

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

**August 17th/August 18th 2019: Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost (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 Helen Von Hagel, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from August 18th to August 24th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Glenn L. Varnell from August 25th until August 31st.

REST IN PEACE: Fr James Handerhan, associate pastor at St John the Baptist in Madison and later pastor of St Charles Borromeo in Jacksonville, passed away on August 16th. Visitation will be at St Elizabeth Ann Seton in Gardendale on Wednesday, August 21st from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and the funeral will be held at the Cathedral of St Paul on Thursday, August 22nd at 3:00 p.m. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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.

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Catholic high school students interested in working with youth having intellectual and developmental disabilities in the diocese's Nazareth House Program are invited to a training workshop on Saturday, August 17th from 10:00 a.m. until noon at St Francis Xavier School. Students who help out with Nazareth House are eligible for service hours necessary for graduation or scholarships. For more information, please contact Fr Cullen at Fr.Cullen@stpaulsbhm.org.

2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: 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).

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Combine your faith and career at EWTN. They are searching to fill the following positions: accounting assistant, groundskeeper, IT support technician, non-linear editor, production assistant, viewer services representative (bilingual), and customer service representative (bilingual). Information on job requirements can be found at www.ewtn.com. Please email cover letter, salary requirements & resume to humanresources@ewtn.com

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.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$5345 and \$825 were collected for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

Sat, Aug 17: 9:10 a.m. † Jeanie Bua (by the Juneau Family)
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Lee Dinan (by the Dinan Family)

Sun, Aug 18: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † William Telker (by Alan & Pam Olson)

Mon, Aug 19 *8:30 a.m. † Annie Diergo (by Teneda Latham)

Tues, Aug 20: *8:30 a.m. † Marin Sertell (by Sharon & Susan Sertell)

Wed, Aug 21: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Christopher Shields (by the Donellan Family)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Eli Donellan (by the Donellan Family)

Thur, Aug 22: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Charlotte Rumore (by the Hahn Family)

Fri, Aug 23: *7:00 a.m. † Arthur Burke (by the Hahn Family)
*8:30 a.m. † Fr Lambert Greenan, OP

Sat, Aug 24: 4:00 p.m. † David Waligora (by the Mary & Betty Mason)

Sun, Aug 25: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention of Stewart Miller (by Danny & Judy Rohling)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Beryl Curtis, Nicole Copeland, Laura Minjares, Linda Cooper, Lee Dinan, Mina Keasler, Isabella Auer, Donald Nettleman, Kenneth Levesque, Levi Ray, John Minjares, Sr., Christopher Chism, Anthony Timpa, Virginia Files, Danny Rohling, Vinita Kelley, 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. Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time Isa 66:18-21, Heb 12:5-7,11-13, Lk 13:22-30
9:00 a.m. Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time Isa 66:18-21, Heb 12:5-7,11-13, Lk 13:22-30
10:45 a.m. Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost 1Cor 15:1-10, Mk 7:31-37

Getting it Backwards

In blame-shifting individual behavior to the society as a whole we lose the idea of personal responsibility, and in losing the concept of personal responsibility we are losing our moral compass. In losing our moral compass, we have fallen for absolute moral nonsense. Killing an unborn baby is supposedly a right, in the twisted and perverse minds of some it is even seen as a virtue, but having more than one or two children is often regarded as immoral and shame-worthy. Some see abortion as so fundamental of a right that the people must pay for or subsidize the killing of the unborn with federal and state taxpayer's money. If abortion is a woman's choice, if that is what it really boils down to as many proponents of abortion claim, then why isn't it the woman's responsibility to pay? If abortion is all about choice, then why do the taxpayers, especially those who see abortion for what it truly is, have no choice regarding the funding of other people's abortions? If a woman has dominion over her body to the exclusion of the rights of another person – the baby – then shouldn't that dominion extend to the costs of exercising that dominion? If we have the fundamental right to free speech, where do we sign up to receive government money to exercise that right? Or where are the subsidies to worship without government interference? Or the right to freely assemble? Or the right to keep and bear arms? These are actual rights due our citizens, not a supposed right like abortion that has no legal or moral basis, yet they will never be subsidized by the government like abortion is.

Increasingly we are hearing about bailing out those who will not or cannot repay their student loans. Why should the taxpayer be responsible? Having received the benefit of the education they freely chose to pursue, why would we not hold the student responsible for the debt they incurred in obtaining that education? If a man spends \$100,000 obtaining a degree in art history but cannot find gainful employment as an art historian, why is society responsible? If a woman pursues a degree in fashion design but proves to have no talent for designing clothes despite racking up a huge amount in student loans, why is she not personally responsible? Why must society as a whole shoulder the blame and the cost of their unfortunate choices? It might be one thing if the government encouraged more students to study art history or fashion design if no jobs in those fields materialized, but those programs of study were freely chosen by the student. And what about the responsibility of the college or university? Who is holding them accountable? When I was in college back in the early 1980s, the chairman of our department made it perfectly clear that he and the other professors had a duty to weed-out all students that were not going to make competent engineers. He said that lives were at stake but also that the university had a responsibility not to waste students' money and the money of others by awarding degrees to those who would be dangerous or unemployable.

Once personal responsibility is replaced by social or governmental responsibility there exists a huge potential for abuse and tyranny. For example, if the government becomes fully responsible for funding abortion, whose to say that they will not exercise their own discretion regarding which children will be aborted and which will be allowed to live? It is not too difficult to imagine abortions being forced on babies being born to parents having unfavorable political views or other 'undesirable' traits. Racism could easily become a factor (after all, Margaret Sanger created Planned Parenthood to eliminate minorities and the poor through abortion and contraception). We must never forget that our government conducted the racist Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment among other atrocities: we are no less or more prone to follow totalitarian ways than the Soviets or Nazis were.

Morally and socially it is imperative that we take personal responsibility for our actions. Ceding personal responsibility to anyone else is not only foolhardy but has great potential for personal and social harm. Each one of us, as individuals, will stand before God at the end of our lives and we will be held personally responsible for our decisions. The government or society will not be able to step forward and take responsibility: even if they could go before God on our behalf, is it at all likely that they would accept moral responsibility?

- Fr Booth