

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

January 25<sup>th</sup>/January 26<sup>th</sup> 2019: Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

Third Sunday After Epiphany (Latin)



1460 Pearson Avenue SW  
Birmingham, Alabama 35211

Phone: (205) 785-9840

E-mail: [church@myblessedsacrament.org](mailto:church@myblessedsacrament.org)

Website: [www.myblessedsacrament.org](http://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 Eugene Mason, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from January 26<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Mary and Bill Dinan from February 2<sup>nd</sup> until February 8<sup>th</sup>.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** There will be a second collection this weekend for the Church in Latin America.

**OLS SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE:** Our Lady of Sorrows School is holding an open house Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Students rising to 3k through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and their families are welcome to attend the open house. For more information please call (205) 879-3237 or go to [www.olsschool.com](http://www.olsschool.com).

**ST ROSE FINE ARTS FESTIVAL:** Saint Rose Academy is holding a Festival of Fine Arts on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Enjoy performances by various local artists. Admission is free of charge. Adults only, please. They are located at 1401 22<sup>nd</sup> Street S, Birmingham, AL 35205. For More Info, call (205) 933-0549 or go to [www.strosebhm.org](http://www.strosebhm.org)

**FIRST SATURDAY:** First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on February 1<sup>st</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.

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES** for 2020, arranged alphabetically, are in the vestibule at the back of the Church

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** for 2019, arranged alphabetically, are in the vestibule at the back of the Church

**TENTATIVE 2020 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE:** Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> (Purification of the BVM); Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent); Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday); Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> (Easter Sunday); Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Easter, First Communion); Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (Pentecost); Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> (Corpus Christi); Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> (6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost); Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> (10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost); Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> (15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost); Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> (17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost); Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> (Christ the King); Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> (All Saints); Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent); Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday); Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

**DINNER DANCE:** We will have a dinner dance in the Parish Hall on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. All are invited to dine and dance.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection for last weekend was \$3847 and \$855 were collected for the Preservation Fund.

**PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS:** Please pray for our seminarians: Daniel Sessions, Charles Deering, Doug Hess, Matthew Gubenski, Patrick DePew, Max Gallegos, and John Gardiner. Please pray for more good men to answer God's call to the priesthood.

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

Sat, Jan 25:	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Luke Desclefs and Family (by the Hahn Family)
Sun, Jan 26:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Catherine Hahn (by the Tyler Family)
Mon, Jan 27	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Rita Rumore (by the Tyler Family)
Tues, Jan 28:	*8:30 a.m.	† Carolyn Sertell (by Susan Sertell)
Wed, Jan 29:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Dominic Rumore (by Charlotte & Terry Rumore)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Catherine Hahn (by the Tyler Family)
Thur, Jan 30:	*8:30 a.m.	† Fr Camillus Blazak
Fri, Jan 31:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Michael Lear (by George & Madeline Sampedro)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Ray Pollard (by George & Madeline Sampedro)
Sat, Feb 1:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Rebecca Fernandes (by the Rumore Family)
	4:00 p.m.	† Vinita Kelley & Patricia Durward (by the Durward Family)
Sun, Feb 2:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Tony Baggiano (by the Rumore Family)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Don Williams, Roseanne Timpa, Pete Ransom, Jerry Joiner, Natalie Karen Caraccilo, Beryl Curtis, Nicole Copeland, Laura Minjares, Linda Cooper, Lee Dinan, Mina Keasler, Isabella Auer, Levi Ray, John Minjares, Sr., Christopher Chism, Anthony Timpa, Virginia Files, Danny Rohling, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, William Scroggins, Lamar Smith, Paul Herrmann, Debbie Zeller, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, Andrea Little, Joseph Edwards, George Dunham, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, Thatcher Kerzie, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Kathleen Strawmeyer, Cindy Little, Stan Trawick, David Henning, Loretta Mara, Lillie Rumore, Stephanie Perry, and Marcus Perry.

**NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS**

4:00 p.m. Presentation of the Lord	Mal 3:1-4, Heb 2:14-18, Lk 2:22-40
9:00 a.m. Presentation of the Lord	Mal 3:1-4, Heb 2:14-18, Lk 2:22-40
10:45 a.m. Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Mal 3:1-4, Lk 2:22-32

## *Seeing the Light*

The 24-day struggle to restore full water flow to the church has been nothing less than an epic saga. Getting the Water Works to recognize that their 91 year-old pipe from the water main to the water meter was almost totally clogged was no small ordeal. The word nightmare comes to mind. Given all of the evidence, even evidence from their own technicians, they were briefly swayed into recognizing the problem only to revert to constant refrain that it was our problem, not theirs. Thankfully, someone saw the light and the line was replaced on Thursday. Finally.

There seems to be a special human ability to be confronted with evidence and fail to see what the evidence means. We are seeing that in Washington now. That the evidence is so weak and is just so much hearsay supposedly about high crimes and misdemeanors that are neither crimes nor misdemeanors matters not to some because they are blinded by any number of biases and prejudices, perhaps even raw hatred. Emotions, the party line, love of the limelight, contempt for the truth, and lust for power rarely lead to justice. God never meant for man to put aside our intellect so as to be swayed by irrational fears and passions. We were meant to see the truth and act upon it accordingly. Failing to use our intellects and our wills appropriately is to betray our humanity and to live more like mere beasts.

This is hardly a new thing. How could slavery have happened? How could the Holocaust have happened? How could the killing fields of Cambodia have happened? How could ethnic cleansing have happened? How could the brutality of ISIS have happened? None of these things, and countless others atrocities, can be defended on the basis of evidence, logic, or truth. And yet seemingly reasonable and intelligent men thought these examples of human barbarity, or more accurately inhuman barbarity, were totally and completely reasonable.

It should not surprise us that this also applies to the ongoing evil of abortion, which has plagued this land now for 47 years. In 1973 they certainly knew less than we do today, but certain facts were then known that made abortion a clearly immoral and barbaric act. Was there life in the womb as known in 1973? It would be impossible to claim otherwise. Yes, in the Middle Ages there was speculation that the unborn baby came to life only later in the pregnancy when the mother began to feel the baby move, but that ancient ignorance of the facts is hardly an excuse to suppose in 1973 and especially today that the baby is not alive at any time of the pregnancy. Was that life in the womb, again as known in 1973, non-human? From what was clearly understood then, the unborn baby was known to be human, albeit not yet fully formed. The baby, even when it is merely a single living cell right after conception, is a living creature with unmistakably human DNA.

Thus, from a medical and scientific standpoint, the baby in the womb is a living human being and there exists no medical or scientific evidence, known in 1973 or today, that even slightly suggests otherwise. If people are horrified at Herod's slaughter of the innocents, his brutal attempt to kill the newborn King of the Jews; at Pharaoh's call to murder all of the Jewish boys at the time Moses' birth, a ploy to weaken the strength of people he held captive; or at any school shooting happening in our own time, then how can the killing of millions of innocent babies in the womb not be repulsive to all people of good will? That abortion is legal is no excuse: so was slavery, so was the Holocaust.

The only possible excuse for abortion hinges on whether the baby is a person and therefore has rights under the law. Legally speaking, those enslaved in Egypt under the Pharaoh and those enslaved here in the United States were property, not persons. However, cats and dogs, while not persons, even have a degree of protection under the law. It is illegal to destroy a bald or golden eagle egg, which carries a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for up to one year, and an un-hatched eagle is not a person either. But given the emotion and money behind abortion, it may take generations for people to see the light and acknowledge the facts. It does not even require a declaration of personhood for unborn babies since we afford legal protection nonhuman life even prior to birth. If a bald eagle is a bald eagle inside our outside of the egg, then why isn't a baby a human both inside and outside of the womb?

- Fr Booth