

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

October 27th/October 28th 2018: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)

Christ the King (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, 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 Sam and Jenn Buchanan, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of their souls from October 28th to November 3rd. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of John Thomas Kelly from November 4th until November 10th.

ALL SAINTS DAY: Thursday, November 1st is All Saints Day, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will have a vigil Mass in English on Wednesday, October 31st at 6:00 p.m. On November 1st we will have a Mass in English at 8:30 a.m. and a Low Mass in Latin will be offered at 6:00 p.m.

ALL SOULS DAY: We will have an English Mass at 8:30 a.m. and a Latin Low Mass at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, November 2nd. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the souls in purgatory by visiting a church and reciting an Our Father and the Nicene Creed.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday English Mass on November 2nd at 8:30 a.m. in the Rectory followed with Adoration and Benediction and a Latin Low Mass at 6:30 p.m. in the Church.

FIRST SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on November 3rd. Altar server training, choir practice, and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

FIRST SUNDAY: November 4th is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

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.

HER CHOICE FUNDRAISING BANQUET: The annual Her Choice Banquet will be held on Tuesday, October 30th at 7:00 p.m. at The Club (1 Robert S. Smith Drive). The special guest speaker will be Theresa Bonopartis of Lumina Hope & Healing. Make your reservation now, consider hosting a table of eight or make a life saving donation. Her Choice Birmingham Women's Center exists to help women facing a crisis pregnancy to choose life, and to help support them with that decision. Her Choice also offers post abortion recovery services. To confirm your participation, 205-447-8796 or hcbanquet@herchoicebirmingham.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.

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 28th (Christ the King), Sunday, December 16th (Gaudete Sunday, Confirmation), Monday, December 24th (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 \$4731, \$315 was collected for the Preservation Fund, and \$743 was donated for the World Missions. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Oct 27: 4:00 p.m. † Carl Jusi (by Madeline Sampedro)
Sun, Oct 28: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Sean M. Hughes (by Mary Donellan)
Mon, Oct 29 *8:30 a.m. † Betty Bresnahan (by James & Nida Hammond)
Tues, Oct 30: *8:30 a.m. † Dee Joseph (by St Bernadette's)
Wed, Oct 31: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Andrew Tate (by the Rumore Family)
*8:30 a.m. † Dee Joseph (by the Noblitt Family)
6:00 p.m. Special Intention for Noah Martignoni (by the Rumore Family)
Thur, Nov 1: *8:30 a.m. Pro Populo
6:00 p.m. Special Intention for Anna Scroggins & Baby
Fri, Nov 2: *8:30 a.m. † The Faithful Departed
6:30 p.m. Special Intention for Our Next Bishop
Sat, Nov 3: 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Ann Marie Hahn (by the Rumore Family)
4:00 p.m. † Dee Joseph (by the Bryant Family)
Sun, Nov 4: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Scroggins Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially 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. 31 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Deut 6:2-6, Heb 7:23-28, Mk 12:28-34
9:00 a.m. 31 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	Deut 6:2-6, Heb 7:23-28, Mk 12:28-34
10:45 a.m. 4 th Resumed Sunday After Epiphany	Rom 13:8-10, Mt 8:23-27

Guardian Angels

So, all of the angels, however many billions of them that exist, were tested by God as to whether they would choose to serve God in obedience or choose to reject God out of prideful disobedience. Not a few, perhaps a third, possibly more or possibly less, chose irrevocably to reject God. In doing so, they chose to serve their own interests, which generally might be described as opposing the will of God. It was the will of God that both angels and men would share God's own life in heaven so that both spiritual and material creatures would be with God for all eternity.

Given that it was the will of God that each one of us would be in heaven and therefore it is His will that all find salvation from their sins through Jesus Christ (1Tim 2:4, 2Pet 3:9) it should not surprise us that the good angels would strive for the salvation of mankind and the fallen angels would work to oppose God's will, that they would do their best to convince us to join them in the miserable depths of hell. If the old adage that misery loves company rings true, then the motivation of the demons is an expression of this truth writ large.

But what does it mean that the good angels work for the salvation of mankind? It is not as if they could be crucified like Jesus. Since they have no body they can't die and since they are not human they could not suffer and die on our behalf for our salvation even if death was a possibility for them. No, salvation is possible through Jesus alone because He alone is true God and true man. In his humanity Jesus could suffer and die for our sins taking on our punishment and in His divinity Jesus could offer infinite atonement – atonement for an infinite number of infinitely grievous offenses – that no mere human or angelic creature could.

Instead making atonement, the ministry of some angels for the salvation of mankind comes through specific divine interventions such as the angels that led Lot's family away from Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 19:1-29), Raphael's healing of Tobit and protection of Tobiah on his journey, Gabriel's announcement of the births of John the Baptist and Jesus (Lk 1:10-25, 1:26-38), the liberation of the Apostles from prison (Acts 5:17-20, 12:5-11), guiding the Apostles in their ministry (Acts 8:26, 10:1-6) and so forth. But the role of angels in the salvation of man transcends such extraordinary events. The good angels intercede for us in numerous ways in our everyday lives. While we might seek Michael's, Gabriel's, or Raphael's intercession for specific causes, it is our guardian angels that are particularly tasked with our personal wellbeing.

Indeed, it is the sure and certain teaching of the faith that each one of us has a guardian angel assigned to us personally. This belief stems from Jesus' own words: *"See that you despise not one of these little ones: for I say to you, that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost"* (Mt 18:10-11). These guardian angels assist us such that the mission of Jesus – *"to save that which was lost"* – might come to fruition.

Indeed, it is clear from the context of Jesus' teaching in Chapter 18 of St Matthew's Gospel that these angels assigned to us, who see the face of the Father, serve us that we might not be lost. Prior to saying this, Jesus teaches about the gravity of sin *"And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into fiery Gehenna"* (Mt 18:9) and after He launches into the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Mt 18:12-14) concluding *"it is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost."*

In other words, the Lord has assigned each of us a guardian angel whose primary purpose is to help us obtain heaven. They, having chosen to serve God, will do the will of God in our lives. But they generally cannot act contrary to our will. If we reject God through indifference or through serious sin, our guardian angels respect our choices just as God respects our free will. No matter how deep we dive into the depths of depravity, however, they never abandon us for that would be an act of disobedience. Thus, our guardian angels will be at our side through thick and thin. As friends go, they will be more loyal to us than any human friend could ever be. In fact, they will be more loyal to us than even the best of family members. They, having chosen to do God's will, remain by our sides to help us, if we are willing, to also do God's will.