

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

February 24th/February 25th 2018: Second Sunday of Lent



**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 Howard Von Hagel, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from February 25th to March 3rd. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Crawford Mabee from March 11th until March 17th.

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 STATEMENTS for 2017 have been mailed.

FR BOOTH ON VACATION: Fr Booth will be on vacation from Monday, February 19th through Thursday, March 1st. Please welcome the priest from EWTN for our Vigil Mass on Saturday, February 24th and our Sunday Masses on February 25th. There will be no daily Masses from Monday, February 19th to Thursday, March 1st.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: We will have Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. during the Fridays of Lent (Stations on Good Friday, March 30th it will be at 2:30 p.m.) followed by a Lenten potluck meal. We will also have confessions following Stations.

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

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

PARISH LENTEN PROJECT: This year we will again collect various non-perishable items for the men in the Cenacolo addiction recovery center in Hanceville. For the third Sunday of Lent, we will collect paper goods and cleaning supplies such as napkins, paper towels, kleenex, toilet paper, liquid dishwashing soap, dishtowels, scouring pads, floor cleaner, etc.

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.

2018 HIGH MASS DATES: 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, Feb 25:	9:00 a.m.	Intention of the Visiting Priest
	10:45 a.m.	Intention of the Visiting Priest
Mon, Feb 26		No Daily Mass Offered
Tues, Feb 27:		No Daily Mass Offered
Wed, Feb 28:		No Daily Mass Offered
Thur, Mar 1:		No Daily Mass Offered
Fri, Mar 2:	7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for David Newman (by the Gagnon Family)
	8:30 a.m.	† Bill Mara (by St Bernadette's Band)
Sat, Mar 3:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Melanie & Lee Nichols (by the Rumore Family)
	4:00 p.m.	† Annie Diergo
Sun, Mar 4:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Ryan Frazier (by the Rumore Family)
	4:00 p.m.	Special Int for Baby Cheney (by the Gagnons) - <i>Tuscaloosa</i>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Sylvia McCarrick, 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. Third Sunday of Lent	Exo 20:1-17, 1Cor 1:22-25, Jn 2:13-25
9:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Exo 20:1-17, 1Cor 1:22-25, Jn 2:13-25
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Eph 5:1-9, Lk 11:14-28

Newsworthy News

Perhaps you have noticed that the ‘little house’, the residence that is west of the rectory just to the right as your exit the parking lot, is having some work done on it of recent. In fact, it is in the process of major renovation. We acquired this house in 1977 and it has been used for multiple purposes over the years including being a temporary residence for a teacher from Blessed Sacrament Academy as well as serving as classroom space for our CCD program. This house was built in 1920 and has had very limited updating done over the years. Much of it is still original, including the knob and tube electrical wiring, sash windows, as well as the uninsulated plaster lath walls and ceiling. In the areas where repairs and renovation have been done on the building, even they are significantly outdated. For example, the roof we recently replaced dates from the 1970s. In any case, we are now extensively remodeling and renovating this house, which has been unoccupied for over a decade, except by a family of squirrels, so that it can reasonably and efficiently accommodate new full-time residents. The new occupants, who are scheduled to arrive this June, are four Franciscan friars (however, they are not associated with the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word in Irondale and Hanceville, but we did come to know about them through EWTN).

The Franciscans that will be moving into the renovated house are from an order called the Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ. Their primary charism (i.e., their primary religious focus or ministry) is evangelization and outreach to the poor. Having been founded only seventeen years ago in Brazil, they are a fairly new religious order. Today, they have about nine hundred members in total, consisting of both friars and sisters, doing ministry primarily in Brazil but also throughout the world. They are located in over fifty establishments outside of Brazil in South America, North America, and Africa. The Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ first came to the United States in 2012 by establishing a presence in Kansas City, Kansas and they are currently in the process of establishing themselves in Los Angeles and now in Birmingham.

Their order usually sends sisters first and later they send friars. Part of the reason for this is that they have more sisters than friars to send. For us, it will be somewhat different. They have decided to send four friars, one of whom will be a priest. This is significant in that as large as the Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ has become in the short span of seventeen years, they only have four priests in the entire order worldwide. In other words, they see great potential for their ministry here in Birmingham. It is expected that they will eventually send sisters as well. It might even be the case that the friars could relocate to another residence here in Birmingham and the sisters might reside here at Blessed Sacrament, or it is possible that the friars will remain here in the West End. This will be discerned as the friars get to know Birmingham and better understand how best they can serve those in need.

The life of the members of the Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ is pretty austere. Being mendicant, they live entirely off of divine providence. If there is no food, they go hungry. If there is no money to pay the utilities, they live in the cold and dark. They even sleep on the floor. When I asked one of them if they would use bunk beds if they were provided, he said they’d still sleep on the floor. I get the impression that a carpeted floor to sleep on would be seen as an unnecessary luxury. In addition to a simple life dependent upon divine providence, the Fraternity of the Poor of Jesus Christ are dedicated to a life of prayer, adoration, and daily Mass attendance.

So, we are blessed to welcome the four friars this summer. I will keep you informed on future developments and how we as a parish can support their ministry to the poor.

- Fr Booth