

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

**October 28th/October 29th 2017: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)
Christ the King (Latin)**



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW
Birmingham, Alabama 35211
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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 Anna Mahan Ransom, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from October 29th to November 4th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Dominick Montalbano from November 5th until November 12th.

ALL SAINTS DAY: Wednesday, November 1st is All Saints Day, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will have a vigil Mass in English on Tuesday, October 31st at 6:00 p.m. On November 1st we will have a Low Latin Mass at 7:00 a.m., a Mass in English at 8:30 a.m., and a Low Mass in Latin will be offered at 6:00 p.m. on November 1st.

ALL SOULS DAY: We will have an English Mass at 8:30 a.m. and a Latin Low Mass at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 2nd. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the souls in purgatory by visiting a church and reciting an Our Father and the Nicene Creed.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday Mass on November 3rd 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 November 4th. Altar server training, choir practice, and Martha and Mary Band will follow Mass.

FIRST SUNDAY: November 5th is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

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 7th 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

2017 HIGH MASS DATES: 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, 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 \$3812, the Preservation Fund contributions totaled \$240, and \$728 was collected for the World Missions. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

Mon, Oct 30:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Elizabeth Walsh (by the Agnew Family)
Tues, Oct 31:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Gilsdorf Family (by the Agnews)
	6:00 p.m.	† Fr James Macey
Wed, Nov 1:	7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Owen Thompson (by the Pohorelsky Family)
	8:30 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	6:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Tricia Flavin (by the Pohorelsky Family)
Thur, Nov 2:	8:30 a.m.	Poor Souls in Purgatory
	6:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Chris Campbell (by the Pohorelsky Family)
Fri, Nov 3:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Jimmy Thompson (by the Pohorelsky Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Fr James Macey
Sat, Nov 4:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Christine Cover (by Dr. James Cover)
	4:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Sun, Nov 5:	9:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Cam Murphy (by Anne & Robert Crawford)
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Catherine Cook (by Dr. James Cover)
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Christine Cover (by Dr. James Cover) – <i>Mass in Tuscaloosa</i>

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, Mike Hale, Kay Junk, Liz Pate, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, Mary Thornton, Liz Bailey, Thatcher Kerzie, 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.	31 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mal 1:14-2:2,8-10, 1Thes 2:7-9,13, Mt 23:1-12
9:00 a.m.	31 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mal 1:14-2:2,8-10, 1Thes 2:7-9,13, Mt 23:1-12
10:45 a.m.	22 nd Sunday After Pentecost	Phil 1:6-11, Mt 22:15-21

The Sacraments: The Graces of the Anointing of the Sick

As was noted last week, the primary effect, the primary grace of the sacrament 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 prepares and strengthens the soul for the spiritual ravages of sickness and suffering, both of which are consequences of man’s sins. It likewise prepares the soul to face the prospect of death, again a consequence of man’s sins. Indeed, St Paul could unambiguously write that “*the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord*” (Rom 6:23).

While Jesus came to destroy death by His own death and resurrection, death is still a reality in everyone’s life because of our fallen nature. Death has been transformed from a punishment due to Original Sin and our own personal sins into the gateway for life eternal. Since the anointing of the sick fortifies us to face death, it should not be a surprise that it also has the power to address the very cause of our deaths: sin. We know this to be so from the testimony of the Apostle James, who wrote “*Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters [priests] of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed*” (James 5:14-16).

Thus, a second effect of the anointing of the sick is the forgiveness of sins. This sacrament has the power to forgive both venial and mortal sins. But it should be noted that St James nonetheless exhorts the sick person to confess their sins when he says “*confess your sins to one another and pray for one another.*” Indeed, the Church teaches that the anointing of the sick is normally meant to be received by those who are in a state of grace, that is, those who have no mortal sins of their souls. For someone suffering from a major illness or approaching the time of death, it is expected that confession will precede the anointing which is then followed by reception of the Eucharist as viaticum (Latin for provisions for a journey). This ideal sequence of confession, anointing, and Communion is not always possible, but it is the expectation. For the person who is physically or mentally unable to make a confession, it is the anointing of the sick that brings Jesus’ forgiveness. It is increasingly the case that medical technology makes it difficult or impossible for the seriously ill and dying to receive Jesus in Holy Communion, in which case the anointing of the sick is administered alone.

A third effect of the anointing of the sick is also seen in what St James tells us. This third effect is the potential for a physical healing. It must be remembered that the primary effect, the primary grace of this sacrament is the fortification of the soul to withstand the ravages of suffering and to withstand demonic temptation. A physical healing, as much as we might want it to happen, is not the primary purpose of the anointing. While physical healings do happen – I have seen this several times – they are the exception rather than the rule.

So, why do some people receive a healing from the sacrament while most do not? Suffering, disease, and death are part of this life whether we like it or not, but Jesus has given us the gift of eternal life where these are no longer a reality. In other words, the possible physical healing will happen in accord with God’s will and for the salvation of the soul of the one anointed or possibly for the salvation of another’s soul. Another way to look at it is to ask just how many people saw Jesus heal the sick and how few came to follow him with a true faith, hope, and love as a result? While signs and wonders testify to Who Jesus is and what He is able to do for us, they are oddly unreliable in bringing people to conversion and ultimately salvation. Otherwise, wouldn’t there have been tens of thousands of disciples at the foot of Jesus’ cross?

- Fr Booth