

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

*September 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> 2017: Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost*



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**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 Jack Schauer, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to September 9<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Graham Morris, Jr. from September 10<sup>th</sup> until September 16<sup>th</sup>.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** There will be a second collection this weekend for the victims of Hurricane Harvey.

**FIRST SUNDAY:** September 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007. This September 14<sup>th</sup> therefore marks the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> at Blessed Sacrament to celebrate this anniversary and a diocese-wide High Mass will be offered at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at St Paul's Cathedral.

**ST GEORGE MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL:** The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Saint George Middle Eastern Food Festival will be held September on 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. Please email [fatherjerabek@outlook.com](mailto: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 26<sup>th</sup> and return in the evening of Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. There is no cost. An "excuse letter" can be provided for those in public or private schools. Deadline for reservation is September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**HER CHOICE FUNDRAISING BANQUET:** The annual Her Choice Banquet will be held on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at The Club (1 Robert S. Smith Drive). The special guest speaker will be Dr. Haywood Robinson, who was formerly an abortionist prior to his conversion. Make your reservation now, consider hosting a table of eight, or make a life saving donation. Her Choice Birmingham Women's Center exists to help women facing a crisis pregnancy to choose life, and to help support them with that decision. Her Choice also offers post abortion recovery services. To confirm your participation, call 205-447-8796 or go to [hcbanquet@herchoicebirmingham.org](mailto:hcbanquet@herchoicebirmingham.org)

**2017 HIGH MASS DATES:** September 3<sup>rd</sup> (13<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost); October 29<sup>th</sup> (Christ the King); December 17<sup>th</sup> (Gaudete Sunday); Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> (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 adding two Latin Masses during the week in addition to our 8:30 a.m. daily English Masses. They will be on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 7:00 a.m. beginning on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection for last weekend was \$5104 and the Preservation Fund contributions totaled \$500. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

Mon, Sept 4:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Charlotte Rumore (by the Fernandes Family)
Tues, Sept 5:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Charlie & Allison Rumore (by Deacon Terry and Rita Rumore)
Wed, Sept 6:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Victor Rumore (by Deacon Terry and Rita Rumore)
Thur, Sept 7:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Charlie Rumore (by the Fernandes Family)
Fri, Sept 8:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Tim Thornton (by the Fernandes Family)
	10:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Cathy Thornton (by the Fernandes Family) – Mass at St Paul’s
Sat, Sept 9:	4:00 p.m.	Private Intention
Sun, Sept 10:	9:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	10:45 a.m.	† Stafford Juneau (by the Olson Family)
	4:00 p.m.	Private Intention – Mass in Tuscaloosa

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Jacob Baker, 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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Eze 33:7-9, Rom 13:8-10, Mt 18:15-20
9:00 a.m. Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Eze 33:7-9, Rom 13:8-10, Mt 18:15-20
10:45 a.m. Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost	Gal 5:16-24, Mt 6:24-33

## *The Sacraments: The Graces of Baptism*

There are specific graces that flow from each of the sacraments. As the Catechism states, baptism holds a special place among all of the sacraments. Specifically, Paragraph 1213 teaches that ‘Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments.’ From this statement it should be easy to see that baptism is absolutely central to what it means to be a Christian. In fact, no other sacrament can be received in the absence of baptism.

But what are the specific graces that are received in baptism? First and foremost of the spiritual effects of baptism is the forgiveness of sin. At the moment of baptism, all preceding sins and their temporal effects are washed away. For the infant who is baptized, Original Sin is forgiven. Original Sin, also known as the sin of Adam, is not a personal sin of the infant since an infant is not capable of rationally choosing to do evil or rationally choosing to refuse to do good. No, Original Sin is that lack of righteousness before God we all suffer from because Adam and Eve chose to disobey God. God intended that we be born with the same graces that Adam and Eve enjoyed – walking and talking with God in a natural paradise where suffering and toil were minimal and death was not a part of our lives – but all of that was lost for us through their sin. Their sin ruptured the relationship between man and God such that man is now alienated from his Creator by nature and therefore has no claim on a relationship with God and no claim on eternal life in heaven by birth. For the adult who is baptized, Original Sin is wiped away as are the personal sins committed prior to rebirth in the waters of baptism.

The second grace of baptism is spiritual rebirth, being reborn by water and the Holy Spirit. In the waters of baptism we sacramentally die and rise with Jesus, we become partakers of His suffering, death, and resurrection. This spiritual rebirth reestablishes the relationship we were meant to have with God making us sons and daughters of the Father. Unlike Adam and Eve, we are not sons and daughters by creation but by re-creation. Unlike Adam and Eve, through baptism we are not sons and daughters of God by nature but by grace, we are sons and daughters of the Father not by birth but by adoption. Through baptism we can now boldly call God our Father and we become brothers and sisters of Christ through adoption such that we are also coheirs of His inheritance.

Besides being reborn, besides becoming a new creation in Christ by our baptism, we are also incorporated into the Church. This is much more than filling out a form so as to join an organization. No, we are literally incorporated into the Church. At its very root, the word incorporate means to be embodied, to be formed into a body. In the case of baptism, we are incorporated into the mystical Body of Christ that is the Church. In baptism we become members of Christ, not in the sense of being a member of a club, but in the sense that we are members of a body just as our livers and toes and arms are physical members of our own bodies.

And since we are all part of one body – the Church – by virtue of our baptism, we are all members of one another as well: baptism unites us spiritually. We have a unity by our baptism in the sense that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ but also in the sense that we share one another’s burdens, joys, sufferings, aspirations, longings, etc. By baptism we are meant to have a common faith, a common hope in what Jesus has promised us, a common loving concern for one another, and a common eternal destiny with all of the baptized whether they are living, dead, or yet to be born.

Lastly, baptism marks us spiritually in a way that cannot be undone or erased. We are indelibly marked as belonging to Jesus. We are irreversibly and eternally consecrated such that we can always be identified as sons and daughters of God irrespectively of how we might have betrayed that consecration through grievous sin. We are tabernacles of the Holy Spirit by baptism even if we have evicted the Holy Spirit from our lives through mortal sin. Indeed, we are configured to Christ forever even if we later chose a different master than our Lord. Indeed, Christ has a claim on the baptized man even if that man later rejects His dominion.

- Fr Booth