watch the bulletin and website for more information about Phase Two or contact Ann Karner at 651.330.0024.
### Mass Times & Intentions

- **Tuesday, December 24**  
  *Christmas Eve*  
  4:00 PM  The people of the parish  
  10:00 PM  The people of the parish  

- **Wednesday, December 25**  
  *Christmas Day*  
  10:00 AM  The people of the parish  

- **Thursday, December 26**  
  8:00 AM  The people of the parish  

- **Friday, December 27**  
  8:00 AM  + A deceased member of the parish  

- **Saturday, December 28**  
  4:30 PM  The people of the parish  

- **Sunday, December 29**  
  *The Holy Family*  
  8:45 AM  The people of the parish  
  10:30 AM  + Mary Louise Coburn

### Heart Question  

**Welcoming Light**  

*When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took Mary as his wife.*  

Matthew 1:24  

**Adults:** Whom do you find it difficult to welcome in your life? What can you do to overcome that?  

**Kids:** What could you do this week to make someone feel welcome, as Joseph welcomed Mary?

### Readings  

**Sunday:**  

Is 7:10-14  
Ps 24:1-6  
Rom 1:1-7  
Mt 1:18-24  

**Monday:**  

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24  
Ps 25:4bc-Sab, 8-10, 14  
Lk 1:57-66  

**Tuesday:**  

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29  
Lk 1:67-79  

**Wednesday:**  

The Nativity of the Lord  
4:00 & 10:00 PM:  
Is 9:1-6  
Ps 96:1-3, 11-13  
Ti 2:11-14  
Lk 2:1-14  

**Thursday:**  

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59  
Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17  
Mt 10:17-22  

**Friday:**  

1 Jn 1:1-4  
Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8  

**Saturday:**  

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14  
Ps 128:1-5 / Col 3:12-21  
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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### Stewardship of Giving  

**Financials for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020**  

**October 2019**  

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Sunday Collection</strong></th>
<th><strong>Budgeted</strong></th>
<th><strong>Variance</strong></th>
<th><strong>Variance (%)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Sunday Giving</td>
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<td>Budgeted</td>
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<td>YTD Sunday Giving</td>
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<th><strong>Mortgage</strong></th>
<th><strong>Loan Balance (11/15/19)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Payment</strong></th>
<th><strong>Payment Variance</strong></th>
<th><strong>Interest Variance</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$3,508,283.99</td>
<td>$24,389.84</td>
<td>(-$11,508.37)</td>
<td>(-$12,881.47)</td>
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**Thank you for your support!**
Visit us at www.stpascals.org for more information on upcoming events.

Sunday, December 22, 2019—4th Sunday of Advent
9:00am  Men’s Club Christmas Tree sales: Conway Lot
After Masses  New Member Registration: Brioschi Hall

Monday, December 23, 2019-Monday, January 6, 2020
No School/School office closed for Christmas Break

Monday, December 23, 2019
9:00am  Men’s Club Christmas Tree sales: Conway Lot

Tuesday, December 24, 2019—CHRISTMAS EVE
12:00pm Parish office closed
4:00pm  Mass (Lessons & Carols at 3:30 PM)
10:00pm Mass (Carols at 9:30 PM)

Wednesday, December 25, 2019—CHRISTMAS DAY
Parish office closed
10:00am  Mass (Carols at 9:40 AM)

Thursday, December 26, 2019
No scheduled events

Friday, December 27, 2019
No scheduled events

Saturday, December 28, 2019
No scheduled events

Sunday, December 29, 2019—The Holy Family
No scheduled events

Monday, December 30, 2019
No scheduled events

Tuesday, December 31, 2019—New Year’s Eve
4:00pm  Mass for Mary Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1, 2020—MARY MOTHER OF GOD
Holy day of obligation
9:00am  Mass

Rejoice!
“The Lord your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”
Zephaniah 3:17

REMEMBER SOMEONE IN A SPECIAL WAY
THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON
Purchase a plant or make a donation (any amount) 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 22. Suggested donation is $10.

I would like to purchase a Christmas plant (circle one)

In Honor of  /  In Memory of

From:

Thank you for your generosity and care!

Please note: Memorial/Honorarium names received after December 22 will not appear in the Christmas Flowers bulletin insert on December 29 (Holy Family).