

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*January 27th/January 28th 2018: Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
Septuagesima Sunday (Latin)*



**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.

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 Gary Wolter, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from February 4th to February 10th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Austin Thomas, Jr. from February 11th until February 17th.

REST IN PEACE: Bill Mara, husband of Loretta Mara, passed away on January 25th. His funeral Mass will be at Blessed Sacrament at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 29th. 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.

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.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday Mass on February 2nd 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 February 3rd. Altar server training, choir practice, and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

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

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a second collection for the Church in Latin America.

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.

JOBS AT EWTN: Combine your faith and career at EWTN. They are searching for qualified candidates for the following positions: Animation Graphics Designer, Broadcast Technician, Network & Systems Administrator, Technical Operations Center Operator, Viewer Services Representative & Maintenance Technician. For information, go to www.ewtn.com.

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.

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.).

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$4184 and the Preservation Fund contributions totaled \$195. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sun, Jan 28: 9:00 a.m. *Pro Populo*
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Terry Rumore, Jr. (by John Paul Hahn)

Mon, Jan 29 *8:30 a.m. † Fran Walsh (by the Agnew Family)

Tues, Jan 30: *8:30 a.m. † Eleanor Walsh (by the Agnew Family)

Wed, Jan 31: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Dorothy Sampedro (by the Sampedro Family)
*8:30 a.m. † Deborah Campana (by the Jones Family)

Thur, Feb 1: *8:30 a.m. Private Intention

Fri, Feb 2: *7:00 a.m. † J.C. Cooper, Jr. (by the Donellan Family)
*8:30 a.m. Private Intention

Sat, Feb 3: 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Bill Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Gloria Archambault (by Lynn Bryant)

Sun, Feb 4: 9:00 a.m. *Pro Populo*
10:45 a.m. † Mario Botta (Beth Graf & Lund Randal Lab)
4:00 p.m. Private Intention – Mass in Tuscaloosa

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, 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. Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time	Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1Cor 9:16-19,22-23, Mk 1:29-39
9:00 a.m. Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time	Job 7:1-4, 6-7, 1Cor 9:16-19,22-23, Mk 1:29-39
10:45 a.m. Sexagesima Sunday	2Cor 11:19-12:9, Lk 8:4-15

The Sacraments: Holy Orders

Jesus is the fulfillment of the priesthood. He fulfills all that the various sacrifices of the Old Testament priesthood promised. In fact, the old covenant sacrifices were mere prefigurations, they foreshadowed what Jesus would offer on the cross. The blood of bulls and goats were ineffective at reconciling man with God (Heb 10:3-4) and the Old Testament priesthood was equally ineffective as mediating the relationship between God and His people.

The Catechism relates these realities in this way: 'Everything that the priesthood of the Old Covenant prefigured finds its fulfillment in Christ Jesus, the "one mediator between God and men" (2Tim 2:5). The Christian tradition considers Melchizedek, "priest of God Most High," as a prefiguration of the priesthood of Christ, the unique "high priest after the order of Melchizedek" (Heb 5:10); "holy, blameless, unstained," (Heb 7:26) "by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified," (Heb 10:14) that is, by the unique sacrifice of the cross. The redemptive sacrifice of Christ is unique, accomplished once for all; yet it is made present in the Eucharistic sacrifice of the Church. The same is true of the one priesthood of Christ; it is made present through the ministerial priesthood without diminishing the uniqueness of Christ's priesthood: Only Christ is the true priest, the others being only his ministers.' (CCC 1544-1545).

Many argue that Jesus is the only priest and therefore there is no need for the sacrament of holy orders. This is partially correct. Jesus is the great high priest, as St Paul testifies in his letter to the Hebrews: "*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.*" (Heb 4:14). Jesus' priesthood is unique and it is eternal. He is the one and only true great high priest. But this reality does not preclude the need for subordinate priests, priests that minister in the name of Jesus the Priest. Just as there was only one high priest under the old covenant, one that would enter that office and then leave to be succeeded by another high priest, there were thousands of ordinary priests who also served the people and served God in the temple. The primary distinction between an ordinary priest and one that served as the high priest is that the high priest was the only one who could enter into the Holy of Holies in the temple to make atonement for the people on the annual Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur).

Jesus, being the great high priest, truly entered into the Holy of Holies that is in heaven to present Himself as the one sacrifice that reconciles man to God. Only Jesus could enter the heavenly Holy of Holies by His divinity and only through His humanity could He offer His own blood, not the blood of mere animals, for our atonement. His priesthood is unique, His sacrifice is unique, His offering His blood in heaven is also unique.

Nevertheless, the fruits of His one eternal sacrifice need to be administered to the people for their sanctification. This is where the ministerial priesthood, the priesthood that is made possible by the sacrament of holy orders, comes into play.

The earthly and mortal priest does not offer his own blood, which would avail nothing, but the Blood of Jesus. He offers his own life only in a ministerial way, he sacrifices for the sake of others, but only to make the sacrifice of one Jesus operative in the lives of others through his example and most importantly through the sacraments. The earthly priest offers the sacrifice of the cross in the way prescribed by Jesus at the Last Supper – this is My Body, ...this is My Blood, ...do this in remembrance of Me – not so as to re-crucify Jesus over and over, but to re-present that unique and salvific sacrifice to the people throughout the ages. Likewise, he offers baptism, which is also the fruit of cross, and teaches the Gospel, which is the fruit of Jesus' earthly life and ministry in accordance with the Great Commission: "*All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 28:18-20).

- Fr Booth