

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

*October 6<sup>th</sup>/October 7<sup>th</sup> 2018: 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)*

*20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Latin)*



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW  
Birmingham, Alabama 35211**

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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, 6:30 p.m. on First 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 Edward Von Hagel, Sr., the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from October 7<sup>th</sup> to October 13<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Anna Mahan from October 14<sup>th</sup> until October 20<sup>th</sup>.

**REST IN PEACE**: Fr John Robinson, a retired priest of the Diocese of Mobile living in Birmingham, passed away on September 28<sup>th</sup> and was laid to rest on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**REST IN PEACE**: Angela Wimmer, sister of Stacy Hiserman, passed away on September 30<sup>th</sup> and was laid to rest on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**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.

**FIRST SUNDAY**: This 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 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. 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](http://MarburyDominicanNuns.org)

**CONFIRMATION**: Bishop Baker will offer the sacrament of Confirmation at the 10:45 a.m. High Mass on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. 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.

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

**2018 HIGH MASS DATES:** Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> (Christ the King), Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> (Gaudete Sunday, Confirmation), Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve, 8:00 p.m.).

**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 \$5171 and \$550 was collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Oct 6: 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)  
Mon, Oct 8 \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Patricia Thompson (by the Pohorelsky Family)  
Tues, Oct 9: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Catherine Thompson (by the Pohorelsky Family)  
Wed, Oct 10: \*7:00 a.m. † Mamie Donellan (by the Donellan Family)  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Cathy & Bruce Thompson (by the Pohorelsky Family)  
Thur, Oct 11: \*8:30 a.m. † David Gonshor  
Fri, Oct 12: \*7:00 a.m. † Joy Martin (by the Donellan Family)  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Andrew Tate (by the Rumore Family)  
Sat, Oct 13: 4:00 p.m. † Sam Pilato (by Bill & Marian Dinan)  
Sun, Oct 14: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. † Geraldine Ann McCahan (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. 28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wis 7:7-11, Heb 4:12-13, Mk 10:17-30
9:00 a.m. 28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wis 7:7-11, Heb 4:12-13, Mk 10:17-30
10:45 a.m. 21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Eph 6:10-17, Mt 18:23-35

## ***More About the Angels***

Angels, being purely spiritual creatures, are a bit difficult to imagine in many respects. We have a strong tendency to give them bodies – plump babies with bows and arrows, tall pale feminine figures in long robes perhaps playing harps, men armed with spears and wearing armor, etc. – and we usually give them wings of various sizes. No doubt we get the idea of wings from the Scriptures as well as our own imagination. An example from Scripture reads “*Something like a human hand was visible under the wings of the cherubim. I also saw four wheels beside the cherubim, one wheel beside each cherub, and the wheels appeared to have the sparkle of yellow topaz. And the appearance of the four all seemed alike, as though one wheel were inside the other. When they moved, they went in any of the four directions without veering as they moved; in whatever direction the first cherub faced, the others followed without veering as they went. Their entire bodies – backs, hands, and wings – and wheels were covered with eyes all around like the four wheels... Each living creature had four faces: the first a cherub, the second a human being, the third a lion, the fourth an eagle*” (Ez 10:8-12).

Ezekiel’s description of the four cherubim that carry the divine throne is probably more metaphor than reality. Angels don’t really have bodies and the description is entirely unlike any physical creature that walks, slithers, flies, or swims in our world. That he describes them having four faces, thousands of eyes, wheels and wings tells us about them, that they have enormous intellect, that they move unimpeded, that their senses are unlike ours, and so on, without actually giving us a physical description. Ezekiel saw these angels as awesome and the noise he perceived them making was equally awesome even though they were invisible and inaudible. Ezekiel perceived the four cherubim in this way to convey that they are awesome, an awesomeness that cannot be described in any ordinary terms.

Ezekiel’s image also gives us the impression that angels exist at a specific location just like we do. This is not the case at all, and this reality is hinted at with the presence of the wings and the wheels. Just as they have no body, they have no location in the way we tend to understand things. Dimension, weight, location, etc. are all realities of this world but not of the angelic realm. Thus, the old speculation about how many angels can dance on the head of a pin is really an absurd question. Lacking bodies of any sort, angels don’t exist in a location and they can’t dance. One thing we can say is that they are present in our world where they act. In a certain way we can say that a guardian angel is by our side if he is acting – praying, interceding, guiding, listening – on our behalf but he is not like a puppy that follows its owner around. He might be present to a loved one because we asked him to intercede on their behalf. It is speculated that an angel can act in only one place at a given time and therefore can be present in one place at a time. This speculation supposes that angels can only perform one act at a time, but it is not inconceivable that angels might multitask and be present several places simultaneously. Even if they cannot multitask, they can act at one place and then act elsewhere at the speed of thought. An Angel might act in Indiana at one moment and immediately act in India without delay and without having to physically move between locations.

We also know that angels are able to communicate. They obviously communicate with God. They hear God’s command and they act accordingly. Angels also communicate to God, one example being the heavenly chorus of praise: “*The four living creatures, each of them with six wings were covered with eyes inside and out. Day and night they do not stop exclaiming, ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and who is, and who is to come*” (Rev 4:8). Likewise, we know that angels communicate with us, for example Gabriel spoke with Zechariah and the Virgin Mary announcing the advent of John the Baptist and Jesus. Thus, it seems almost a certainty that angels can communicate with one another. This would not be a visible form of communication such as writing or sign language nor would it be an audible manner of communication. Angels would communicate with one another on a mind-to-mind basis. They would speak this way to God, from one mind to another, and it is probable they communicate with us the same way even though we would perceive what they communicate in a way that matches our senses, stimulates our appetites, presents images to our imagination, or plants ideas in our minds.

- Fr Booth