

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*December 7th/December 8th 2019: Second Sunday of Advent (English)
Immaculate Conception (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 Angela and Dominick Montalbano, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of their souls from December 8th to December 14th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of W.A. and Mary Dinan from December 15th until December 21st.

WE HAVE SISTERS!: The Franciscan Poor of Jesus Christ sisters have finally arrived. Please welcome Sr Clare, Sr Liz, Sr Melony, and Sr Seraphiny. Bear with them as they begin to learn English and join the friars in their outreach to the homeless.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: The Feast of the Immaculate Conception in English is celebrated on Monday, December 9th this year because the Second Sunday of Advent takes priority. Since this feast has been transferred, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation. For the Latin Mass, this feast is celebrated on Sunday, December 8th.

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

COAT DRIVE: The parish will have its annual Coat Drive for the Catholic Center of Concern through this Sunday. The collection point is at the rear of the Church by the stairs.

ADVENT ANGEL TREE: We have an Advent Angel Tree this year that will benefit a number of truly needy families in our local communality. Please bring the gift items back with the angel tag attached by Sunday, December 22nd.

2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: 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: custodian, groundskeeper, IT support technician, gift shop sales associate (temporary, part-time), fulfillment center associate (temporary), on-air graphic designer, viewer services representative (bilingual), 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

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$6011 and \$8680 were collected for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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, Dec 7: 4:00 p.m. † Jeremy Noblitt (by the Bryant Family)
Sun, Dec 8: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Sharon Gagnon (by Grace Gagnon)
Mon, Dec 9 *8:30 a.m. † Joy Martin (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, Dec 10: *8:30 a.m. † Charlene Cooper (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Dec 11: *7:00 a.m. † Donald Tucker, Sr. (by the Donellan Family)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Dr. & Mrs. Delbert Hahn (by the Hahn Family)
Thur, Dec 12: *8:30 a.m. † Adelaide J. St Raymond (by Cathy Schauer)
Fri, Dec 13: *7:00 a.m. † Fr Eugene O'Connor
*8:30 a.m. † Fr Lambert Greenan, OP
Sat, Dec 14: 4:00 p.m. † Jeremy Noblitt (by Cathy Schauer)
Sun, Dec 15: 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Danny Rohling (by Judy Rohling)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Don Williams, Roseanne Timpa, Pete Ransom, Fr Frank Milienewicz, 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, 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. Third Sunday of Advent Isa 35:1-6,10, James 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11
9:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent Isa 35:1-6,10, James 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent Phil 4:4-7, Jn 1:19-28

More Practical Aspects of Celibacy

So, clearly there would be many complications with a transition over to a married priesthood. For example, not every married priest will be willing to accept any assignment (i.e., rural or urban parishes), many parishes can't support the wages of married priests, and most married priests would not be able to do as much ministry as one who is celibate at any given period of time or over their abbreviated priesthoods. Thus, it will take more married priests to minister to a given number of people than is possible with unmarried priests. This assumes that the Church would follow the same procedures for married priests and have been adopted for married deacons (such as accepting candidates whose children have been raised to adulthood). Likewise, allowing priests to marry will not solve the child abuse issue as explained last week. Being naturally attracted to women and being unnaturally attracted to teenage boys are two altogether different things.

Now, if the approach would be to ordain single men who would be allowed marry at a later date, much like the protestants do, this brings further complications. For example, would a single priest date within his own congregation? That would most likely be quite unwise on many levels, and it has proven to be so in some protestant congregations. A bitter breakup or the indiscretions of either party would bring substantial scandal. A priest might also fall in love with a non-Catholic woman. How complicated would that become? If the children end up being raised as protestants or non-Christians, how would that go over? And since our country has made the grave mistake of legalizing so-called same sex marriage, it would just be a matter of time before a priest would try to marry another man. If the Church allowed men to marry after ordination, it seems likely that someone would try this and there may be little or nothing the Church could do to prevent it. It would be considered discrimination to prevent a man from marrying another man or to punish him for doing so if he was otherwise allowed to marry a woman. In fact it might even be illegal to place a restriction on whom a man might marry as a condition of employment unless marriage itself was prohibited as is the current practice. As with everything today, some supposed manmade civil rights trump all other established God-given rights.

Another issue would be rectories. Our older parishes like St Paul's, Blessed Sacrament, and Our Lady of Sorrows all have sizable rectories. Our rectory was designed to accommodate 3-4 priests, Sorrow's rectory was designed for up to 5 priests, and the Cathedral could accommodate 5-6. Our newer parishes have much smaller rectories, some of which are nothing more than two-bedroom houses in the same neighborhood of the church, homes that would be seen as starter homes or homes suitable for downsizing empty nesters. While the larger rectories could easily handle a family, many of them currently house two or more priests. If one or more were married, the parish would be faced with building or buying separate rectories since it would be imprudent to house two families under one roof or for a family to share a house with single men. The Cathedral houses 3 priests currently, but where would they find accommodations for a family downtown? OLS also has 3 priests, and the median price for homes in their zip code is \$360,000. In OLV's zip code, houses go for about the same price as in Homewood, but homes near St Francis Xavier, which usually has 2-3 priests, go for about \$530,000.

In other words, more than a few of our parishes would have to buy one or more homes to accommodate married priests to the tune of perhaps \$350,000 for smaller parishes and up to \$1,000,000 for parishes with multiple priests. Again, most parishes do not have the financial depth to shell out that kind of money. To make matters worse, some parishes have offices and chapels that are integrated into the rectory. We are one such parish. If a married priest and his family moved in, there would have to be segregation of office space and chapels from the living quarters of the family. This might be possible in our rectory, but this won't be true for some. Thus, a separate office building might have to be built or a separate house for the priest's family would have to be bought. What about accommodating a seminarian during the summer? He clearly can't be housed with the priest's family, so would yet another house have to be bought? This would certainly be the case if the seminarian were a married man.

- Fr Booth