

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**May 19<sup>th</sup>/May 20<sup>th</sup> 2018: Pentecost**



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW  
Birmingham, Alabama 35211  
Phone: (205) 785-9840**

**E-mail: [church@myblessedsacrament.org](mailto:church@myblessedsacrament.org)  
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 Ernest A. Nettleman, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from May 20<sup>th</sup> to May 26<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Tevin Williams from May 27<sup>th</sup> until June 2<sup>nd</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.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Please make all checks out to Blessed Sacrament, Blessed Sacrament Church, or words to that effect. This applies to second collections, Mass cards, religious goods, etc.

**THIRD SUNDAY:** This 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 this Sunday in the Parish 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 \$3171, \$315 was collected for the Preservation Fund, and \$1045 was collected for the St John Vianney Retirement Residence. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

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)
Mon, May 21	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Kay Dorion
Tues, May 22:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Charlie Rumore (by the Pohorelskys)
Wed, May 23:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Bettye Carrico (by the Rumore Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Rita Peters (by Helen Brandley)
Thur, May 24:	*8:30 a.m.	† Lorine Alesci (by Helen Brandley)
Fri, May 25:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Scott & Lori Donellan (by Terry & Charlotte Rumore)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Jim Wolbert (by the Sampedro Family)
Sat, May 26:	4:00 p.m.	† Jim Wolbert (by the Sampedro Family)
Sun, May 27:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Peter Magnolia Family (by Mary Jane Kelly)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Krissy Chism, 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. Holy Trinity  
9:00 a.m. Holy Trinity  
10:45 a.m. Holy Trinity

Deut 4:32-34,39-40, Rom 8:14-17, Mt 28:16-20  
Deut 4:32-34,39-40, Rom 8:14-17, Mt 28:16-20  
Rom 11:33-36, Mt 28:18-20

## *The Holy Spirit*

Of the Three Persons of the Holy Trinity, it is likely that the Holy Spirit is the one who is least understood. While it is true that God defies full or even significant comprehension by the limited and fallen human mind, both the Father and the Son are more easily comprehended because of the relationship alluded to by their titles. God has revealed Himself in this way not because they are literally Father and literally Son in the human sense of the words, but their relation to one another is analogous to the human relationship alluded to in their titles of Father and Son. Indeed, they are revealed as the Father and the Son only for our sake. Had God chosen not to make man in His image and likeness but stopped creating rational persons with the angels, the divine titles of Father and Son would have been utterly unnecessary.

The revealed title of the third Person, however, divulges virtually nothing about Him: He is of course holy because He is God and of course He is a spirit because God is pure spirit by nature. This title could just as easily apply to the other Persons in the Trinity for it is impossible to say that either are not holy or not a spirit. From this title it is suggested that there is no human relationship that mirrors the Holy Spirit and there really is no other way to describe Him in human terms. His other titles – Paraclete, Comforter, Advocate – describe what He does more than who He is. Other titles for the Holy Spirit are not much more helpful. Spirit of Truth, Spirit of Life, Spirit of Grace, etc. generally reflect the attributes of God that also apply to the Father and the Son.

Even though the Holy Spirit is more mysterious than the other two Divine Persons, He should not be a stranger to us at all. In fact, we are called to have a more intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit than we are to have with either the Father or the Son. This sounds odd to us since we have a strongly Christ-centered theology and spirituality in the western Church. Sadly, for many people both protestant and Catholic, the Holy Spirit is something of an afterthought or an accessory to their faith. They can rightly argue that we become adopted sons and daughters of the Father as well as brothers and sisters of Jesus by our baptism. They can rightly argue that Catholics receive Jesus physically and spiritually in the Eucharist. Nevertheless, we are called to be tabernacles of the Holy Spirit, a reality that is established in our baptism, a reality that is strengthened in confirmation, a reality that is reestablished in confession, and a reality that is a prerequisite for the devout and fruitful relationship with the Father and the Son.

While He abides with us in our waking hours and He abides with us in our sleep, the Holy Spirit does not just hang around with us in a passive sense so that we might have a proper relationship with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit works with us in everything we do, so long as what we do is not contrary to the will of God. He prays with and for us in a way that could not possibly happen in any natural sense, and we can't really understand how He prays for us (Rom 8:26-27). St Paul tells us in the letter to the Hebrews that the sacrifices of the Old Testament never really came before God. Even when consumed by fire, the resulting flames and smoke remained part of creation even though they seemed to rise upwards toward heaven. Likewise, God was not obliged to listen to let alone answer their prayers: their prayers, and ours as well in the absence of the Holy Spirit, remain a part of the created world. For the Jews it took chastisement after chastisement to get them to repent and return to God that He might intercede of their behalf. For us, it is simply a matter of being in a state of grace, which is exactly what it means to have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Not that an omniscient God is ignorant of anything, with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit our prayers always and infallibly reach the ears of Father through the intercession of the Son. We could even say that the prayers of the saints made on our behalf would not infallibly reach heaven without the Holy Spirit. Absent the Holy Spirit, we cannot have the right relationship with the Son and Father that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit establishes. Thus, we can never think of the Holy Spirit as unnecessary or superfluous because through Him we have the greatest of gifts possible.

- Fr Booth