

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

June 2<sup>nd</sup>/June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018: Corpus Christi (English)  
Second Sunday after Pentecost (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 Fr Bill Jones, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 9<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Mattie L. Thomas from June 10<sup>th</sup> until June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

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

**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).

**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.

**2018 HIGH MASS DATES**: 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 Justin Ward, Daniel Sessions, Charles Deering, Doug Hess, 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.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**: Combine your faith and career at EWTN. They are seeking to fill the following positions: On-Air Promotions Producer/Editor, Customer Service Representative, Broadcast Traffic Assistant, Broadcast Technician, IT Support Technician, Viewer Services Representative. Information on job requirements can be found at [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com).

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection for last weekend was \$5718 and \$765 was collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, June 2:	8:30 a.m.	† Sr Joseph Mary Powell, O.P. (by Lena Donellan)
	11:00 a.m.	For Vocations – <i>Mass at St Paul’s</i>
	4:00 p.m.	Private Intention
Sun, June 3:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Christopher Jaworowski (by Alan and Pam Olson)
Mon, June 4	*8:30 a.m.	† Carroll Green (by Cedric & Mary Jo Fernandes)
Tues, June 5:	*8:30 a.m.	† Carroll Green (by Cedric & Mary Jo Fernandes)
Wed, June 6:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Charlie Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Tim Thornton, Sr. (by Cedric & Mary Jo Fernandes)
Thur, June 7:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Penny Vaughn (Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore)
Fri, June 8:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Horace Helms, Jr. (by the Duryea Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Penny Vaughn (Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore)
Sat, June 9:	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Penny Vaughn (Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore)
Sun, June 10:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Linda Griebel (by Alan and Pam Olson)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Penny Vaughn, Patricia Durward, Kay Dorion, 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. Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
9:00 a.m. Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday after Pentecost

Gen 3:9-15, 2Cor 4:13-5:1, Mk 3:20-35  
Gen 3:9-15, 2Cor 4:13-5:1, Mk 3:20-35  
1Pet 5:6-11, Lk 15:1-10

## *Vocations*

You may have noticed that praying for our seminarians shows up in almost every Blessed Sacrament bulletin. As of this Saturday, we will have one new priest for the diocese and one for the Franciscans in Irondale, the ones associated with EWTN. Ordinations are always a cause for great joy. We should be profoundly thankful for Fr Howell and Fr Matthew for answering their call and persevering through their studies. Given what has been happening in the culture in the last sixty years and what has happened in the Church, neither of which is good, just, or defensible, it is truly edifying to see men step up to serve God and His people.

Taking these blessed ordinations into account, we will have only five men continuing their studies for the priesthood this fall, all of which could potentially be ordained by 2026. There are an additional two men who have applied to the diocese to begin, God willing, their studies this fall. If they are accepted, which is not guaranteed, they could also be ordained by 2026. It must be admitted, however, that it is possible that none of these seven men will be ordained.

Assuming that all seven of these men make it to ordination in the next eight years, besides being a profound blessing, what does that mean? First we have to look at the diocesan priests we have now. Of the forty-six diocesan priests (priests that belong to this diocese) in active ministry, only one is under the age of thirty, only thirteen are under the age of fifty, while seven are serving past their retirement age. The men who are past their retirement age tend to be serving well beyond retirement: four of the seven could have retired twelve or more years ago. How likely is it that these seven men will still be serving as active priests in the year 2026? Indeed, the seven men in the seminarian pipeline, five current seminarians plus the two potential candidates, would merely replace the men who are serving beyond retirement in 2018. But by 2026, we will have an additional six men who will have reached retirement age. Must we expect all of them to forego retirement? Is that a realistic or just approach for providing the sacraments to the people of the diocese?

Mortality must also be considered. In the last five years, we have lost six *active* pastors to death, half of which died before reaching the age of retirement. We also had one man die just six weeks after retirement, so death is always a factor especially given that our current priests are not getting any younger. So, from the perspective of our current priests, we will need to replace those who are working through their retirements now, we ought to replace those who will soon be in retirement, and we will likely lose some priests to death before retirement, which means that we ought to replace about fifteen priests, give or take, between now and 2026.

This might suggest that we really only need eight more seminarians over and above the five we have and the two potential candidates. That would be true if all seminarians persevere in their studies. The truth of the matter is that only about half of all seminarians make it to ordination. Worst case, we would need upwards of a total of twenty-five to thirty seminarians to begin their studies in the very near term.

Since its inception in 1969, the approach of the diocese has been is to import more priests as needed. Of the forty-six priests in active ministry that belong to the diocese, six were born in Ireland, five born in India, one was born in Vietnam, and fifteen were born in a state other than Alabama. In other words, over half of our diocesan priests have come from elsewhere. Indeed, the Irish have been supplementing our diocese for decades and as their priestly vocations have evaporated, we have relied increasingly on priests from India, Africa, Asia, and South America. In addition to the forty-six priests of the diocese we have today, we have another fifteen that have been borrowed from foreign dioceses.

To put it in perspective, Blessed Sacrament's recent pastors have been born in Colorado, Nigeria, India, Michigan, Ireland, and so forth. How many of the thirteen pastors we have had since 1911 were Alabama natives? If the trend continues, will any of our future pastors be men of our own diocese? Or, since vocations are drying up in India and elsewhere, how many of our parishes are currently being served by their last pastor?

- Fr Booth