

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

May 12<sup>th</sup>/May 13<sup>th</sup> 2018: *The Ascension (English)*

*Sunday After the Ascension (Latin)*



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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 Josephine S. Nettleman, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from May 13<sup>th</sup> to May 19<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Ernest A. Nettleman from May 20<sup>th</sup> until May 26<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.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** There will be a second collection this weekend for the St John Vianney Retirement Residence for priests.

**PARISH COUNCIL:** The Parish Council will meet on Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Rectory.

**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.

**BBQ FUNDRAISER:** For those who ordered Pork Butts, Turkey Breasts, and Ribs, pick up will be on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> in the Social Hall between Masses. Prices are Butts \$35.00, Turkey Breasts \$40.00, and Ribs \$25.00. Funds raised will benefit Blessed Sacrament, St Stephen's, and St Elias.

**AVILA SUMMIT:** The 1<sup>st</sup> annual Avila Summit will be held July 13-15<sup>th</sup> at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville and will feature keynote presentations by Cardinal Francis Arinze and Fr. Cassian Folsom. Other speakers include Dan Burke, Anthony Lilles, Pia de Solenni, and Christopher Carstens. This conference will focus on the saving power of liturgy and the interior life in our mission to restore, transform, and animate the culture. Receive 50% of your ticket price using code AL2018. Space limited to just 250 attendees. Register now or get more information at [SpiritualDirection.com/Summit2018](http://SpiritualDirection.com/Summit2018).

**ST PATRICK SPRINGFEST:** St Patrick Catholic Church, located at 301 Shamrock Trail in Adamsville, invites everyone to their 34<sup>th</sup> annual Springfest set for Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. There will be great homemade Italian foods, a raffle with a grand prize of \$2,000 and ten \$100 prizes. There will be inflatables, a Game Zone Bus, glitter tattoos, a dunking booth, and a large variety of kids' games indoors. The live auction begins at 1:30. For more info on Springfest visit [www.saintpatrickcc.com/springfest](http://www.saintpatrickcc.com/springfest).

**FACEBOOK:** 'Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church Birmingham, AL' is the parish official Facebook page. If you have not joined, please do so that you can keep up with what is happening in the parish. It's a wonderful way to communicate with other parishioners. It is a closed group so the privacy is secure.

**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.

**2018 HIGH MASS DATES:** Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (Corpus Christi, Thursday 6:00 p.m.), Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup> (Seventh Sunday After Pentecost), 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, 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 \$4977 and \$545 was collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, May 12:	4:00 p.m.	† Bishop Foley (by the Bryants)
Sun, May 13:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Corrine Barry (by the Donellan Family)
Mon, May 14	*8:30 a.m.	† Carol Miranda Pilleteri (by James & Nida Hammond)
Tues, May 15:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Penny Vaughn
Wed, May 16:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Nathan Gagnon (by the Hahn Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Scott & Lori Donellan (by the Fernandes Family)
Thur, May 17:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Casey Byrd (by the Pohorelsky Family)
Fri, May 18:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Fr John Paul Mary Zeller (by the Pohorelsky Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Corrine Lapeyre Barry (by the Rumore Family)
Sat, May 19:	4:00 p.m.	† George Gustin (by the Dinan Family)
Sun, May 20:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Scott & Lori Donellan (by the Juneau Family)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Krissy Chism, Gerard Durward, Pete Searcy, 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**

4:00 p.m. Pentecost	Gen 11:1-9, Rom 8:22-27, Jn 7:37-39
9:00 a.m. Pentecost	Acts 2:1-11, 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13, Jn 20:19-23
10:45 a.m. Pentecost	Acts 2:1-11, Jn 14:23-31

## ***The Sacraments: The Eucharist***

Not all Christians embrace the teaching on Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist. The Eastern Orthodox essentially share the Catholic belief in the Real Presence of Jesus. However, most protestants reject the Catholic teaching of Jesus being present Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Eucharist. Protestant theology on Jesus' presence in the Eucharist varies widely. For some the elements of their Lord's Supper are merely symbolically the body and blood of Jesus, for some the elements contain Jesus but the wine and bread remain unchanged, for some Jesus is present only spiritually but not physically, and for others He is not present at all in the bread, wine and/or grape juice but partaking of the Lord's Supper is a matter of observing Jesus' mandate to do this in remembrance of Him. It also has to be said, however, that irrespective of their denominations and their various teachings, the protestants – but not the Eastern Orthodox – lack the sacrament of Holy Orders, and therefore lack the priesthood. With no priesthood there can be no Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

This does not mean that those Christians who lack a proper priesthood also lack any presence of Jesus. Jesus promised at His ascension *“And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age”* (Mt 28:20). Likewise, He also promised His disciples that *“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them”* (Mt 18:20). It must also not be forgotten that Jesus, as God, is necessarily omnipresent: there is no place in heaven or on earth that is bereft of His presence.

So, is Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist a manifestation of the promise to be with His disciples until the end of time, the promise to be with those gathered in His name, or an aspect of His divine omnipresence? No. The catechism clarifies this point, teaching that ‘The mode of Christ's presence under the Eucharistic species is unique. It raises the Eucharist above all the sacraments as the perfection of the spiritual life and the end to which all the sacraments tend. In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained. This presence is called 'real' - by which is not intended to exclude the other types of presence as if they could not be 'real' too, but because it is presence in the fullest sense: that is to say, it is a substantial presence by which Christ, God and man, makes himself wholly and entirely present’ (CCC 1374).

So, how can we know that Jesus is truly present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, in the Eucharist? Why could it not be an aspect of the other ways Jesus promised to be present to His people? The answer lies in the way Jesus instituted the sacrament of the Eucharist. He said *“This is My Body... This is My Blood.”* He also said *“I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world”* (Jn 6:51). In other words, Jesus identified Himself with the Eucharist. It is not a mere spiritual presence or a symbolic one, but a personal presence. Jesus as a Person is present in the Eucharist so that *“whoever eats this bread will live forever,”* a presence that is certainly meant to be physically consumed since He also said *“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink”* (Jn 6:54-55).

Since Jesus is personally present in the Eucharist, this means that He is there in His entirety. He cannot separate Himself from His risen Body or Blood, the very Body and Blood with which He ascended, because He dies no more (Rom 6:9) and because He promised to give us Himself as living bread and not lifeless blood or flesh. He gives us living flesh that therefore requires a Soul as well as a Person to be alive. Jesus rejected the idea that He parcels out His Body and His Blood but not also Himself in rejecting the false, cannibalistic understanding of the Jews who objected saying *“How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”* (Jn 6:52). Instead, He insisted *“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him”* (Jn 6:56), meaning that receiving His Flesh and His Blood also means receiving Him personally, not flesh or blood separated from His Soul or His Divinity.

- Fr Booth