

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

January 12th/January 13th 2019: Baptism of the Lord (English)

Holy Family (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

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 Hazel Melendez, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from January 13th to January 19th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Tony Melendez from January 20th until January 26th.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Parish Council will meet on Thursday, January 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the Rectory.

MORNING WITH MARY: All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, January 19th. Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m., there will be confession during adoration, followed by benediction at about 9:10 a.m., and concluding with a Latin Mass at about 9:15 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY: Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of the month. We will have vocations prayers and a potluck lunch following the 10:45 a.m. Mass.

ST ROSE OPEN HOUSE: Saint Rose Academy will host an Open House for prospective students on Sunday, January 13th, 2019 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Saint Rose Academy is located at 1401-22nd Street South Birmingham, AL 35205. It is a private, Catholic, co-educational school serving students from 3-K through eighth grade. Families are invited to tour the school and meet the faculty and staff. For more information, please call (205) 933-0549 or visit their website www.strosebhm.org.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES for 2019, arranged alphabetically, are in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS for 2018, arranged alphabetically, are in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

LASAGNA DINNER: Blessed Sacrament will be having our annual Lasagna Dinner following the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, February 23rd. Come one and come all to this homecoming event.

MARDI GRAS DINNER DANCE: We will have a dinner dance in the Parish Hall on Saturday, March 2nd 2019 following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. All are invited to dine and dance.

TENTATIVE 2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: Sunday, January 13th (Holy Family); Sunday, February 10th (Fifth Sunday After Epiphany); Sunday, March 31st (Laetare Sunday); Thursday, April 18th (Holy Thursday); Sunday, April 21st (Easter); Sunday, May 26th (1st Communion); Sunday, June 9th (Pentecost); Thursday, June 20th (Corpus Christi); Thursday, August 15th (Assumption of BVM); Sunday, September 8th (Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost); Sunday, October 27th (Christ the King); Sunday, December 8th (Immaculate Conception); Sunday, December 15th (Gaudete Sunday); and Tuesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve).

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.

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

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$3285 and \$520 were collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Jan 12: 4:00 p.m. † Fran Cicio (by Marian & Bill Dinan)
Sun, Jan 13: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for The Renna Family (by the Rumore Family)
Mon, Jan 14 *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Brennen Martignoni (by Peter & Sharon Gagnon)
Tues, Jan 15: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Jack Yaeger (by Peter & Sharon Gagnon)
Wed, Jan 16: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Stephen Rumore ((by Peter & Sharon Gagnon)
*8:30 a.m. † Frank Dirgo (by Teneda Latham)
Thur, Jan 17: *8:30 a.m. Private Intention
Fri, Jan 18: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Aaron & Paul Minares (by John Minjares)
*8:30 a.m. Private Intention
Sat, Jan 19: 9:15 a.m. Private Intention
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Fr Jim Booth (by Marian & Bill Dinan)
Sun, Jan 20: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Harmon Hastings (by the Rumore Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Theresa Renna, Daniel Renna, John Minjares, Sr., Christopher Chism, Anthony Timpa, Virginia Files, Danny Rohling, Vinita Kelley, Penny Vaughn, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, Sylvia McCarrick, William Scroggins, Lamar Smith, Fr Kevin McGrath, OSB, Johnny Young, Paul Herrmann, Debbie Zeller, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, Andrea Little, Joseph Edwards, 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. Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Isa 62:1-5, 1Cor 12:4-11, Jn 2:1-11
9:00 a.m. Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Isa 62:1-5, 1Cor 12:4-11, Jn 2:1-11
10:45 a.m. Second Sunday After Epiphany Rom 12:6-16, Jn 2:1-11

Four Important Things (Continued)

The eternal fate of non-Christians is certainly not provided for in their various forms of belief or religious practice as it is for those who are baptized and sincerely follow Jesus with their whole heart and mind. The Christian has the advantages of sure and certain avenues of grace, the sacraments, instituted by Jesus for the salvation of all of mankind. This is why the Church teaches that Jesus “himself explicitly asserted the necessity of faith and Baptism, and thereby affirmed at the same time the necessity of the Church which men enter through Baptism as through a door. Hence they could not be saved who, knowing that the Catholic Church was founded as necessary by God through Christ, would refuse either to enter it or to remain in it... [However,] those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience - those too may achieve eternal salvation” (CCC 846 & 847).

What this means is that the Buddhist, or Muslim, or Hindu, etc., if he is saved, is not saved because he was following the beliefs and practices of Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, etc. If he is saved, it is by grace and it is through Jesus. If he is saved, it is in spite of his being Buddhist or whatever, not because of it. In today’s culture this sounds harsh because so many have watered down the Gospel to just being nice or striving to be a good person. If salvation came to mankind by being nice or trying to be good, Jesus would not have had to become one of us let alone suffer and die. If all religions more or less lead to heaven, then why would St Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, proclaim about Jesus, that “*There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved*” (Acts 4:12)? This modern watering down of the Gospel has tremendously diminished missionary activity, greatly limiting the number of people who become disciples of Jesus, more than likely at the cost of millions of souls.

The loss of millions of souls is not limited to those who die without the graces that flow from faith and the sacraments. Those Christians, Catholic and protestant alike, who have knowingly and deliberately watered down the Gospel will be held accountable. This brings us to the divine judgment of the Christian. While the non-Christian will be judged as spelled out above – by God and not by us – the Christian will be saved if he has been found to be faithful to the Gospel. Indeed, faith and baptism are necessary for salvation (Mk 16:16), but those are not the only conditions. Someone might believe and have been baptized but they might have taught others a totally counterfeit Gospel. Or they might have been unrepentant adulterers or gossips or blasphemers. It should be obvious, but somehow it is not, that adultery or gossip or blasphemy or heresy or any other serious sin constitutes infidelity, precisely a betrayal of one’s baptism and a negation of their faith.

Jesus’ words about the importance of our fidelity simply cannot be ignored. Near the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warns us, saying “*Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name? Did we not drive out demons in your name? Did we not do mighty deeds in your name?’ Then I will declare to them solemnly, ‘I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers*” (Mt 7:21-23). That day is the Day of Judgment. Depart from Me is the judgment meted out to those who were disciples of Jesus, who even performed miracles in His name, and it is a solemn judgment. The solemn judgment is not a ‘timeout’ but an eternal rejection of the unworthy disciple. Most importantly, the basis of the believer’s judgment is not his faith or whether he was a nice man or whether he was a basically good man. No, Jesus condemns them as doers of evil, as men who failed to do the will of the Heavenly Father.

Thus, faith and baptism are the necessary and ordinary means for our salvation, but these must also be accompanied by a life consistent with the Gospel. If we want heaven, the Gospel must penetrate, inform, and enlighten all aspects of our lives. Fidelity is not optional. - Fr Booth