

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**April 8<sup>th</sup>/April 15<sup>th</sup> 2018: Third Sunday of Easter (English)  
Second Sunday After Easter (Latin)**



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW  
Birmingham, Alabama 35211  
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Website: [www.myblessedsacrament.org](http://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 Maxine Olson, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from April 15<sup>th</sup> to April 21<sup>st</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Chester Olson from April 22<sup>nd</sup> until April 28<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**THIRD SUNDAY:** This Sunday First Communion will be at the 10:45 a.m. Mass. A reception will follow Mass.

**GOLF FORE LIFE:** The Her Choice Birmingham Women's Center annual golf tournament – a scramble format – will be played on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at Highland Park Golf Course. Highland Golf Course is a great course and fun for golfers of all skill levels. Please come play golf and help raise money for Her Choice, a pro-life pregnancy resource center. Lunch will be provided beginning at 12:00 p.m. and tee-off will be at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$250 (\$125 of which is tax deductible) per individual golfer and prizes will be awarded immediately following the tournament. Questions can be directed to Jim Pinto at (205) 447-8796 or Her Choice at (205) 252-0706. Please register at <http://www.herchoicebirmingham.org/gfl/form.htm>

**FRIDAY ADORATION AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST PAUL:** All are invited each Friday for adoration in the Cathedral chapel from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. concluding with Benediction. There is also a Children's Hour from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. each Friday. Please call Krista in the Cathedral office for details at 251-1279.

**2018 HIGH MASS DATES:** Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> (First Communion, Second Sunday After Easter), Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (Corpus Christi, Thursday 6:00 p.m.), ~~Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup> (To Be Rescheduled)~~, Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> (Assumption, Wednesday 6:00 p.m.), Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> (Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost), Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> (Christ the King), Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> (Gaudete Sunday), Monday, 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.

**PRIESTLY ORDINATIONS:** Deacons Jonathan Howell and Brother Matthew Mary Bartow, M.F.V.A. will be ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral of St Paul on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection for last weekend was \$5076 and \$270 was collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Apr 14: 4:00 p.m. † Annie Diergo  
Sun, Apr 15: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. † Nancy Donellan (by Scott Donellan)  
Mon, Apr 16 \*8:30 a.m. † Annie Diergo  
Tues, Apr 17: \*8:30 a.m. † Annie Diergo  
Wed, Apr 18: \*7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Bishop Foley  
\*8:30 a.m. † Annie Diergo  
Thur, Apr 19: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Fr Lambert Greenan  
Fri, Apr 20: \*7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Bishop Foley  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Fr Joseph Underwood  
Sat, Apr 21: 4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Bishop Foley (by the Dinans)  
Sun, Apr 22: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Judy Rohling (by the Hahn and Rumore Families)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Girard Durward, Pete Searcy, Bishop David Foley, Sylvia McCarrick, William Scroggins, 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**

8:00 p.m. Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:8-12, 1Jn 3:1-2, Jn 10:11-18
9:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:8-12, 1Jn 3:1-2, Jn 10:11-18
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday After Easter	1Pet 2:11-19, Jn 16:16-22

## *The Sacraments: The Eucharist*

That the Mass is a perpetuation, not repetition, of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross carries key elements of the Gospel that are often overlooked even by bishops and priests. Most, but sadly not all, bishops and priests would affirm that the Mass is the re-presentation of Jesus' one unique sacrifice on the cross. They would rightly understand that the Eucharist at one Mass is no different than at any other Mass offered in the past, in the present, and in the future. This is so because the Eucharist **is** Jesus, who "*is the same yesterday, today, and forever*" (Heb 13:8).

Likewise, priests know, or they ought to know, that they must receive Jesus under both species in every Mass they celebrate. A priest is absolutely positively forbidden to offer Mass but forgo receiving Communion. This is so even if the priest is in a state of mortal sin. Yes, he commits a sacrilege by celebrating Mass without being in a state of grace but nevertheless the Mass is still offered and the bread and wine still become the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus despite the fact that the priest is in sin: his mortal sin and his sin of offering Mass in a state of sin do not negate the consecration nor the graces that flow from the Mass. Besides the sin of offering Mass while he is estranged from God, the priest commits a further sacrilege by receiving Jesus while having mortal sin on his soul. Some might argue that it would be better for the priest, just like a layman, to forgo Communion instead of committing the sin of unworthy reception of the Eucharist. However, this is not an option for the priest celebrating Mass: he must receive.

Why? The answer lies in the theology of sacrifice. When the Jews offered sacrifice in the Temple or in the Tabernacle in the desert, the priest offering the sacrifice was obliged to consume his portion of the sacrifice. He could not simply offer a thanksgiving, a sin offering, or any other form of sacrifice for someone else and be a bystander in its consumption. The Jewish priest was not a functionary or simply some sort of cook that prepares something on behalf of a third party. No, the priest represented both God and the whole community. He consumed his portion of the sacrifice on God's behalf and also on behalf of the greater community. The one requesting the sacrifice was duly required to consume his portion as well: he simply could not hand it off to the priest anymore than the priest could forgo consuming his portion of the sacrifice. Both the Jewish priest and the Jew asking for the sacrifice had to participate in that sacrifice.

It is important to keep in mind that sacrifice is an aspect of the covenant between God and man. By God declaring to the Chosen People that "*I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God*" (Ex 6:7) He is establishing a relationship with them. This is quite unlike a pagan understanding of a god where sacrifice is offered to appease, to gain favor with, to influence, or to actually feed a divine being. Sacrifice in both Old and New Covenants is an expression of relationship and, like every relationship, there must be participation by all parties involved.

As such, St Paul could say "*Look at Israel according to the flesh; are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?*" (1Cor 10:18). The one offering the sacrifice participates on his own behalf and the priest on behalf of God and the community. With regard to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Paul could likewise say that the "*cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?*" (1Cor 10:16). And the participation is similar except the Mass is not owned by the one requesting the Mass intention but belongs to the whole Church.

This brings to light Jesus' words about the Eucharist: "*Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day*" (Jn 6:54). By worthy reception we indeed participate in Jesus' unique sacrifice on the cross, in His resurrection, and also in His risen life with the Father in Heaven. In other words, the Mass is not just an ongoing presentation of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross but it also provides a sacramental means for us to participate in His sacrifice.