

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*January 13th/January 14th 2018: Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
Second Sunday After Epiphany (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 John Schauer, Jr., the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from January 7th to January 13th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Rebecca Morris from January 14th until January 20th.

MEMORIAL SANCTUARY LAMP SIGN-UP SHEETS for 2018, 2019, and 2020 are at the religious goods counter in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES for 2018 are in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

PARISH CALENDARS for 2018 are located in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

THIRD SUNDAY: Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of the month. We will have vocations prayers and a potluck lunch following the 10:45 a.m. Mass.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Parish Council will meet on Thursday, January 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the Rectory.

POTLUCK DINNER DANCE: We will have a covered dish dinner dance in the Parish Hall on Saturday, February 10th following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. All are invited to dine and dance.

HOMEcoming LASAGNA DINNER: The annual Blessed Sacrament Homecoming Lasagna Dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will be held on February 24th following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. All are invited and all will be welcome. Please invite your families and friends to this event to share this special time with your fellow parishioners.

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 \$4274 and the Preservation Fund contributions totaled \$271. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

2018 HIGH MASS DATES: Sunday, February 4th (Sexagesima Sunday), Sunday, March 11th (Laetare Sunday), Thursday, March 29th (Holy Thursday), Sunday, April 1st (Easter Sunday), Sunday, April 15th (First Communion, Second Sunday After Easter), Thursday, May 31st (Corpus Christi, Thursday 6:00 p.m.), Sunday, July 1st (Precious Blood), Wednesday, August 15th (Assumption, Wednesday 6:00 p.m.), Sunday, September 2nd (Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost), Sunday, October 28th (Christ the King), Sunday, December 16th (Gaudete Sunday), Monday, December 24th (Christmas Eve, 8:00 p.m.).

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

Sun, Jan 14: 9:00 a.m. *Pro Populo*
10:45 a.m. † Mario Botta (by the Jones Family)
Mon, Jan 15 *8:30 a.m. † Hazel and Olon Belcher (by the Clemons Family)
Tues, Jan 16: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Will Scroggins ((by the Clemons Family)
Wed, Jan 17: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Dominic Rumore (by Nathan Gagnon)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Blaise Hahn (by the Gagnon Family)
Thur, Jan 18: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Jack Yeager (by the Gagnon Family)
Fri, Jan 19: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Charles Anthony Rumore (by Zachary Gagnon)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Alexander Arroyo (by the Gagnon Family)
Sat, Jan 20: 4:00 p.m. † Sam Lorino, Jr. (by the Dinan Family)
Sun, Jan 21: 9:00 a.m. *Pro Populo*
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Linda Cooper (by the Denellan Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Sylvia McCarrick, Vealena Early, William Scroggins, Laura Minjares, John Minjares, Sr., Lamar Smith, Fr Kevin McGrath, OSB, Johnny Young, Sharon Collier, Richard Collier, Paul Pac, Jacob Baker, Paul Herrmann, Debbie Zeller, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, 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, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Anna Marie Madison, Kathleen Strawmeyer, Cindy Little, 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. Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
9:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday After Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5,10, 1Cor 7:29-31, Mk 1:14-20
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Rom 12:16-21, Mt 8:1-13

The Sacraments: Holy Orders

We now move on to the sacrament of holy orders, or as some call it, the sacrament of ordination. The Catechism defines this sacrament as follows: ‘Holy Orders is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time: thus it is the sacrament of apostolic ministry. It includes three degrees: episcopate, presbyterate, and diaconate’ (CCC 1536). Here the word episcopate, which derives from the Greek word for overseer, refers to the order of bishops including bishops, archbishops, and the pope. In Eastern Rite Churches, there are bishops, archbishops, and patriarchs although there is some degree of variation in these titles. The presbyterate refers specifically to priests. In Greek, presbyter means elder and presbyter is indeed where the English word priest is derived. The diaconate refers to the order of deacons. This title comes from the Greek word for one who serves.

Strictly speaking the clerical hierarchy is comprised of deacons, priests, and bishops. Many people think there is more to it than that, but that is not the case. It does not go in ascending order of deacon, priest, monsignor, bishop, archbishop, cardinal, and pope. Monsignor is an honorary title and nothing more. An archbishop is no different than a bishop except he heads a larger diocese. An archbishop does not outrank a bishop such that he can order a mere bishop around. For example, an archbishop can do nothing in another bishop’s diocese without that bishop’s permission. A cardinal is a cleric that has special responsibilities and privileges. Cardinals are generally bishops, but some priests have been named cardinals. The major responsibility and privilege of a cardinal is that he can be an elector of the pope if the cardinal is under the age of 80 at the time of the election.

The main point of this is that the sacrament of holy orders only pertains to the ordination of deacons, priests, and bishops: monsignors are named, archbishops are simply bishops assigned to lead an archdiocese, a cardinal is appointed by the pope, and the pope himself is elected by the cardinals. There is no sacrament that makes a priest into a monsignor nor is there a sacrament that turns a bishop into an archbishop, a cardinal, or a pope. But the sacrament of holy orders does make a layman a deacon, does make a deacon a priest, and does make a priest a bishop.

This also means is that the sacramental ministry of a priest and a monsignor are identical. Both can baptize, marry, anoint, hear confessions, offer Mass, and under some circumstance they can confirm. A bishop, an archbishop, and a cardinal (if he is a bishop) can do the same things as a priest but they are the ordinary minister of confirmation and they can also ordain men of their own diocese to the diaconate and the priesthood. Further, bishops can ordain (or consecrate) other bishops. With the ordination of a bishop, the pope chooses the candidate to be ordained and three other bishops are required for the ordination.

Another aspect that is often overlooked by many is that being a deacon, priest, or a bishop has nothing to do with wielding power. Yes, a cleric is empowered to confer the sacraments, but that power is not the self-serving power that many people crave today. This empowerment is ultimately for the service and the salvation of the people of God. Just as the Catechism insists, the orders of deacons, priests, and bishops exists so that ‘the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time.’ Just as Jesus’ ministry was anything but an exercise of His power in a self-serving or worldly way, so is the authority entrusted to the clergy. Are there self-serving and worldly clerics? Absolutely. Are there supposed to be self-serving and worldly clerics? Absolutely not.

Sadly, such men fail to understand why they were ordained and they have lost sight of Jesus’ various warnings. For example, Jesus is clear about “*unto whomsoever much is given, of him much shall be required: and to whom they have committed much, of him they will demand the more*” (Lk 12:48). One wonders whether or not they understand that they put their souls and the souls of others in jeopardy by failing to serve instead of seeking to be served.

- Fr Booth