

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

August 4th/August 5th 2018: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost (Latin)



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Website: 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 Eileen Schauer, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from August 5th to August 11th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Beverly Grisham from August 12th until August 18th.

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

FATHER JAMES E. COYLE MEMORIAL MASS: Let us remember a holy priest killed in the line of duty. A memorial Mass will be offered on Friday, August 10th at 12:10 p.m. at St Paul's. Mass will be followed by a reception and a reflection upon the life of Fr Coyle.

KOC MEETING: The Knights of Columbus will have their regular monthly meeting next Sunday, August 12th in the parish hall. The social hour begins at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

HOMESCHOOL MASS: All Catholic Homeschoolers from the Diocese of Birmingham are invited to a Beginning of the Year Mass at the Cathedral of St Paul. Mark your calendars for the Mass to be celebrated on Thursday, September 6th at 10:00 a.m. Reception to follow; please bring a dish to share. Come join other Catholic homeschoolers to begin the school year in prayer and fellowship. For more information, please contact Susan Fay at staabhm@gmail.com

VOCATION RETREAT: The cloistered Dominican nuns of the Monastery of St Jude in Marbury, Alabama are inviting single Catholic women, high school juniors through age 27, who are interested in the contemplative life to a discernment retreat from October 19th to the 21st. Is Jesus drawing you to give yourself to Him through a common life of liturgical and personal prayer, study and daily work, pondering the Word in your heart in union with Mary so that it may bear fruit for God and souls? Learn more at MarburyDominicanNuns.org

CONFIRMATION: Bishop Baker will offer the sacrament of Confirmation at the 10:45 a.m. High Mass on Sunday, December 16th. If you have a child to be confirmed, please provide a copy of their baptismal certificate to Fr Booth. If you are not members of Blessed Sacrament, you must obtain the permission of your pastor for your child to receive confirmation here.

2018 HIGH MASS DATES: 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, Confirmation), Monday, December 24th (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: Volunteer Support Assistant, Security Officer (night-shift), IT Support Technician (Tier I), Web Developer, Viewer Services Representative, Live Show Operator (part-time), Customer Service Representative (Religious Catalogue), Marketing Specialist, Assistant News Editor (NCR), Producer/Editor, Non-Linear Editor. Job requirements can be found at www.ewtn.com.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$3399 and \$575 was collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Aug 4:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Rumore Family (by the Duryea Family)
	4:00 p.m.	† Joe Shirley (by Marian Dinan)
Sun, Aug 5:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Charles & Allison Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
Mon, Aug 6	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Gina Paffumi (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, Aug 7:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Nicholas Roth (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Aug 8:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Thom Price (by Jacie Donellan)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Pohorelsky Family (by the Hahn Family)
Thur, Aug 9:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Chris Yeager (by the Donellan Family)
Fri, Aug 10:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Sophie Duvall (by the Donellan Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Marc Ayers, Jr. (by the Hahn Family)
Sat, Aug 11:	4:00 p.m.	† Mother Mary Gabriel Long, SsEW (by Julia Bryant)
Sun, Aug 12:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Nathan Gagnon (by the Hahn Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Jacob Baker, Virginia Files, Gerry McCahan, Danny Rohling, Fr Gerald Holloway, Friar Leticio pjc, Vinita Kelly, Penny Vaughn, Patricia Durward, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, Pete Searcy, Sylvia McCarrick, William Scroggins, Lamar Smith, Fr Kevin McGrath, OSB, Johnny Young, 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, Kay Junk, Liz Pate, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, 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. Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	1Kgs 19:4-8, Eph 4:30-5:2, Jn 6:41-51
9:00 a.m. Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	1Kgs 19:4-8, Eph 4:30-5:2, Jn 6:41-51
10:45 a.m. Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	2Cor 3:4-9, Lk 10:23-37

God, The Perfectly Good

I don't know if the Boy Scouts are even relevant anymore. They are clearly on the decline for a number of reasons. Nevertheless, the Scouting Law, at least in the United States, has remained essentially the same since 1910: 'A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.'

I was never a scout but my older brothers were. From a young age I remember them memorizing this list of twelve characteristics and qualities that made a Scout a Scout. But can we say that any of these qualities are either-or propositions, that a Scout is either trustworthy or he simply isn't? Being Americans we might have an urge to see things in this categorical way, we might think that someone is trustworthy or he is not. Although we might tend to treat such things as either black or white, the reality is shades of gray. We can say that Wilma is more trustworthy than Barney who is more trustworthy than Fred. We could certainly find more trustworthy people than Wilma and we know that there are much less trustworthy people than Fred. The same thing goes for honesty, loyalty, bravery, and all of the other qualities that make a Scout a Scout.

The idea behind Scouting was to make better boys who would grow up to be better men with the hope that a better society and culture would grow from having better citizens. Indeed, attaining the highest level of achievement in Scouting, the Eagle Scout, generally leads to the expectation that the Eagle Scout will excel in and be a blessing to society. After all, don't we want others around us to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent? Shouldn't we also strive to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent?

In any case, it is easy to see that there must be a Boy Scout out there, whether past, present or future, that is the most trustworthy of all of the Boy Scouts ever. Likewise, there is one who is the most loyal, perhaps another that is the kindest, and so forth. Even though there exists a most trustworthy, a most loyal, a most kind, etc. Scout, it does not mean that any of those Boy Scouts are absolutely perfect in that or any quality: it just means that they excel their past, present, and future peers. So, if there are degrees of trustworthiness possible, there must be an absolute standard of trustworthiness, an unchanging standard of perfect trustworthiness, by which trustworthiness is measured. The same applies for any of the good qualities that a Boy Scout is supposed to be.

All of those qualities of trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent are specific aspects of goodness. There are other aspects that can easily be added to the twelve listed in the Scouting Law, such as compassion, justice, steadfastness, and so on, which are also expressions of goodness. Again, any aspect or expression of goodness must be measured by some sort of perfect unchanging standard of goodness. For example, the title of the most trustworthy Boy Scout might be held by Andy Brown. Later on that title of most trustworthy might be exceeded by Bobby Cosby, who might be topped later by Chuck Dickenson, who might be outdone later by Dave Edison, until the most-trustworthy-Boy-Scout-ever comes along who never is surpassed by any subsequent Boy Scout. Since that most-trustworthy-Boy-Scout-ever is human, and since he himself must be measured by the standard of unchanging perfect trustworthiness just like the rest, there exists a standard of trustworthiness that exists apart from any and all Boy Scouts, indeed apart from every man, woman, and child. St Thomas Aquinas would argue that the unchanging standard of perfect trustworthiness and the perfection of all other qualities or expressions of goodness must exist. He would say that these degrees of perfection point to the perfect and that only God can be that unchanging standard of perfection.

Indeed, any goodness that can be named exists in total perfection within God apart from anything He has made. God is the perfect standard by which all things are measured whether it is the trustworthiness of a Boy Scout or the beauty of a flower. We can go so far as to say that any attempt at being a better boy, girl, man or woman is to strive to be more like God.