

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**April 27<sup>th</sup>/April 28<sup>th</sup> 2019: Divine Mercy Sunday**



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

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## **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 Alexander Salillas, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from April 28<sup>th</sup> to May 4<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Glenn A. Varnell from May 5<sup>th</sup> until May 11<sup>th</sup>.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** There will be a second collection this weekend for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

**FIRST FRIDAY:** We will have our First Friday English Mass on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 May 4<sup>th</sup>. 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 Mass.

**MAY CROWNING:** We will crown a statue of Mary next Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> following the 9:00 a.m. and the 10:45 a.m. Masses.

**2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE:** Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Communion); Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> (Pentecost); Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> (Corpus Christi); Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> (Assumption of BVM); Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> (Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost); Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> (Christ the King); Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> (Immaculate Conception); Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> (Gaudete Sunday); and Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve).

**DATE FOR FIRST COMMUNION:** We are planning for First Communion on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 2019 at the 10:45 a.m. Mass. If you have a child that will be receiving First Communion, please contact Fr Booth. If you are not members of Blessed Sacrament, you must obtain the permission of your pastor for your child to receive First Communion here. Rehearsal for First Communion will be on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

**DATES FOR FIRST CONFESSION:** Opportunities for First Confession will be offered after the 10:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>, Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> or after the rehearsal on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Confessions can also be scheduled with Fr Booth or may occur during any other time when confession is offered.

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

**THE FRANCISCAN** Friars have relocated to Our Lady of Fatima's convent, 44 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, which affords them much more room to store materials for their mission. Later this year, perhaps in July, sisters of the same order will occupy the house just west of our rectory.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection for last weekend was \$4472 and \$1835 were collected for the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Apr 27: 4:00 p.m. † Rebecca Rice (by Sissy Tallie and Jamie Barnes)  
Sun, Apr 28: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. † Jan Jenkins Carter (by Ryan Penney)  
Mon, Apr 29 \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Arthur Burke (by Ryan Penney)  
Tues, Apr 30: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Pohorelskys (by the Hahn Family)  
Wed, May 1: \*7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Julie Sabri (by the Hahn Family)  
\*8:30 a.m. Marie Dirgo (by Teneda Latham)  
Thur, May 2: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Julie Caparos (by the Hahn Family)  
Fri, May 3: \*8:30 a.m. Private Intention (by the Jones Family)  
6:30 p.m. Special Intention for our next Bishop  
Sat, May 4: 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Nap & Sandra Barranco (by the Hahn Family)  
4:00 p.m. † Special Intention for Rosemarie Robertson  
Sun, May 5: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. † Gerry Ann McCahan (by Danny & Judy Rohling)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Kenneth Levesque, Kathryn Ransom Mahon, Levi Ray, 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, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, Liz Bailey, Thatcher Kerzie, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Anna Marie Madison, Kathleen Strawmeyer, Cindy Little, Stan Trawick, David Henning, Loretta Mara, Lillie Rumore, Jennie Sciro, Stephanie Perry, and Marcus Perry.

**NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS**

4:00 p.m. Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 5:27-32,40-41, Rev 5:11-14, Jn 21:1-19
9:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 5:27-32,40-41, Rev 5:11-14, Jn 21:1-19
10:45 a.m. Second Sunday After Easter	1Pet 2:21-25, Jn 10:11-16

## ***Redemption of Sins is Universal, but Salvation is Not***

Although Jesus died for everyone who ever lived, everyone now living, and everyone who will ever live, not everybody will benefit from His suffering, death, and resurrection. The profoundly Good News of Easter is tempered by the truly sad reality that not all will attain heaven due to a lack of faith, a lack of hope, or a lack of love. While the most basic formula for salvation is baptism and faith (Mk 16:16), the Gospel cannot be reduced exclusively to such a simple formula. Indeed, many followers of Jesus will be unpleasantly surprised: *“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). What Jesus is saying is that faith and even supernatural deeds are no substitute for repentance.

Because of bad preaching, bad teaching, and self-deception, many today are convinced that obedience and repentance are not necessary for salvation. Love is necessary for salvation (1Cor 13:1-3) and we cannot say we love the Lord if we do not obey Him, *“For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments”* (1Jn 5:3). Lack of repentance can hardly be reconciled with love of God either.

Several passages in the Bible make it clear that a changed, reformed life is necessary if we expect to reap the benefits of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. For example, St Paul teaches *“Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor homosexual offenders, nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were”* (1Cor 6:9-10). The difference between ‘were’ and ‘are’ is essential here. In his letter to the Galatians Paul says much the same thing: *“The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God”* (Gal 5:19-21). Here he is warning those who believe, not unbelieving pagans. Again, addressing those who believe, Paul writes to the Colossians, saying *“Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry. Because of these the wrath of God is coming upon the disobedient. By these you too once conducted yourselves, when you lived in that way. But now you must put them all away: anger, fury, malice, slander, and obscene language out of your mouths. Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator”* (Col 3:5-10).

It is not just St Paul who warns us that repentance and obedience are critical to our salvation. The risen Jesus Himself, speaking to St John, warns *“Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star”* (Rev 22:12-16).

Because of the Passion and Resurrection, we have access to an infinite reservoir of Divine Mercy. Therefore, we must not despair that God’s mercy is insufficient to cover our sins as if sin were more powerful than God or that His mercy might somehow become exhausted, but equally dangerous is presuming upon God’s mercy by thinking that forgiveness is automatically ours absent repentance. Indeed, who in their right mind really wants to hear Jesus say to us on that day *“I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoer”*?

- Fr Booth