

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

**September 29th/September 30th 2018: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)
19th Sunday after Pentecost (Latin)**



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

**E-mail: church@myblessedsacrament.org
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 Joel D. Levenberg, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from September 30th to October 5th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Edward Von Hagel, Sr. from September 30th until October 5th.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: You should have received a letter and a pledge card from the diocese. Our pledge goal this year is \$17,000. All money raised through this annual appeal remains within the diocese.

POTLUCK DINNER DANCE: We will have a covered dish dinner dance in the Parish Hall on Saturday, September 29th following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. All are invited to dine and dance.

FIRST FRIDAY: For First Friday on October 5th, we will have Adoration and Benediction following the 8:30 a.m. English Mass. Mass will be offered at 6:30 p.m. in Latin.

FIRST SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on October 6th. Altar server training, choir practice, and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

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

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: Sunday, October 28th (Christ the King), Sunday, December 16th (Gaudete Sunday, Confirmation), Monday, December 24th (Christmas Eve, 8:00 p.m.).

COAT DRIVE: The Knights of Columbus will be holding their annual Coat Drive for the Catholic Center of Concern through Sunday September 30th. The collection point is at the rear of the Church by the stairs.

CONTACTING THE FRANCISCANS: the Franciscans of the Fraternity Poor of Jesus Christ can be contacted at (205) 578-2988, on facebook @poorofjesuschristalabama, and via e-mail at franciscanspjcalabama@gmail.com

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Deacon Justin Ward, Daniel Sessions, Charles Deering, Doug Hess, Luis Reyes, Matthew Gubenski, and Cristian Padilla. We need to fervently pray for those who are discerning a call to the priesthood.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS SCHEDULE: Beginning in October, we are changing the First Friday Mass schedule. Instead of a 7:00 a.m. Latin Mass on First Friday, we will have a Latin Mass at 6:30 p.m. The first nine of these First Friday Masses will be offered as a novena for our next bishop since Bishop Baker is scheduled for retirement in June. The English Mass schedule will remain unchanged.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$3831 and \$215 was collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Sept 29:	4:00 p.m.	Private Intention
Sun, Sept 30:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for John Minjares, Sr. (by John Minjares)
Mon, Oct 1	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Joseph Fernandes (by the Fernandes Family)
Tues, Oct 2:	*8:30 a.m.	† Sam Pilato (by Ann Noblitt & Ginny Daniel)
Wed, Oct 3:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Margaret Ann Allen (by the Rumore Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Anna Rumore (by the Hahn Family)
Thur, Oct 4:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for James Blackstone (by the Hahn Family)
Fri, Oct 5:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Pinter Family (by the Hahn Family)
	6:30 p.m.	Special Intention for our Next Bishop
Sat, Oct 6:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Anna Rumore (by the Rumore Family)
	4:00 p.m.	† Catherine Lorino (by Bill & Marian Dinan)
Sun, Oct 7:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Hahn Family (by the Rohling Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Dee Joseph, David Bull, Christopher Chism, Anthony Timpa, Jacob Baker, Virginia Files, Danny Rohling, 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 Herrmann, Debbie Zeller, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, Andrea Little, 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.	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen 2:18-24, Heb 2:9-11, Mk 10:2-16
9:00 a.m.	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen 2:18-24, Heb 2:9-11, Mk 10:2-16
10:45 a.m.	20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Eph 5:15-21, Jn 4:46-53

About the Angels

We have been talking about creation especially with regard to how God can be known from what He has created. The modern agnostic and atheist really can't refute the logical arguments that have been made suggesting that a Creator exists based on what He created. It is far easier to just ignore the arguments for God's existence or claim they prove nothing. So when it comes to beings that are normally beyond our senses, including God, the agnostic still insists that their existence is unknowable but the atheist clings to the idea that there are no purely spiritual beings. This belief is the logical conclusion to the illogical belief that everything that exists must be sensible and measurable the in same way that a frog or a bolt of lightning can be sensed and measured. One might wonder how things would change if mankind ever formulated a means for truly sensing or measuring spiritual beings.

Whether that happens or not, it is a sure and certain teaching of our faith that angels – intelligent creatures that are purely spiritual beings – exist. Angels are eternal, having a beginning but no end, they exist but have no material form whatsoever. Billions, trillions, or even more were created but their number remains fixed since they cannot procreate (Mk 12:25). They are intelligent and therefore they are personal, each having its own unique identity, but gender is not a part of that identity. From the Bible we know of seven specific individual angels: Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Satan, Molech, Asmodeus, and Abaddon while Legion is a name representing a multitude of angels. The last five of these are names of demons, fallen angels, and if the false gods of the pagans were named for demons, then we know many more demon's names. St Paul teaches "*What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons*" (1Cor 10:19-21) suggesting that Baal, Dagon, Chemosh, and many other pagan gods are named after demons. There might even be demons behind the worship of the mythological gods of the Greeks and Romans such as Mars, Saturn, Demeter, Nike, Aphrodite, and so forth, but these are more than likely names assigned by men to nonexistent gods.

Nevertheless, God created all of the angels as good and created each of them for a specific purpose. For example, some were created for heavenly worship, some as spokesmen (spokesangels?), some as angels over nations, and some as personal guardian angels. Those angels whose purpose is more closely tied to God Himself are more awesome and powerful while others who were created to act more in the human realm are less powerful and less awesome. Thus, like the animal kingdom, there is a hierarchy among angels and a degree of organization. Based on the writings of St Paul, specifically Ephesians 1:21 and Colossians 1:16, the Church has consistently taught that there are nine choirs of angels: angels, archangels, principalities, powers, virtues, dominions, thrones, cherubim, and seraphim in ascending order of power and dignity.

These nine choirs of angels should not be seen as species of angels but more like classes or groupings. St Thomas Aquinas taught that each angel is entirely unique, so much so that there are no two that are alike. The analogy of snowflakes might be appropriate here since each snowflake is different but they range in size from several inches to a small fraction of an inch and their structure can be categorized into nearly 100 basic shapes.

In any case, each angel is a person with an intellect and a will. Through its intellect, it knows of the world around it and it is self-aware. Unlike our intellect, the angelic intellect is not subject to uncertainty or being deceived. They know much, much more than we could know in this life, but they are not all-knowing, which is a quality unique to God alone. The will of an angel is also superior to the human will. They decide without wavering or second-guessing. They decide knowing exactly what they are doing and exactly what will result. But like their knowledge, their will is limited. They are limited to what God has either intended them to do or permitted them to do. Just like the fact that angels are not all-knowing, they are also far from omnipotent even though that have powers that far exceed our own.

- Fr Booth