

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

May 18th/May 19th 2019: Fifth Sunday of Easter (English)

Fourth Sunday after Easter (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 Earnest A. Nettleman, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from May 19th to May 25th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Tevin Williams from May 26th until June 1st.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: The Parish Council will meet this month on Thursday, May 23rd at 6:00 p.m. in the Rectory.

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

2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: 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).

DATE FOR FIRST COMMUNION: We are planning for First Communion on Sunday, May 26th 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.

FIRST COMMUNION REHEARSAL: Rehearsal for First Communion will be on Saturday, May 25th 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 19th or after the rehearsal on Saturday, May 25th. 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, Max Gallegos, and John Gardiner. Pray for those who are discerning a call to the priesthood.

ORDINATION: Deacon Justin Ward will be ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral of St Paul on Saturday, June 1st at 11:00 a.m. Please pray for Justin as his years of prayer and study come to fruition.

BBQ FUNDRAISER: Due to a general lack of orders, there will be no barbeque available this weekend. If you have already paid for your barbeque, please see Jim Wathen for a refund.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$3694 and \$75 were collected for the Preservation Fund. The collection for the St John Vianney Retirement Home for priests totaled \$764. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, May 18: 9:15 a.m. Special Intention for Sr Janet Flemming, OSB (by the Rumore Family)
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Donald Nettleman (by the Bryant Family)

Sun, May 19: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for the Pohorelsky Family (by Danny & Judy Rohling)

Mon, May 20 *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Charles Gardiner (by the Soeherman Family)

Tues, May 21: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Charles Rumore, Sr. (by the Donellan Family)

Wed, May 22: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Mary Claire Matthews (by Mary Margaret Rumore)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for David and Carli Biddle (by George and Madeline Sampedro)

Thur, May 23: *8:30 a.m. † Dorothy Sampedro (by George and Madeline Sampedro)

Fri, May 24: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for the Scott Scroggins Family
*8:30 a.m. † Lambert Greenan, OP

Sat, May 25: 4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Teresa Renna (by the Bryant Family)

Sun, May 26: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Joseph L. Tombrello (by Danny & Judy Rohling)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Donald Nettleman, 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. Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 15:1-2,22-29, Rev 21:10-14, 22-23, Jn 14:23-29
9:00 a.m. Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 15:1-2,22-29, Rev 21:10-14, 22-23, Jn 14:23-29
10:45 a.m. Fifth Sunday After Easter James 1:22-27, Jn 16:23-30

Finally(ish)

After 46 long years, we are beginning to see proper progress regarding an issue that has plagued this country. That issue is abortion. Sadly, abortion has been treated as a political issue almost exclusively in the two-score and six years since the colossal mistake of *Roe v. Wade* and the lesser-known Supreme Court decision *Doe v. Bolton*. These two rulings legalized virtually unrestricted access to abortion, often termed as abortion-on-demand. The basis of each of these cases before the Supreme Court was totally contrived. The plaintiff *Roe*, now known to be Norma McCorvey, never had an abortion but gave her child up for adoption. She later became quite pro-life and admitted that she was used as a pawn in a contrived legal scheme purposely designed to make abortion legal. Much the same can be said of Sandra Cano, the plaintiff in *Doe v. Bolton*, who was also duped into the scheme. Sandra Cano was also pro-life. The pro-abortion side also fabricated statistics about back-street abortion and the number of women who died as a result. Bernard Nathanson, one of the architects of the abortion movement and an abortionist himself, later affirmed that the case for abortion was founded on lies and he too became a fervent pro-life advocate. In other words, the whole case for abortion-on-demand presented to the Supreme Court was a cynical fabrication. Did the members of the Supreme Court know these cases were fabrications? Hard to tell.

Nevertheless, we have had a number of states in the last few months pass legislation greatly restricting abortion-on-demand. Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, and Utah have all passed legislation either overturning *Roe v. Wade* or greatly restricting access to abortion. More states will likely join the recent trend: at least six legislatures are currently taking up potential bans or restrictions. Most of the recent state legislation has focused on restricting abortion to the period before the baby's heartbeat can be heard on an ultrasound, recognizing the long-established criterion that the heartbeat is a sign of human life (scientifically speaking, there are signs of human life from the very moment of conception: they are not easily detectable, however). The Alabama law is unique in that it denies all abortions except in the case of the life of the mother. This is not far different from the various state laws that were overturned in 1973 with *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*.

Why now, why do we suddenly have fourteen and possibly more states seeking to overturn 'the law of the land' on abortion? Up until recently only two attempts at the state level to ban or greatly restrict abortions have been passed into law only to be struck down in the lower courts. Is our nation, at least locally, coming to its senses on the senseless killing of babies in the womb? Have we now suddenly developed a conscience and had a conversion to a pro-life position much like Norma McCorvey and Bernard Nathanson did? Not really.

The primary reason these states are pursuing to ban or restrict abortion legally is that the makeup of the Supreme Court now seems favorable for a reconsideration of the mistake made in 1973. It is widely believed that these laws will be struck down in the lower courts based on the *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* rulings and one or more of these lower court rulings eventually will be appealed to the Supreme Court in the hopes that the Court will reverse itself regarding abortion. In other words, these various states have cynically contrived potential cases to be argued before the Supreme Court.

From a legal standpoint, there is no certainty that the Court will overturn its 1973 error. In fact, they might affirm the false right to abortion more fervently than the *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* rulings did. The Court might also refuse to hear the potential cases, leaving us with the status quo. Hopefully they will do the right thing and reverse the *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* rulings. Legally speaking, this is the best-case scenario. If these egregious rulings made 46 years ago are overturned as hoped, then abortion will become a 10th Amendment issue to be decided at the state level. This would hardly outlaw abortion nationwide. New York, Illinois, Massachusetts, California and others would no doubt be pro-abortion states. In other words, if the Supreme Court does what it ought to do, we will still have to fight for the lives of our unborn brothers and sisters.

- Fr Booth