

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie March 2020

PAX CHRISTI

News



A Calling to Leadership

We invite you
to consider
joining one of our
ministry councils.

Pages 6-10



PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208
Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm
Friday 8:00am–12:00pm

Mission Statement: As a community of faith nourished by the Eucharist, we are committed in our discipleship with Christ to act for justice, be of generous service, and authentically welcome all to Pax Christi Catholic Community.

Values: God-Centered, Justice, Inclusion, Spiritual Growth, Stewardship, and Lay Leadership.

Mass Schedule

Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Mondays	8:30am
Tuesdays	8:30am
Wednesdays	6:00pm
Thursdays	8:30am (Word Communion Service)
Fridays	8:30am

Rosary prayed following weekday morning Masses.
Nursery available at all Sunday Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)

Saturdays 3:30–4:30pm (lent)

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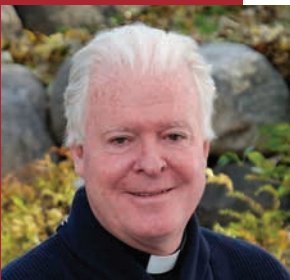
Staff Contacts



Dear Friends...

You don't need me to tell you that we are living in a moment of great challenge in our church, country, and world concerning our ability and willingness to engage one another with civility. We are diverse in our backgrounds, political opinions, and expectations of church community. So it has ever been, but we are in danger of losing our ability to speak with one another across our differences without resorting to crude name-calling or dismissive insults. Many of those to whom we look to lead us are not helping, and the sins of social media are often egregious. It ought to be a responsibility of any Catholic Christian community to create safe space for conversations, even difficult ones, and I reflect a lot about what I and we can do to make that happen. How do we sustain an environment of civility here at Pax Christi when there seem to be so few other public places where that occurs? Here I offer just a few of my own thoughts.

Fr. J. Michael Byron
Pastor



First, it seems to me that the great driver of hate speech and disrespect is fear, both my own and those with whom I am engaging. I can't know or fix another person's fear, but I can be

rigorously honest and attentive to mine. What exactly do I think I'm putting at risk in daring to speak generously with another person? Perhaps it's my social standing among a group, or maybe it's the worry that I will appear stupid or ill-informed about the dispute in question. I may fear the uncharitable response that will come back at me, especially if it comes from a person in authority. Or it may be the fear that my voice won't be taken seriously at all. We all have our own "triggers" for fear. And that's why it helps me also to remember that the person with whom I am speaking is carrying around a life experience of which I am probably completely unaware, including a history of being wounded and discounted. Humility is essential, given that there is much that I don't (yet) know about the other person.

Second, I believe that silence and avoidance around difficult issues is not "creating a climate" of safety or compassion. In fact, it may well have the opposite effect. To know that there is unresolved or unacknowledged conflict in the room and then to decide deliberately to do nothing about it can really be an act of injury. It is true that there is a time for speaking and a time for silence in matters of dispute, but neither of those responses is helpful if it is permanent.



Third, I am aware that disagreement is not inherently uncivil, nor is agreement necessarily “civil.” I have many friends and relatives with whom I do not agree about important matters and they are aware of this. A context of friendship, trust, and love can allow those conversations to happen without threatening to devolve into destructive attacks or the intentional humiliation of another person. That’s why the creation of safe space first is so vital. Social media provides no such thing, which is why it is often so vicious. On the other hand, it is quite possible for people to be in agreement about destructive ideas, such as white supremacy, racism, and all kinds of selfish projects. That’s not civil.

Fourth, while it is true that there is virtue in being broadly tolerant of various points of view in a discussion, it is helpful for me to realize that diversity *per se* is not an absolute value. This is especially true when disputes turn toward matters of religion. Catholicism, for example, is a tradition that upholds both articles of faith that are non-negotiable and a diverse array of legitimate expressions/applications of that faith that are many and varied—in fact they are to be celebrated. Many of our heated religious disputes turn on the question of which matters belong to which category.

And finally, it is clear to me that so much of the rancorous, uncivil shouting that goes on these days is the result of how questions are framed. And questions are capable of being reframed with better outcomes. So often our disputes begin with inquiring into who or what is to blame for a negative situation or probing into what’s wrong with the person who doesn’t accept the point of view that I already know to be the singularly correct one. That sort of question really short circuits the whole discipline of careful conversation. And it is a discipline, requiring of a respectful investigation into the merits of various claims and perspectives. That requires time, honesty, and a safe environment in which to speak (and perhaps to be proven incorrect).

Let us pray for the grace to hear, listen, and speak with honesty and civility.



A Calling to Leadership —Your Personal Invitation!

Lay leadership, as described at the second Vatican Council, was one of the founding principles of Pax Christi Catholic Community, and it remains a key value to be upheld. We work hard to strengthen that leadership. If you are passionate about Pax Christi and want to help create the future, we invite you to consider joining one of our ministry councils. Here are some questions to consider as you explore possibilities for each council.

We need people to promote the wise stewardship of our physical assets. Can you help? (Arts, Campus, and Gardens)

· We need people to help meet the pastoral needs of fellow parishioners. Can you help? (Care and Support)

· We need people to promote a strategic, consistent, and effective approach to communications within the Pax Christi community. Can you help? (Communications)

· We need people to oversee the parish finances and provide financial advice. Can you help? (Finance and Development)

· We need people to create a sense of community and belonging, connecting all to God and one another. Can you help? (Hospitality and Community Outreach)

· We need people to serve and speak for the marginalized in our society. Can you help? (Justice)

· We need people to support the collegial lay leadership in this community. Can you help? (Lay Leadership Development and Engagement)

· We need people to nourish the spiritual hunger within all members of the parish community to strengthen our believing. Can you help? (Lifelong Faith Formation)

· We need people to help guide the preparation of our various forms of worship, especially the celebration of the Eucharist. Can you help? (Worship)

· We need people to consider parish-wide issues. Can you help? (Community Council)

There will be two information night sessions on April 14 and 16 (you need attend only one of these, since they are identical) at which you can ask questions about any council.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Dave Putrich, Chair, Lay Leadership Development, dputrich@comcast.net, or 612-839-7820; or Maura Schnorbach, staff liaison, at mschnorbach@paxchristi.com or by phone at 952-405-7220. You may also find additional information at www.paxchristi.com/nominate.

Written by Dave Putrich, Chair of Lay Leadership, Development, and Engagement Council

The Knock on the Door...

The passage, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you” from the Gospel of Matthew: 7:7 is familiar to most of us. It has been a favorite of mine from childhood and I am beginning to discover its power. As we reach toward the life that we want, the “unseeing hand of God” is helping us.

Sometimes we show up and don’t realize that we are “knocking” on the wrong door. We may also find that doors close, and we can’t understand why. We may feel broken-hearted and remain standing stubbornly knocking at that door. And yet, God in his grace and love, calls us to move in a bold new direction. This may show up in encouragement from our friends and family. There may be a gentle “nudge.” For some of us, it may come with an unexpected catastrophe that brings us to our knees.

What we may not realize is that God is calling us to a bigger life. I will admit, I have not always been a willing student. I have learned lots of lessons the hard way. I am now trying a gentler approach. Elizabeth Gilbert encourages us to “follow the breadcrumbs of joy.”

At Pax Christi we are preparing, **A Call to Leadership**. We will have two information nights and a commitment night to explore the “calling” to council leadership at Pax Christi. This is an opportunity to pray, to reflect, and to learn about our nine councils from our leadership. You may attend one of the information nights on April 14 or 16. The commitment night is on May 6. We are knocking at your door.

You may wonder if you are qualified. If you are baptized and a member of Pax Christi, you have the qualifications you need. You may grapple with whether you are ready. You may have a restless heart. You may be seeking more meaning and purpose in your life but are uncertain what to do. You may want to make a big impact, but don’t know how. You may be looking for a deeper sense of community. If these describe you, you may be “called” to leadership. You may also feel deeply convicted and know that you are ready to step into a bigger role. Council leadership at Pax Christi is inclusive. You may nominate yourself. If you know someone talented, you may nominate them. You can fill out a nomination form online at our Pax Christi website, or use a paper nomination form at Mass. The forms can be dropped off at the front desk or in the office.

Pax Christi is passionate about the lay leadership model. We are all stakeholders in our beloved community. By sharing your gifts and talents, you can be part of building the vision and mission of Pax Christi. Our leadership will be here to guide you every step of the way.

Our Catholic faith, Pax Christi core values, prayer, and a spirit of collegiality guide all of the work here. Complete details are on the Pax Christi website at www.paxchristi.com. If you have questions, please contact Maura Schnorbach, Director of Development and Engagement, mschnorbach@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-7220. The door is open for you.

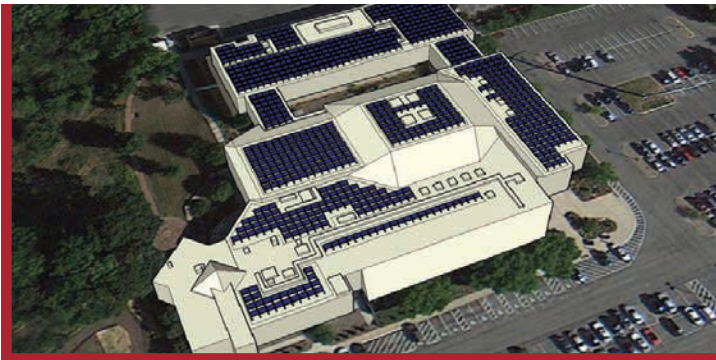
Written by Maura Schnorbach, Director of Development and Engagement



Councils in Action

Consider how you may be called to Council Leadership at Pax Christi.
“Be the Change You Want to See”

Additional details and photos at www.paxchristi.com/layleadership



ARTS, CAMPUS, AND GARDENS COUNCIL

Scope: Steward the campus of Pax Christi including: 25-acres, walking paths, gardens, labyrinth, solar panels, pollinator habitat, sanctuary, chapel, gym, nursery, and sacred art to support flourishing ministries.

Accomplishments: Restored pollinator habitat for butterflies and bees. Installed solar panels on campus to generate energy and reduce the Pax Christi carbon footprint. Hosted Art Exhibit featuring members’ artwork. Worked with the Shared Ministry Team to maintain campus: painting, repairing, cleaning, and planting gardens.



CARE AND SUPPORT COUNCIL

Scope: The Pax Christi Care and Support Ministry extends God’s love and mercy to all through a holistic model of care for the mind, body, and spirit. Care and Support offers over a dozen ministries including Twelve Baskets collections, Funeral Hospitality, and Burgundy Bag Food Drive.

Accomplishments: Planned and hosted the first Parish Wellness Day, implemented the nationally recognized Befriender Ministry, and led the Wounded Body of Christ Listening Session.



COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL

Scope: Communications is a new Council at Pax Christi, founded in fall 2019. Council members bring together many talent areas to tell the story of Pax Christi. We are writers, editors, event planners, marketers, storytellers, communicators, and connectors. We offer advice about the best ways to get the “word out” and help build the Pax Christi “brand.”

Accomplishments: Collaborated on the redesign of the SERVE. Provided video production and marketing for Pax Christi ministries.



FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Scope: Provides strategic vision, and collaborates with Pax Christi leadership to steward the financial resources of the community with transparency and “best practices” to ensure flourishing ministries.

Accomplishments: Shifted our investment portfolio to improve our investment performance. Provided support for major capital projects such as the solar energy project. Operated in the “black” for over a decade. Received the Archdiocesan Stewie Award for the Pax Christi Endowment Fund with the FIT. (2019)

HOSPITALITY AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH COUNCIL

Scope: Builds community by offering welcome, hospitality, and fellowship. Hospitality creates a culture of belonging and inclusion where *All Are Welcome*.

Accomplishments: The Hospitality and Community Outreach Ministry offers Sunday Hospitality, collaborates on community and cultural celebrations, and honors shared ministers at the January Jamboree. The Hospitality Ministry works with the Boy Scouts, Boomers, Christmas Tea and Boutique Committees, Cana Dinner, and Mom's ROCK to build community at Pax Christi.



JUSTICE COUNCIL

Scope: The Justice Ministry works to address the most pressing needs in society, educates the community on issues related to poverty and justice, and serves as a catalyst for building a more justice and equitable society. The work is grounded in the gospel and Catholic Social Teaching.

Accomplishments: Organized Justice Action Teams and planted a Giving Garden for PROP. Administered Justice Grants with the Pax Christi Justice Grant's Board. Convened spacious community conversations.



LAY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT COUNCIL

Scope: Inspiring, recruiting, and onboarding Lay Leadership at Pax Christi for Councils and Ministries. Award Lay Leadership Grants to members of Pax Christi. Collaborated with councils on *A Calling to Leadership*.

Accomplishments: Collaborated with Marketing and staff to redesign the SERVE. Collaborated with Marketing to redesign and rebrand *A Calling to Leadership* process. Approved four Lay Leadership Grant proposals. Co-facilitated with Lifelong Faith Formation the four-week class on Vatican II.



LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION COUNCIL

Scope: LLFC is committed to providing a wide range of faith formation experiences for people throughout their lives. The program welcomes all to grow in their faith and develop community within Pax Christi.

Accomplishments: The Wine, Women, and Scripture event had a sold-out crowd of 100 women gather for an evening of fellowship. In 2019 the Men's Ministry launched. Its goal is to share faith and build community. LLFC offers classes, small groups, book studies, and engages youth.



WORSHIP COUNCIL

Scope: Creates joyful music and liturgies so members of the Pax Christi community can experience God's love and mercy. Inspires spiritual transformation, peace, and love with Christ-centered liturgies.

Accomplishments: Pax Christi offers opportunities for its members to celebrate liturgy with the Bell Choir, Ensemble, or Choir. Youth share their gifts, too. There are four liturgies every weekend to deepen the spiritual lives of members. Pax Christi holds interfaith events and cultural celebrations.



RECOMMENDATION FORM 2020-2021 Pax Christi Lay Leadership

You may complete a digital nomination form online at
www.paxchristi.com/nominate

Pray constantly and attentively for all in the holy company. –Ephesians 6:18

Your Name

Name of person you wish to recommend
(you may recommend yourself)

**I wish to recommend this person to serve
on the following council** (circle one or more below)

- Arts, Campus, and Gardens (ACG)
- Care and Support
- Communications
- Lifelong Faith Formation (LFFC)
- Finance and Development
- Justice
- Justice Grants Board
- Lay Leadership Development and Engagement (LLDE)
- Hospitality and Community Outreach
- Worship
- Community Council (Member at Large)
- I trust this person to choose a particular council after considering his/her gifts and the needs of the councils.

**Please complete this form and return it to the
parish office by March 24, 2020.**

Parish Leadership Councils Information Nights will inform recommended parishioners about the lay leadership model and describe what the commitment to serve as a council member entails. By coming to the Information Night you have not yet committed to serve.

Information Nights:

April 14 or April 16; 6:30-8:00pm

Questions? Contact Dave Putrich, Chair, Lay Leadership Development, dputrich@comcast.net, or 612-839-7820.

CUT ALONG DASHED LINE AND RETURN TO PARISH OFFICE



Pax Christi Values

GOD-CENTERED ~ We hold God as the center of our daily lives and provide a place for spiritual rest and rejuvenation.

JUSTICE ~ We advocate for the marginalized and act as catalysts for systemic change.

INCLUSION ~ We build relationships and create an inclusive culture through our attitudes, actions, and activities.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ~ We engage in a lifelong process of spiritual growth and continually learn how to live out our faith.

STEWARDSHIP ~ We acknowledge our God-given gifts and put them into action as we pray, serve, and share.

LAY LEADERSHIP ~ We co-lead and share in the responsibility of upholding the mission of the church.

Care and Support Ministry

Providing a Place for Spiritual Rest and Rejuvenation

One of Pax Christi's values is being God-centered, and we in Care and Support Ministry embrace this value by holding God as the center of our daily lives and providing a place for spiritual rest and rejuvenation.

Many days, with the hectic pace of today's world and our overly-scheduled lives, it's difficult to be God-centered. Amidst the family commitments, work commitments, housework, grocery shopping, car repairs, endless errands, etc., I can't believe I'm the only person who finds it difficult to feel rested and rejuvenated.

And yet in the *Vatican News* article "2019: The Year in Review with Pope Francis," the Pope calls us to "[put] Christ at the centre." The basis of this is "conversion to the living Gospel, which is Jesus. True conversion means putting oneself aside, ...putting Christ at the center and letting the Holy Spirit be the protagonist of our lives." Quite the validation to realize Pax Christi's God-centered value is totally in sync with the pope!

The mission of Pax Christi's Care and Support Council is to serve as a model and resource to individuals and families, and to respond to their spiritual, emotional, physical, intellectual, and social needs. The council offers ministries to empower the people of God to share in care and support; they are an outreach of God's compassion, allowing God to be present in peoples' lives.

The Care and Support Council's ministries provide opportunities for parish members to be a living sign of God's presence.

To be a witness for
God is to be a living
sign of God's presence
in the world.
—Henri Nouwen

The Prayer Ministries include:

- Prayer wall on the parish website, offering a place to enter your prayer requests or review regularly as you pray for others
- Prayer basket at Mass
- Prayer shawl ministry
- Rosary group
- Labyrinth walks

The Ministries of Presence include:

- Care center ministers who go out into the community to visit those who can't be with us at Mass
- BeFriender ministers who offer one-on-one listening during times of need
- Eucharistic ministers to the homebound
- Pax pet teams that visit our local care centers to bring love and smiles

The Support Ministries include:

- Funeral hospitality ministers who bring food, set-up, serve, and clean-up and more for each funeral
- Southwest Grief Coalition for those in grief and looking for support
- Compassionate Care Listening Circle in a group model for those at a crossroads in life

The Charity and Service Ministries include:

- Burgundy Bag food drives which support PROP with weekly food donations
- Twelve Baskets, offering a monthly collection to serve those in our community and beyond

It is possible to be God-centered even during our most hectic days. We could pray for those on the prayer intentions wall while sitting in rush hour traffic, make a prayer shawl while watching the evening news, or pick up some non-perishable food items for the Burgundy Bags during our weekly grocery store run. Hopefully we can carve out some time for reflection during the labyrinth walk. Or, we can schedule time to be present with others as a BeFriender or homebound minister. These are just a few ways we can live a God-centered life for others.

Bring Your Best Friend to ‘Work!’

Most of us have probably seen the commercial. The little girl sees the nurse at the door, and she asks, “Is it time for another treatment?” The nurse says, “Today, we thought we’d try something different.” The girl’s eyes widen and a big smile fills her face as a beautiful dog walks in her room and puts his nose on her bed. This story gets to the heart of what the Pax Pets ministry is all about. We visit with our pets to bring smiles, joy, and comfort to the people we go to see.

We asked Sarah Matthews, the volunteer coordinator for Grace Hospice, one of the places Pax Pets serves, to share how therapy animals have effected their clients.

Q. Have you noticed any notable changes since Grace began offering pet visits?

A. Our patients LOVE pet visits. Many of our patients that may not be able to communicate become very engaged, making eye contact, and smiling when pets come to visit.

Q. Do the families or staff where these patients reside ever comment on pet visits?

A. Yes, we often get very positive feedback on our pet visits and how grateful families are that their loved ones are able to receive them.

Q. How does the client get assigned to have pet visits?

A. Typically, it is whomever is signing the patient on to service that elects pet therapy, but at times it’s the patient signing themselves on that will elect pet therapy.

Q. Are there any specific incidents you can share to describe how the pet has made an impression?

A. I had the pleasure of being with a pet therapy team and patient who was near the end of her life. She was bed bound and minimally responsive, but when we laid the bunny near her hand, and explained that there was a bunny to pet, she opened her eye. We put her hand on the bunny and she was able to stroke its fur. Not long after, her best friend arrived and was able to have a pet visit, too! She shared many stories with us about the patient all while petting the bunny. Pet and people interactions never cease to amaze me!

Q. How does an Alzheimer/Dementia patient benefit during or after a pet visit? Even when they don’t communicate, do they get something out of the experience?

A. Absolutely! The tactile stimulation and engagement that our Alzheimer/Dementia patients receive from pet visits is incredible!

Q. Pax Pets wants to get more people with their pets involved in pet therapy. Does Grace have need of more pet visitors to meet your patient’s needs?

A. Yes! We are in need of more pet therapy teams. We recognize that it isn’t the best fit for every team, but we would love to visit and help explore and explain the benefits and opportunities that are available working with hospice patients.

Q. Do you think working with Pax Christi pet therapy has been a good fit for Grace Hospice?

A. We have been so grateful that you have given us the opportunity to partner with your program. The teams we have volunteering with us are amazing, and we feel fortunate that they continue to support our patients and program in this way. I would be happy to come and visit/speak to any members that may be interested.

Sometimes we all just want to make a positive difference in this world, to know we can effect someone’s day. You can walk into a room with your pet, and just like the commercial showed, bring joy and smiles. We are hoping that Pax Pets will see more in our community who want to come and join us with their pets, and enjoy bringing their best friend to “work.”

Written by Ellen Adamietz, Parishioner and Member of Pax Pet Ministry



Our Lenten Journey Continues

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Grace and Peace to You!

Tuesday, March 10, 7:00pm in the sanctuary

How will Lent find us changed? What in our life gets in the way of our relationship with God and God's people?

Our Lenten reconciliation will include music, scripture, and prayer as we break open the word and reflect on our relationship with God, ourselves, and each other. There will be an opportunity for individual confession following the service.

TAIZE PRAYER

Friday, March 20, 7:00pm in the sanctuary

Imagine a calming, quieting respite from the craziness of our lives. The scene is our Church with lights dimmed. On the altar steps and floor around it, dozens of candles flicker in votives, casting shadows of light on the cross.

In the pews, maybe a hundred or more worshippers hold their own unlit candle, we light each others' candles one by one until the church is alive with the warmth and glow of candlelight. Together we sing short chants, slowly repeating a single line over and over in the dark, like "Jesus Remember Me When You Come into Your Kingdom." There is a short Scripture reading and there is silence, at least eight to ten minutes of quiet when we can catch our breath and be transported into God's heart. Together we find our way to the cross to place our candles at the foot of the cross in gratitude for God's ultimate gift of life to us.

Please join us on **March 20 at 7:00pm** for this simple prayer service known as **Taizé Prayer Around the Cross**.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION ~ (PRIVATE)

3:30–4:30pm Saturdays, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4

LENTEN COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE

7:00pm Tuesday, March 10 Sanctuary

Additional details in left column.

SPECIAL LENTEN FRIDAY EVENING PRAYER

7:00pm March 6, 13, 27, April 3

Stations of the Cross Thomas Merton Chapel

7:00pm March 20

Taizé Prayer Service Sanctuary

Additional details in left column.

3:00pm April 10

Living Stations of the Cross Sanctuary

BURGUNDY BAG LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION

Weekend of March 21/22 at Masses

Triduum/Easter

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 9

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

(Followed by Adoration in chapel through 10:00pm)

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10

3:00pm Living Stations

7:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 11 – No private reconciliation

12:00noon Blessing of Easter Food

8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

(All are invited to a reception immediately following Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12

7:00am Easter Mass

9:00am Easter Mass

11:00am Easter Mass

(No 5:00pm Mass)

MONDAY, APRIL 13

Building Closed, No Morning Mass

Best Week of the Summer!

Bible Camp Pax Christi Style, July 20–24



S'More Fun with Jesus is our theme for this year's Bible Camp! We are blessed with a team of talented, creative people who design a unique experience done only the Pax Christi way. We incorporate the values of our parish, including incredible hospitality, deep prayer, lifelong faith formation, and an action call for justice. This year our calling for outreach includes sharing our craft creations with local care centers, meals with St. Stephen's, YouthLink, and the Launch, as well as Good Samaritan boxes filled with personal care items.

Our campers (ages three to grade five) and hundreds of volunteers will experience stories about Jesus, Mary and Martha, Joseph, Paul, and a modern day telling of the Good Samaritan story.



Just who are our campers? We welcome ages three to 100 to participate. Our three- and four-year olds experience all the various camp stations as their older brothers and sisters at an age appropriate level. Register your children and grandchildren, and then volunteer and grow in your own faith as your children grow in theirs.



Adults grow in their relationship with God and each other throughout the week of camp. High school youth and adults are invited to be crew leaders. Crew leaders receive training, a manual, and continual support, plus delicious morning hospitality. This important role mentors the kids throughout the week and leads the campers to each activity. If music, games, snacks or theatre are your passions, we've also got great opportunities for you. No experience is required! We welcome middle schoolers to adults to join our fabulous drama team!

Mark your calendars for registration beginning in March. Come answer the call! We need campers and volunteers who are ready to experience the *Best Week of the Summer!* Register online at www.paxchristi.com. The fee for campers includes a T-shirt, CD, daily snack, craft, and celebration activities.

Written by Renee Dignan, Faith Formation Minister





Marriage Booster Retreat

Revitalize Your Marriage!

Imagine a day where you can laugh, reconnect, and talk deeply with the most important person in your life—your spouse! Pax Christi will be hosting this wonderfully powerful and romantic marriage retreat for couples on Saturday, March 14. The retreat will begin at 9:15am and will conclude with the celebration of the 5:00pm Mass.

The retreat will be facilitated by parishioner Pete Larson, who is the co-founder and director of Family Fest Ministries (www.familyfestministries.org). His ministry organization strives to strengthen families and marriages through a variety of retreats and programs such as the Winter Weekend and Summer Splash family camps and the Marriage Booster Retreat. Pete often speaks at church youth groups, conferences, and retreats. Pete is a contributing blogger at 1st Corinthians 13 Parenting.com. Pete lives in Bloomington with his wife Lynn. They have two sons Dan (26) and Tim (22). In his free time, he enjoys running, playing guitar and mandolin, traveling, fishing, and woodworking.

According to the Family Fest website, this is a retreat for couples at all stages of marriage. The Marriage Booster is an interactive day of laughter, meaningful conversations, and down to earth

practical teaching for couples at all stages of marriage. Couples have time to talk one-on-one about topics such as communication, expectations, conflict, parenting, sex and intimacy, priorities, faith, and more in a comfortable and non-threatening atmosphere. So whether you are newlyweds or have been married for over 50 years, get ready for a day that will truly bless your marriage!

Fr. Tom Jennings, pastor of St. Catherine's Catholic Church in Luverne, offers this testimony: "The day we hosted a Marriage Booster Retreat, laughter poured out of the room. I was so happy to see our couples praying, laughing, listening, eating, growing in love—all in a day just for them. I saw deep joy in the vocation of marriage. The smiles on the faces of those husbands and wives lasted throughout the weekend and into the following week."

The participation fee for this amazing experience is \$125.00 per couple, which will include refreshments and lunch. Registration information and more concrete details are on the parish website, or contact Scott Brazil, sbrazil@paxchristi.com, for more information.

Written by Scott Brazil, Director of Faith Formation



BEFRIENDER MINISTRY

A Listening Presence

BeFrienders is a lay pastoral care ministry here at Pax Christi. This listening presence ministry brings specially-trained people into a caring, confidential, one-on-one relationship with others during times of special need by visiting with them and offering emotional and spiritual support.

BeFrienders value God's presence in all relationships. They are present to care, not cure, and strive to be open and non-judgmental while they actively listen to your story.

If you are experiencing a challenging time or are in a transitional situation, BeFriender ministers are here to journey with you and listen with compassion and without judgment. Contact Jean Thoresen, Director of Care and Support Ministry, 952-405-7211, to be connected with a BeFriender minister or to learn more.

For additional information visit
www.paxchristi.com/careandsupport.



LIVING STATIONS PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Attention Pax Christi Youth: For 25 years the youth of Pax Christi have presented Living Stations on Good Friday for the Pax Christi community. We present a living re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross with meditations and music. Be a part of this Pax Christi Good Friday tradition! Youth from sixth through twelfth grade are needed to act out the scenes from the passion of Jesus. No memorization of lines needed! Your ability to hold a pose is all that is required. You must be available for rehearsals in the church on March 29 and April 5 from 1:00-3:00pm and on Good Friday, April 10 at 1:00pm. Presentations of the Living Stations will take place at 3:00pm on April 10. Contact Joan Howe-Pullis, jhowe-pullis@paxchristi.com, if interested in participating.



Share the Soup Warm the Hearts!

A Faith Formation Community-Wide Lenten Opportunity!

All are welcome to join the efforts of the Faith Formation youth to collect over 1,000 cans of soup for PROP. Soup may be donated in the bins located outside Room 130 or in the food bins by the main entrance. Thank you SO much for your generosity in helping to provide a warm meal on a cold winter's night. Please check out www.propfood.org for most current needed foods.

Parishioner News for January 2020

Baptisms

Brynna Lynn Harper	1/19/2020
Hudson Jon Pietig	1/19/2020
Lola Lee Skjefte	1/19/2020
Lochlan Bennett Schultz	1/26/2020
Leah Rose Wolfe	1/26/2020

Funerals

Patricia Marie Rogers	1/13/2020
Gary Donald McDowell	1/16/2020
Francis J. "Fran" Heitzman	1/17/2020
Elizabeth A. Lindow	1/23/2020

New Members

Jeffrey and Megan Alger
Scott and Heidi Brobergg
Scott Fischer
John Hoffman and Maggie Mortensen
Kristen Ingle
Justin and Julie Kazmark
Phong and Jacqueline Luong
Roman and Floreen Neeser
Christopher Powell
Michael and Alison Purkey
Jenna Schultz
Greg and Emily Serkaian
Sean and Kelly Sixberry
Rebecca Watson

Readings for March 2020

Available online at www.usccb.org/bible/readings

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 1, 2020

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:	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 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
Sunday:	Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2020

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday:	Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 15, 2020

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-51b, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday:	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 22, 2020

Monday:	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 29, 2020

Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday:	Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 – 27:66

Whats going on...

FARE FOR ALL

Tuesday, March 3, 3:30–5:30pm

Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/fareforall.

THEOLOGY DAY

The Bible And The Modern World

Thursday, March 5, 6:00–9:00pm, Hall of Martyrs **RSVP**

Believers have always viewed the bible as the foundation and heart of divine revelation, but in the modern world there is considerable confusion both about how to interpret the bible and what role it can have in human self-understanding. Vincent M. Smiles, Ph.D., professor of Theology in the Department of Theology of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, will present the question: In an age of science, what can the bible contribute to human knowledge, and within the Church, what challenges are posed by a historical-critical view of the scriptures? There is no cost for attending Theology Day, but registration is required: www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday or 320-363-3560.

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, March 6, beginning with Mass at 8:30am

CHAMBER CHOIR OF ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY/ COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT

Saturday, March 7, 7:30pm

The Saint John's University/College of St. Benedict Chamber Choir will appear at Pax Christi for a concert of great choral music representing music from the Renaissance to the 21st century. The choir is under the direction of Axel Theimer, a native Austrian and former member of the Vienna Boys' Choir. There is no admission fee but donations are welcome to help defray travel costs. All are welcome—even Thommies!

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Tuesday, March 10, 7:00pm in the sanctuary

Additional details on page 13.

MOMS ROCK: WITH LINDSEY FROEMMING

Wednesday, March 11, 9:30–11:30am, Room 212, \$10 **RSVP**

Finding Your Personal Style + Creating Your Best Wardrobe— How to start feeling confident in your clothes and declutter your closet! Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

MARRIAGE BOOSTER RETREAT

Saturday, March 14, 9:15am–4:45pm, Room 212, \$125.00 per couple **RSVP**

The best gift we can give our children and each other is a strong marriage. The Marriage Booster Retreat, presented by Family Fest Ministries, is an interactive and unique experience designed to give couples a chance to focus on each other and the issues that touch their marriage. Imagine a day where the two of you can laugh, reconnect, and talk deeply about your relationship. The day is fast-paced, faith-filled, romantic, relevant, and a fun experience.

FEATURED ART EXHIBIT: KATHY FLEMING

Simply Blessed Meditations

Opening reception March 15 following morning Masses

Exhibit on display through April 15, MLK Jr., Room 247

Come and see the lovely work of artist Kathy Fleming. Fleming is an artist working in many painting media. Her work is rooted in spirituality and the landscape of country fields, rivers and streams, the North Shore, and her garden. She paints and exhibits in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

OPEN LABYRINTH WALK

Monday, March 16, 7:00–8:30pm, Hall of Martyrs **RSVP**

Unlike a maze where you lose your way, the labyrinth is a spiritual tool that can help you find your way. The labyrinth can help you quiet the mind, calm the body, gain insight, and experience a sense of wholeness. Held indoors, walking the 36-foot canvas, Chartres-style labyrinth usually takes 20 to 30 minutes depending on your pace and the number of walkers on the labyrinth. Please come prepared to walk in stocking feet. You are welcome to begin your walk any time between 7:00pm and 8:00pm. Following your walk, you are invited to stay and meditate or journal. The labyrinth will close at 8:30pm. New to the labyrinth? Ask for an introduction when you arrive.

MOMS ROCK: DAVID TOFT

Wednesday, March 18, 9:30–11:30am, Room 212, \$10 **RSVP**

David will provide an overview and demonstration of self-defense strategies for both moms and kids. The Gracie "Bullyproof" program for kids teaches verbal assertiveness to deter bullies and several non-violent self-defense techniques to stay safe if physically assaulted, with a goal of neutralizing threats without violence. Moms ROCK welcomes all parents, parents-to-be, and anyone else interested in joining. Gatherings include brunch and relaxing social time, followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS

A Self-Care Program for Caregivers **RSVP**

Wednesdays, March 18–April 22, 1:00–3:00pm, Normandale Luth, \$45

In this weekly workshop, you will come together with other caregivers in a small-group setting to gain knowledge and self-care tools to help you take care of yourself while caring for the ones you love. You will learn to reduce stress, better communicate, and locate helpful resources. Sliding fee scale available. The \$45.00 maximum fee includes The Caregiver Helpbook. To register, contact Patti at 952-929-1698 or info@normndalecenter.org.

SPECIAL BURGUNDY BAG COLLECTION

Weekend of March 21/22

The weekend of March 21/22, parishioners are invited to bring their “Burgundy Bags” (or any bag or box of food we bring to share) to Mass. Instead of placing your donation in the collection bins at the church entrances, please bring the bags/boxes INTO the church and keep them with you. Then, as part of the Presentation of the Gifts, you will be guided to bring your offerings of food forward and place them in front of the altar. Volunteers will be present to assist young and old, single, or families. All are welcome!

PET MINISTRY INFORMATIONAL GATHERING

Pet Ministry Needs More Teams

Sunday, March 22 following 9:00am Mass, Room 212

Want to learn more about the Pax Pet Ministry? Plan to attend this informational meeting. You’ll get to meet our incredible therapy pets, which will be a treat in itself. We would love to meet you and answer any questions you may have to get familiar with our ministry. Questions? Contact Renee Reardon, rreardon@paxchristi.com, or 952-405-7200.

TWELVE BASKETS EASTER BASKET DRIVE

Weekends of March 28/29 and April 4/5

Twelve Baskets Ministry invites us once again to use our imaginations to create colorful, bountiful Easter Baskets for children in need. Some suggestions: crayons, books for K-6, small games, coloring books, small toys, school supplies, healthy snacks, small amounts of Easter candy, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo. If possible, please wrap your Easter Basket in cellophane. Baskets will be delivered to Holy Rosary Parish, south Mpls; Extension Services, north Mpls; East Side Learning Center, St. Pascal’s; East St. Paul. Note that empty baskets, items to fill them, and gift cards are always welcome. Thank you for responding with a generous heart! Visit Twelve Baskets Amazon Wish list online at <http://a.co/8DDP0A7>

ANNUAL CANA DINNER – EARLY LOVE BIRD RATE

Saturday, April 25, 6:00–9:30pm **RSVP**

All couples of all ages are welcome to celebrate the “Gift of Love” when spring is in the air. The evening begins with a hosted wine reception followed by a catered dinner. After dinner, while entertained, enjoy coffee, wine, and dessert as the sun sets behind the pond. A couple’s photo op will be offered during the evening, so be sure to dress as you would for a cocktail/dinner party. Tickets are available at an early lovebird price of \$70.00 per couple. The rate goes up to \$80 per couple after March 23. The ticket price includes loving childcare. Register online now!

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE/JUSTICE TRIP

June 28–July 3, \$200 **RSVP**

Current ninth through twelfth graders—Make this summer the best one yet by traveling with Pax Christi to St. Louis, Missouri, June 28–July 3! Meet youth from Pax Christi and across the country as we experience a week of service, justice, and solidarity. The cost is \$200, and scholarships are available. Register online or contact Jessie Johnson, Youth Formation Minister, 952-405-7210, or jjohnson@paxchristi.com, with any questions.

THE BEST WEEK OF THE SUMMER!!

Bible Camp 2020

Week of July 20, 9:00am–12:00pm **RSVP**

Calling all campers from age three years to fifth grade! Come for faith, fun, and friendships. Fee includes a camp T-shirt, CD, daily snack, craft, and celebration activities. Come enjoy the best week of the summer with bible stories, music, crafts, games, and outreach opportunities. We need leaders in all areas, so please answer this calling. Contact Renee Dignan, Camp Director, for more information, rdignan@paxchristi.com. Register online.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER SERVICE WEEK

Week of July 20, 8:30am–4pm, Room 111, \$175 **RSVP**

Sixth through eighth graders, join us for a week of service and fun! The middle school summer service week runs concurrently to Vacation Bible Camp with service opportunities in the morning and fun activities in the afternoon. Lunch and transportation is included. The participants will visit a variety of service sites, and fun activities such as Cascade Bay, Grand Slam, and Valleyfair! Register online. Questions? Contact Evan Bierer, Youth Formation Minister, 952-405-7213, or ebierer@paxchristi.com.



Staff Contacts

PASTOR

Fr. Michael Byron
952-405-7219

DEACONS

Al Schroeder 952-405-7205
Charles Bobertz 952-405-7239

PARISH DIRECTOR

Jane Schmitz 952-405-7238

PARISH FINANCIAL

MANAGER

Sue Fier 952-405-7202

ADMINISTRATIVE

SUPPORT

Maria Miller 952-405-7217
Andrea Ward 952-405-7207
Sally Bergum 952-405-7229

COMMUNICATION

ARTS DIRECTOR

Melissa Nault 952-405-7221

CARE AND SUPPORT MINISTRY

Director Jean Thoresen 952-405-7211
Care Ministry Coordinator Renee Reardon 952-405-7200

FAITH FORMATION

Director (Adult Faith, RCIA, Preschool) Scott Brazil 952-405-7230
Grades 1 through 5, CLOW Renee Dignan 952-405-7212
Grades 6 through 8 Evan Bierer 952-405-7213
Grades 9 through 12 Jessie Johnson 952-405-7210

JUSTICE

Director Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247

OPERATIONS

Director Ken Reineccius 952-405-7250
Building Services Terry Lee 952-405-7233
Building Services Todd Nelson 952-405-7233

DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Director Maura Schnorbach 952-405-7220
Community Life Coordinator Lisa Cox 952-405-7204
Nursery and Hospitality Coord. Janel McBeain 952-405-7242

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Director Donna Kasbohm 952-405-7240
Liturgy and Funeral Coord. Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247
Teen Choir Sarah Wybaczynsky 952-405-7243

COMMUNITY

COUNCIL

Fr. Michael Byron, Pastor
Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
Fred Baumer, Chair
Nicholle Check
Mike Kennedy
Andy Leet
Mary Frances Messer
Dale Nelson
Phyllis Olson
Ricardo Ortiz-Nava
Dave Putrich
Mike Schneider
Cindy Schuh
Julie Tyler

PARISH TRUSTEES

Bruce Koehn
Carolyn Zucker

FINANCE

COUNCIL CHAIR

Mike Kennedy

March

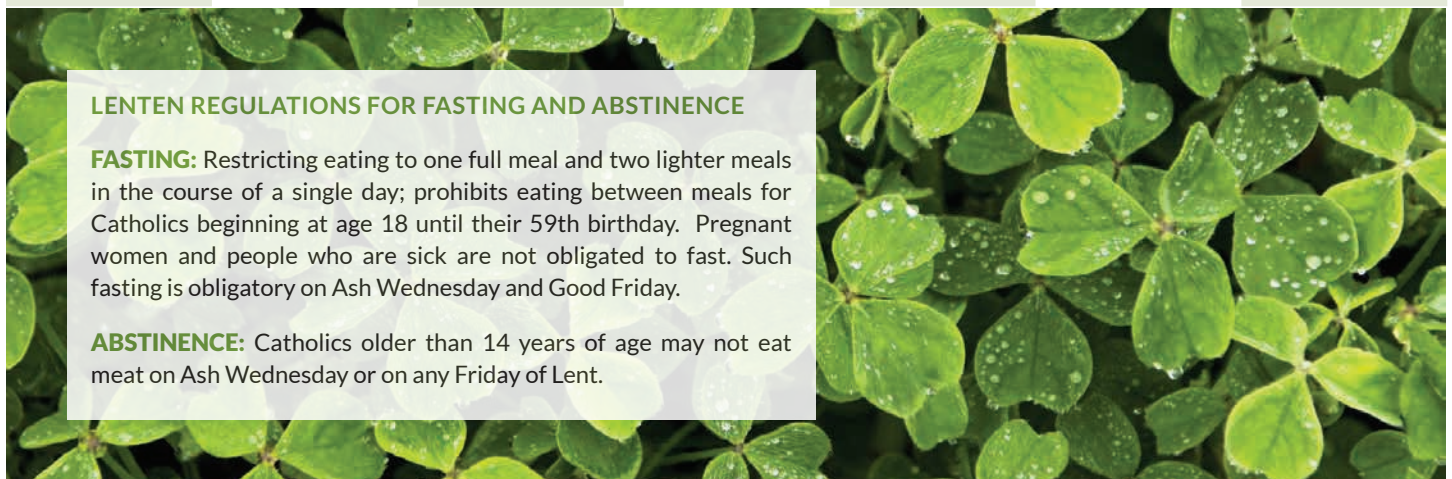
See page 18–19 for details
or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Faith Formation Sessions	2	3 Fare for All Baptism Prep Session	4 Tot-Time Open Gym Faith Formation Sessions	5 Theology Day	6 First Friday Social Stations of the Cross	7 University Chamber Choir
8 Faith Formation Sessions	9	10 Lenten Reconciliation Service	11 Moms ROCK Faith Formation Sessions	12	13 Stations of the Cross	14 Marriage Booster Retreat New Member Sign-up Weekend
15 Art Exhibit Reception New Member Sign-up Weekend Faith Formation Sessions	16 Labyrinth Walk	17 Leadership Meetings	18 Moms ROCK Faith Formation Sessions	19 Compassionate Care Listening Circle	20 Lenten Taize Prayer	21 Lenten Burgundy Bag Collection Weekend
22 Pet Ministry Info Event Lenten Burgundy Bag Collection Weekend Faith Formation Sessions	23	24	25 Faith Formation Sessions	26	27 Stations of the Cross	28 Easter Basket Drive
29 Easter Basket Drive Faith Formation Sessions	30	31	1 Faith Formation Sessions	2	3 Stations of the Cross	4 Easter Basket Drive

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

FASTING: Restricting eating to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of a single day; prohibits eating between meals for Catholics beginning at age 18 until their 59th birthday. Pregnant women and people who are sick are not obligated to fast. Such fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

ABSTINENCE: Catholics older than 14 years of age may not eat meat on Ash Wednesday or on any Friday of Lent.





Church of Pax Christi of Eden Prairie
 12100 Pioneer Trail
 Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208

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CHAMBER CHOIR OF ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT

**FRIDAY
 MARCH 7
 7:30PM**

*Axel Theimer,
 Conductor*

The concert is free but donations are suggested and welcome to help defray travel costs.

The Saint John's University/College of St. Benedict Chamber Choir will appear at Pax Christi for a concert of great choral music representing both sacred and secular music from the Renaissance to the 21st century. Additional details on page 18.

As we did last year, we are asking for host families to offer overnight hospitality to the choir (27 females, 14 males) on the evening of March 7. If you are able to help in this regard, please contact Jane Schmitz at jschmitz@paxchristi.com.