

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*August 26th/August 27th 2017: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost*



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW
Birmingham, Alabama 35211
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Website: www.myblessedsacrament.org**

Pastor
Rev. Jim W. Booth

Religious Education
Ann Noblitt

SACRAMENTS and LITURGY

English Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

English Sunday Mass: 9:00 a.m.

Traditional Latin Sunday Mass: 10:45 a.m.

Weekday Masses: 8:30 a.m.

First Saturday Latin Mass: 8:30 a.m. with confessions beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Holy Day Mass: As Announced

Confessions: Thirty minutes before Saturday and Sunday Masses and by request

Baptisms: By Appointment

Marriage Arrangements must be made with the Pastor **at least 6 months** before the date of the wedding. Talk to the Pastor before making any firm wedding plans. No destination weddings.

WELCOME to all of our visitors: We are glad you have attended Mass with us. If you wish to join Blessed Sacrament, please pick up a parish census form at the Religious Goods Counter located in the vestibule of the front entrance.

IN MEMORIAM: In memory of Glenn L. Varnell, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from August 27th to September 2nd. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Jack Schauer from September 3rd until September 9th.

REST IN PEACE: Fr James Macey, former pastor of St Charles parish in Jacksonville, passed away on August 21st and was laid to rest on August 25th. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday Mass on September 1st at 8:30 a.m. in the Rectory. Mass will be followed with Adoration and Benediction.

FIRST SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on September 2nd. Altar server training, choir practice, and Martha and Mary Band will follow Mass.

FIRST SUNDAY: September 3rd is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

HOMESCHOOL MASS: All Catholic Homeschoolers are invited to a Beginning of the Year Mass at the Cathedral of St Paul on Friday, September 8th at 10:00 a.m. Reception to follow; please bring a dish to share. Come join other Catholic homeschoolers to begin the school year in prayer and fellowship! For more information, contact Susan Fay at staabhm@gmail.com

ANNIVERSARY OF *SUMMORUM PONTIFICUM*: *Summorum Pontificum*, an apostolic letter from Pope Benedict XVI, took effect on September 14th, 2007. This September 14th therefore marks the 10th anniversary of this letter that made the Latin Mass more accessible and made possible the existence of our own Latin Mass community. We will have a Latin Mass at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 14th at Blessed Sacrament to celebrate this anniversary and a diocese-wide High Mass will be offered at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 30th at St Paul's Cathedral.

ST GEORGE MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL: The 36th Annual Saint George Middle Eastern Food Festival will be held September on 14th, 15th, and 16th from 10:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at 425 16th Avenue South. Drive through will be available until 7:00 p.m. Traditional Middle Eastern entrees and desserts will be served. For menu and event details, please see <http://saintgeorgeonline.org/food-festival/>

SEMINARY VISIT: Young men aged 16-18 are invited to learn more about seminary life and enjoy a nice weekend in New Orleans. Fr Jerabek will lead a group from October 26th to 29th. Please email fatherjerabek@outlook.com to reserve your spot or call (205) 251-1279 x 103. The group will leave after school (i.e. late afternoon) on Thursday, October 26th and return in the evening of Sunday, October 29th. There is no cost. An "excuse letter" can be provided for those in public or private schools. Deadline for reservation is September 15th.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Combine your faith and career at EWTN. They are searching to fill the following positions: Customer Service Representative, Groundskeeper, Information Systems Support Technician, Junior Network & Systems Administrator, and Radio Operator. Information on job requirements can be found at www.ewtn.com. Please email cover letter, salary requirements & resume to humanresources@ewtn.com

2017 HIGH MASS DATES: September 3rd (13th Sunday After Pentecost); October 29th (Christ the King); December 17th (Gaudete Sunday); Sunday, December 24th (Christmas Eve, 8:00 p.m.)

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Deacon Jonathan Howell, Connor Chandler, Chris Green, Justin Ward, Daniel Sessions, and Charles Deering. We need to fervently pray for those who are discerning a call to the priesthood. We will need 12-15 men to enter seminary by 2020 or we face the closing or consolidation of parishes.

ADDITIONAL LATIN MASSES: We are planning on adding two Latin Masses during the week starting this fall. These will be in addition to our English Masses and will not impact the 8:30 a.m. daily Mass at all. The time will probably be either 6:30 or 7:00 a.m. and we will begin these Masses in mid to late September.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$4469 and the Preservation Fund contributions totaled \$55. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS: (*Mass in Rectory Chapel)

- Mon, Aug 28: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mark Agnew and Family (by the Agnew Family)
- Tues, Aug 29: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Elizabeth Lavada Family (by the Agnew Family)
- Wed, Aug 30: *8:30 a.m. † Jesus Marin (by Adrienne Price)
- Thur, Aug 31: *8:30 a.m. † Martin Padilla (by Adrienne Price)
- Fri, Sept 1: *8:30 a.m. † Charles Bottcher (by the Sciro Family)
- Sat, Sept 2: 8:30 a.m. † John Doran (by the Rumore Family)
4:00 p.m. Private Intention
- Sun, Sept 3: 9:00 a.m. *Pro Populo*
10:45 a.m. † Salvatore & Mary Riccardi (by Maria Morin)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Ella Mae Hale, Paul Herrmann, Br. Gus Campion, OSB, Debbie Zeller, Peter Ransom, Victor Rumore, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, Anthony Morris, Andrea Little, Darleen Schultz, Tommy Priola, Joseph Edwards, Fr Joseph Underwood, George Dunham, Rebecca Rice, Michael Guthrie, Mike Hale, Kay Junk, Ed Thomas, Liz Pate, Fran Costanza, Spencer Hale Family, Christine Cover, Mary Thornton, Jeannette Johnson, Liz Bailey, Thatcher Kerzie, Bill McCann, Simmes Beville, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Anna Marie Madison, Kathleen Strawmeyer, Cindy Little, Rebecca Morris, Stan Trawick, David Henning, Bill Bankson, Bill Mara, Loretta Mara, Don Broseman, Lillie Rumore, Jennie Sciro, Stephanie Perry, Marcus Perry, Cynthia Daniel, and Jackie Modica.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS

- 4:00 p.m. Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 20:7-9, Rom 12:1-2, Mt 16:21-27
- 9:00 a.m. Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 20:7-9, Rom 12:1-2, Mt 16:21-27
- 10:45 a.m. Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost Gal 3:16-22, Lk 17:11-19

The Sacraments: They Make Various Graces Present

The definition of a sacrament tells us that the sacraments ‘make present the graces proper to each sacrament.’ Thus, we can say that all of the sacraments make grace present but we can’t say that the sacraments do exactly the same thing. Each sacrament does something different and is distinct from the others. For example, some sacraments are absolutely necessary for salvation. Some sacraments have permanent effects while others have effects that might have a limited duration. Likewise, some sacraments can be received once and only once, some sacraments can be received multiple times, and some sacraments are meant not only to be received several times but quite often.

In terms of necessity for salvation, baptism stands alone among all of the sacraments. Jesus has made it clear that baptism is not an option, that baptism is essential to our salvation. Talking to Nicodemus, Jesus clearly teaches that baptism is essential: “*Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above... Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit*” (Jn:3-3,5). We also get a sense of this from Jesus’ last words to His Apostles. Matthew and Mark’s Gospel both tell us that Jesus emphasized that they were to teach and baptize: “*Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned*” (Mk 16:15-16) and “*Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age*” (Mt 28:19-20). Under some circumstances, such as in the case an adult on their deathbed or of young children, baptism is the only sacrament required for salvation. In the absence of such circumstances, we can say that the Eucharist is also essential for salvation else Jesus would not have taught “*Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day*” (Jn 6:53-54). We can also say that the sacrament of confession is also necessary given the circumstances of almost all Christians. The other sacraments (confirmation, matrimony, holy orders, and anointing of the sick), while not necessary to salvation, serve as helps to our salvation and in some cases the salvation of others.

In regards to permanent effects, baptism, confirmation, and holy orders confer graces that persist even beyond death. For example, baptism makes us coheirs with Jesus for eternal life. Confirmation configures our souls such that we might live in a more Christ-like manner. Holy orders configures the souls of men to serve the salvation of others, sharing in and making present Jesus’ own priesthood, a priesthood described in both Old and New Testaments as “*You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek*” (Ps 110:4, Heb 5:6, 6:20, 7:17, 7:21). Matrimony produces the effect of joining a man and a woman in a one-flesh union that persists until but not beyond death. The other sacraments have effects that generally persist until mortal sin is committed.

Because mortal sins are committed throughout our lives, those sacraments that reinstate us to a state of grace are intended to be repeated. This is especially the case with the sacrament of confession. Confession is the ordinary means given by Jesus for the forgiveness of sins committed after baptism and, since we are all sinners, we should frequent the confessional. Likewise, the anointing of the sick, which has the power to absolve sins in those incapable of making a confession, can be repeated as often circumstances dictate, such as significant detrimental changes in one’s health or in danger of death.

In terms of being received frequently, however, the Eucharist stands apart. For those in a state of grace It can be received every Sunday and It can even be received daily. The Eucharist brings us into communion with the Persons of the Trinity and with all other Christians irrespective of time or place who worthily receive the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus. Indeed, the power of the Eucharist cannot be overestimated and therefore the spiritual benefits of frequent worthy reception of Jesus in this sacrament cannot be overestimated either.

- Fr Booth