

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

June 1st/June 2nd 2019: Ascension of the Lord (English)

Sunday after the Ascension (Latin)



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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 Fr Bill Jones, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from June 2nd to June 8th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Mattie L. Thomas from June 9th until June 15th.

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

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday English Mass on June 7th 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.

2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: 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: Daniel Sessions, Charles Deering, Doug Hess, Luis Reyes, Matthew Gubenski, Patrick DePew, Max Gallegos, and John Gardiner.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Our Lady of Sorrows School has an opening for a maintenance/janitorial staff member responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the school. A high school diploma and five years of verifiable experience with general maintenance is preferred. Must have a driver's license. Contact the school office at 205-879-3237 for more information.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Combine your faith and career at EWTN. They are searching to fill the following positions: Groundskeeper, Non-Linear Editor, Production Assistant, Research Analyst, Traffic Assistant, Viewer Services Representative. Information on job requirements can be found at www.ewtn.com. Please email cover letter, salary requirements & resume to humanresources@ewtn.com

PATRIOTIC CONCERT: St Aloysius Church will host the 7th annual "I Love America" concert on Friday, June 21st (Feast Day of St Aloysius) at 7:00 p.m. The Saint Aloysius Choir will be performing, along The Waylighters Gospel Quartet and Voices of the South Barbershop Chorus. The Lake View American Legion Post 2011 will presents the Colors and Service Flags from each branch of the military. Please accept this invitation to honor our country and our service men and women. Saint Aloysius Church is located at 751 Academy Drive in Bessemer. Admission is free.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$5138 and \$425 were collected for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, June 1:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Eddie Matthews (by the Juneau Family)
	11:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Joseph Clough (by the Jones Family) - <i>Ordination at St Paul's</i>
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for John & Cecilia Sampedro (by the Sampedro Family)
Sun, June 2:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Hahn Family (by Danny & Judy Rohling)
Mon, June 3	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Amanda Lang
Tues, June 4:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Catherine Clough (by the Jones Family)
Wed, June 5:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Gabi Paffumi (by the Duryea Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Maria Hand (by Sarah Catherine Rumore)
Thur, June 6:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Ann Marie Martin (by Don Peterson)
Fri, June 7:	*8:30 a.m.	† Fr Lambert Greenan, OP
	6:30 p.m.	For our Next Bishop
Sat, June 8:	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Caroline and Will Scroggins (by the Rumore Family)
Sun, June 9:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Hahn Family (by Danny & Judy Rohling)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Fr Jim Handerhan, Isabella Auer, 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. Pentecost
9:00 a.m. Pentecost
10:45 a.m. Pentecost

Gen 11:1-9, Rom 8:22-27, Jn 7:37-39
Acts 2:1-11, 1Cor 12:3-7,12-13, Jn 20:19-23
Acts 2:1-11, Jn 14:23-31

Finally(ish)

The general consensus among many pro-life advocates admits three specific exceptions that are considered acceptable when it comes to abortion. These exceptions include the life of the mother, the baby conceived as a result of rape, and the baby conceived as a result of incest. As was discussed last week, there is no moral basis for the abortion of the baby conceived as a result of either rape or incest. In both cases, the baby is innocent of the crimes committed by the miscreant father. The father ought to be punished – severely indeed – but why should the baby be punished as well? After all, the man guilty of first-degree (forcible) rape in Alabama faces a potential sentence of 10-99 years in prison or up to 20 years for second-degree (statutory) rape. Incest brings a potential sentence of up to 10 years. One might say that these penalties ought to be more severe. Both incest and rape are truly heinous crimes. But why does the innocent baby get sentenced to the ultimate penalty of death? Abortion does not just end the baby's life, but results in a cruel and inhumane death.

Oddly, the worst criminals are protected by the Eighth Amendment from having to suffer cruel and unusual punishment. But not an unborn baby. The worst of criminals is granted Fifth Amendment rights of due process. But not an unborn baby. Even animals, which are neither persons nor citizens, are legally protected from cruelty. But not an unborn baby. This hardly seems just at all.

Part of the reason for this injustice stems from the strong emotions that surround rape and incest. Part of it results from the fact that babies have no legal or monetary voice in our culture. Part of it comes from the dehumanizing language often used to describe the unborn baby: blob of tissue, fetus, product of conception, and so on. And since we have tolerated abortion on demand for 46 years, we as a society have become numb to the violence and injustice of abortion so much so that abortion is often seen as a form of healthcare as if pregnancy is a disease.

The third recognized exception often accepted of by many pro-life advocates, the life of the mother, is much more difficult. Some might say that it is better for one to die instead of two. Some might say that the life of the mother is more important because of her role as a wife and especially as a mother to the unborn baby's older brothers and sisters. Morally speaking, however, aborting a baby to save the life of the mother represents the taking of one innocent life to preserve another innocent life. In short, directly taking the baby's life through abortion is still murder. Even though the outcome, saving the mother is a good thing, we can never accomplish good by deliberately and directly doing evil. The ends (the result), no matter how good it might be, never justify the means (the method).

For example, would we tolerate the compulsory confiscation of someone's heart or liver to save the life of someone else? If we were saving the life of someone important at the expense of one who is a nobody, wouldn't that be a good thing? What if the scientist who is on the very verge of curing cancer urgently needed a heart transplant, wouldn't we be justified in giving him someone else's heart even against the wishes of the heart donor? Wouldn't the millions of lives that might be saved by keeping the scientist alive justify the taking of the donor's life? In a culture dominated by pragmatism this might seem reasonable, justifiable, and even obligatory given the magnitude of the good that would result. But millions of lives saved would not justify the murder of the donor.

So how are cases where the life of the mother handled morally? Certainly not by directly ending the life of the child. But in some cases there are ways of saving the mother without resorting to abortion. In the case of ectopic pregnancies where the embryo has attached to the fallopian tube and not the uterus, the fallopian tube can be surgically removed. A side effect of this would be the indirect end of the baby's life. Or in the case of a pregnant woman suffering from uterine cancer, the uterus can be surgically removed to save the mother from cancer even though the side effect is the loss of the child's life. Some would say that since the baby dies anyhow, these would be the same as an abortion to save the mother's life. This is not the case since, again, the ends (saving mom) does not justify the means (direct killing of the baby). In other words, how mom is saved matters.

- Fr Booth