

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

Sept 21st/Sept 22nd 2019: Twenty-fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

Fifteenth 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 Ellen Daniel, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from September 22nd to September 28th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Mattie Thomas from September 29th until October 5th.

ST GEORGE MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL: The 38th Annual Saint George Middle Eastern Food Festival will be held September on 19th, 20th, and 21st from 10:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at 425 16th Avenue South. Drive through will be available until 7:00 p.m. Traditional Middle Eastern entrees and desserts will be served. For menu and event details, please see <http://saintgeorgeonline.org/food-festival/>

DINNER DANCE: We will have a dinner dance in the Parish Hall on Saturday, September 28th following the 4:00 p.m. Mass. Dinner will be provided, and it will consist of Louisiana stewed chicken and rice. Desserts will be potluck, and dessert sign-up can be made at www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B49ACA72BA1FD0-blessed. All are invited to dine and dance.

RED MASS: The Diocese of Birmingham and the Catholic Lawyers of the St Thomas More Society cordially invite all judges, lawyers, law students, legal related professionals, and the public they serve to the annual Red Mass on Thursday, October 24th at 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul. A reception for all in attendance will follow in the Family Life Center.

SCAM ALERT: People in our diocese are getting emails or texts from someone posing as one of our priests asking them to buy gift cards for the needy. This is a scam and all such texts or emails should be ignored and deleted.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: You should have received a Catholic Charities letter and a pledge card from the diocese. Our pledge goal this year is \$16,000. All money raised through this annual appeal remains within the diocese.

2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: 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.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$4001 and \$475 were collected for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Combine your faith and career at EWTN. They are searching to fill the following positions: Groundskeeper, IT support technician, viewer services representative, customer service representative. Information on job requirements can be found at www.ewtn.com. Please email cover letter, salary requirements & resume to humanresources@ewtn.com

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

Sat, Sep 21:	8:30 a.m.	† Wayne Bullock (by Allan Bull)
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Lee Dinan (by the Dinan Family)
Sun, Sep 22:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Michael Rohling Family (by Danny & Judy Rohling)
Mon, Sep 23	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Carolyn Sertell (by Sharon & Susan Sertell)
Tues, Sep 24:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Sarah Catherine Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Sep 25:	*7:00 a.m.	† Jim Clarkson (by Alan Bull)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Elizabeth Fernandes (by the Gagnon Family)
Thur, Sep 26:	*8:30 a.m.	† Alfonso Alfano (by Teneda Latham)
Fri, Sep 27:	*7:00 a.m.	† Bobby Stogner (by Alan Bull)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Fr Lambert Greenan, OP
Sat, Sep 28:	4:00 p.m.	Donald Nettleman (by the Bryant Family)
Sun, Sep 29:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Mary Claire Matthews (by Nana & Papa Juneau)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Jerry Jennings, Natalie Karen Caraccilo, Beryl Curtis, Nicole Copeland, Laura Minjares, Linda Cooper, Lee Dinan, Mina Keasler, Isabella Auer, 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.	26 th Sunday of Ordinary. Time	Amos 6:1,4-7, 1Tim 6:11-16, Lk 16:19-31
9:00 a.m.	26 th Sunday of Ordinary. Time	Amos 6:1,4-7, 1Tim 6:11-16, Lk 16:19-31
10:45 a.m.	Dedication of St Michael the Archangel	Rev 1:1-5, Mt 18:1-10

In the Eye of the Beholder

As mentioned last week, time changes our perspective on many things. What seems important or momentous today can, in retrospect, fade into total insignificance. A driver cutting you off in traffic could ruin your day, but within a week's time the event ceases to have any power or effect in your life, as if it never happened. It fades naturally because it was not that important in the first place so long as no collision or physical harm resulted. A totaled car or bodily injury changes all of that. That is why our memory of some events does not or should not fade while others wither away completely.

Thus, time changes the perceived importance many events. Whether or not our memory or understanding of the event fades or perhaps comes into sharper focus, the truths of the event remain the same. What changes is the subjective nature of an objective event. The truth is always aligned with the objective facts or realities. Thus, the Holocaust denier cannot claim it did not happen only because they refuse to believe that six million Jews and six million other people perished in the concentration camps. In other words, despite our opinions and desires we cannot honestly say that the truth is ours to modify to fit our own agenda or worldview: truth is not in the eye of the beholder.

But we often say that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. But is that really true in the general sense, is it really true that beauty is totally subjective without any objectivity? If we consider where we often apply the idea of beauty being subjective, that beauty is entirely a matter of personal opinion, it usually applies to human attraction and more recently to art and architecture. When we see a beautiful woman married to an ordinary or even unattractive man, or vice versa, we might say that beauty is indeed in the eye of the beholder. But that would be reducing that couple's relationship to mere physical appeal when in reality there are many aspects that figure into why a man finds a particular woman attractive or a woman is attracted to a specific man. This is also why we say that beauty is only skin deep.

We might ask whether Audrey Hepburn, Ingrid Bergman, Cary Grant, and George Clooney, who are considered attractive today, would be considered attractive a thousand years into the past or the future. Is what makes for beauty now something that would be utterly foreign to someone living at a different time in a different culture? Or, the abstract paintings of Jackson Pollock or Pablo Picasso, will they be cherished into the future or will they be evidence that our culture has gone off the rails? Will the paintings of Rembrandt and Michelangelo one day be considered hideous? Will Notre Dame Cathedral or even our own church be written off as grotesque while the likes of the Crystal Cathedral or the Cathedral in Los Angeles be exalted as timeless masterpieces of architecture? Would Donato Bramante, the primary architect of St Peter's Basilica in Rome, look at many of our churches today and even recognize them as buildings dedicated to the worship of God?

The truth of the matter is that there is such a thing as timeless beauty as opposed to perceived beauty that could not and would not pass the test of time. In other words, beauty is more objective than many people today tend to believe. The subjective aspect of beauty is either perceived beauty or as a matter of preference. But what is the timeless, objective aspect of beauty, that which makes flowers and sunsets universally beautiful? One could argue that timeless, universal beauty points to something else that is also timeless and universal.

The other timeless and universal entity that beauty points to is nothing other than God. One way of understanding objective beauty is to say that beauty reflects a degree of perfection, with God Himself the very pinnacle of perfection. We can see this idea of beauty at work in areas that are not sensual, that are not a matter of seeing or hearing, such as in our actions. Self-sacrifice for the sake of another is a very beautiful thing as would be deep abiding piety. Neither St John Vianney nor St Teresa of Calcutta would be regarded as particularly attractive based on their appearance. In fact, quite the opposite is true. Nevertheless, in terms of their holiness and piety they radiated a degree of perfection, and thus beauty, that far exceeded most people even among their peers in the priesthood and religious life. We could say that their way of life made them beautiful because they resembled Jesus who is beauty incarnate. - Fr Booth