

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

*October 21<sup>st</sup>/October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017: Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Twentieth 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.

**English Weekday Masses:** 8:30 a.m. Monday to Friday

**Latin Weekday Masses:** 7:00 a.m. Wednesday and Friday

**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 Dennis G. Woods, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to October 28<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Anna Mahan Ransom from October 29<sup>th</sup> until November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**REST IN PEACE**: Ella Mae Hale passed away on October 18<sup>th</sup>. The visitation will be at Sacred Heart Church in Cullman from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> followed by a rosary. The Funeral Mass be at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> also at Sacred Heart. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace

**SECOND COLLECTION**: There will be a second collection this weekend for the World Mission Sunday, supporting mission churches throughout the world.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES**: You should have received a letter and a pledge card from the diocese. If not, you can make a pledge through Blessed Sacrament (make checks payable to Catholic Charities) or online at <http://www.catholiccharitiesbhm.org/make-a-pledge.html>. Our pledge goal this year is \$21,615. All money raised through this annual appeal remains within the diocese.

**COAT DRIVE**: Blessed Sacrament's Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a winter coat drive beginning this Sunday. If you have men's, lady's or children's coats that you no longer need, please consider donating them to the poor, or new coats would certainly be welcome. Coats may be left in the shopping carts near the holy water font at the back of the Church. The coats will be given the Catholic Center of Concern for distribution.

**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. The special guest speaker will be Dr. Haywood Robinson, who was 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)

**PRELIMINARY DATE FOR FIRST COMMUNION**: We are planning for First Communion on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 at the 10:45 a.m. Mass. If you have a child that will be receiving First Communion, please contact Fr Booth. If you are not members of Blessed Sacrament, you must obtain the permission of your pastor for your child to

receive First Communion here. Opportunities for first confessions will be offered prior to First Communion.

**2017 HIGH MASS DATES:** 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, Charles Deering, Doug Hess, Juan Perez, and Luis Reyes. 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.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection for last weekend was \$4742 and the Preservation Fund contributions totaled \$165. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

- Mon, Oct 23: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Ken & Mary Agnew (by the Agnew Family)
- Tues, Oct 24: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Ken & Mary Agnew (by the Agnew Family)
- Wed, Oct 25: \*7:00 a.m. † Mrs. Stout (by the Rumore Family)  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Christy Campbell (by the Runge Family)
- Thur, Oct 26: \*8:30 a.m. † Fr James Macey
- Fri, Oct 27: \*7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Anna Pohorelsky (by the Hahn Family)  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Delores Madden
- Sat, Oct 28: 4:00 p.m. † Fr James Macey
- Sun, Oct 29: 9:00 a.m. *Pro Populo*  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Catherine Cook (by Dr. James Cover)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Lamar Smith, Fr Kevin McGrath, OSB, Johnny Young, Sharon Collier, Richard Collier, Paul Pac, Jacob Baker, Paul Herrmann, Debbie Zeller, Peter Ransom, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, Anthony Morris, Andrea Little, Darleen Schultz, Joseph Edwards, Fr Joseph Underwood, George Dunham, Rebecca Rice, Michael Guthrie, Mike Hale, Kay Junk, Liz Pate, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, Mary Thornton, Liz Bailey, Thatcher Kerzie, Simmes Bevill, 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. 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time      Exo 22:20-26, 1Thes 1:5-10, Mt 22:34-40  
9:00 a.m. 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time      Exo 22:20-26, 1Thes 1:5-10, Mt 22:34-40  
10:45 a.m. Christ the King      Col 1:12-20, Jn 18:33-37

## ***The Sacraments: The Graces of the Anointing of the Sick***

The anointing of the sick, once called extreme unction, has its own spiritual effects that are in some ways unique among the seven sacraments. Until recently, this sacrament was generally reserved to those who were nearing death. This is reflected in the old name of the sacrament: extreme unction. It was 'extreme' in the sense that those who received the sacrament were *in extremis*, medically at or near the point of death. The 'unction' part of the name reflects a somewhat archaic term for anointing. The Second Vatican Council modified the practice of this sacrament but not the operative theology. This modified practice is reflected in the current name of the sacrament, that is, the anointing of the sick.

By the anointing of the sick, the Church means for this sacrament to be used in a more general way not restricted to those who are certainly approaching death. Catechism paragraph 1514 reflects this change, saying the anointing of the sick 'is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived.' In other words, someone who might reasonably be in danger of death can receive the sacrament. For example, a healthy man suffering from the common cold should not receive the anointing. Someone, however, who has pneumonia and has a weakened immune system should be anointed even if they are not in the definite process of dying or even when their prognosis seems reasonably favorable. Likewise, someone who seems to be suffering from a serious but yet undiagnosed malady can be anointed even though the medical situation may not be as grave as originally perceived prior to receiving medical attention. A possible heart attack or stroke warrants anointing even if something less serious, such as a bad case of heartburn or food poisoning, is the underlying cause of the symptoms. In other words, all that is necessary to receive the anointing is the perceived danger of death.

But what does the sacrament do? The primary grace of the anointing of the sick can be summarized as follows: 'A particular gift of the Holy Spirit, the first grace of this sacrament is one of strengthening, peace and courage to overcome the difficulties that go with the condition of serious illness or the frailty of old age. This grace is a gift of the Holy Spirit, who renews trust and faith in God and strengthens against the temptations of the evil one, the temptation to discouragement and anguish in the face of death' (CCC 1520). Thus, this sacrament assists those suffering and dying to face the challenges particular to failing health.

It may not be obvious, but there is a constant battle for our souls. Satan and his minions tempt us and mislead us all through our lives, sometimes more intensely than at other times. Quite often, this spiritual battle goes into overdrive as we approach death. Whether we like it or not, Satan plays for keeps and will take advantage of the fear, pain, loneliness, uncertainty, and anxiety that accompanies our serious illnesses. In our weakness we need strength from on high, which comes to us through the sacraments, especially the anointing of the sick. Preceded by a good confession and followed by reception of the Eucharist (if possible), the anointing of the sick brings profound spiritual strength to withstand the onslaught of Satan's temptations and lies. Sacramentally, our sufferings and our deaths are joined to Jesus' own suffering and death through the anointing.

This sacramental link with Jesus' passion is expressed in the Catechism, which teaches that 'the Anointing of the Sick completes our conformity to the death and Resurrection of Christ, just as Baptism began it. It completes the holy anointings that mark the whole Christian life: that of Baptism which sealed the new life in us, and that of Confirmation which strengthened us for the combat of this life. This last anointing fortifies the end of our earthly life like a solid rampart for the final struggles before entering the Father's house' (CCC 1523). Indeed, as this section of the Catechism notes, baptism initiated our spiritual life in Christ and the anointing of the sick completes it.