

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

December 14th/December 15th 2019: Third Sunday of Advent



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW
Birmingham, Alabama 35211**

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Website: 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 W.A. and Mary Dinan, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of their souls from December 15th to December 21st. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Robert C. Bryant from December 22nd until December 28th.

REST IN PEACE: Jennie Sciro, mother of Guy Sciro and Johanna Schauer, passed away on December 11th. The visitation will be on Monday, December 16th at Blessed Sacrament from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by a funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

REST IN PEACE: Fr Frank Milienewicz, retired pastor of St George Melkite Church, passed away on December 11th. The funeral Mass will be at St George on Monday, December 16th at 11:00 a.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.

MORNING WITH MARY: All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, December 21st. Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m., there will be confession during adoration, followed by benediction at about 9:10 a.m., and concluding with a Latin Mass at 9:15 a.m.

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 next Sunday, December 22nd.

2019 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: Sunday, December 15th (Gaudete Sunday); and Tuesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve).

MASS & MARCH FOR LIFE: Bishop Baker will celebrate a Mass for Life at the Cathedral of St Paul on Saturday, January 18th at 9:00 a.m. Following the Mass, there will be a peaceful and prayerful rally and march at Brother Bryan Park at 10:45 a.m. Please come and speak out on behalf of innocent babies who can't speak for themselves against the culture of death.

ST ROSE OPEN HOUSE: The Saint Rose Academy is offering an open house for students entering 3-year-old kindergarten to 8th grade. The open house will take place on Sunday, January 12th, 2020 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The teachers, staff and administrators will all be available to answer your questions about our curriculum, and tours of our campus will be provided. St Rose Academy is located at 1401 22nd Street S., Birmingham, AL 35205. If you have questions, please call (205) 933-0549. Their website is www.strosebhm.org.

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.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$8089 and \$465 were collected for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Tues, Dec 24:	8:30 a.m.	Vigil Mass of Christmas in Latin
	3:30 p.m.	Carols
	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass in English
	7:30 p.m.	Carols
	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve High Mass in Latin
Wed, Dec 25:	9:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass in English
	10:45 a.m.	Christmas Day Low Mass in Latin

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

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)
Mon, Dec 16	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Peter & Sharon Gagnon (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, Dec 17:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Anna Pohorelsky (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Dec 18:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Catherine Hahn (by the Donellan Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Jeremiah Howell (by the Hahn Family)
Thur, Dec 19:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Dr. & Mrs. Delbert Hahn (by the Rumore Family)
Fri, Dec 20:	*7:00 a.m.	† Fr Eugene O'Connor
	*8:30 a.m.	† Fr Lambert Greenan, OP
Sat, Dec 21:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Richard Juneau (by the Matthews Family)
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Julia Bryant (by Marian Dinan)
Sun, Dec 22:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Pohorelsky Family (by Danny & Judy Rohling)

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, Anna Marie Madison, 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. Fourth Sunday of Advent	Isa 7:10-14, Rom 1:1-7, Mt 1:18-24
9:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent	Isa 7:10-14, Rom 1:1-7, Mt 1:18-24
10:45 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent	1Cor 4:1-5, Lk 3:1-6

Our Next Bishop

It is no secret that Bishop Baker is nearing retirement. Last June, on his 75th birthday, he offered his resignation to Pope Francis. All bishops are obliged to do this upon turning 75 whether or not they want or need to retire. Regarding a bishop's retirement, the pope has a number of options that might be exercised depending on the particular situation with each bishop and his diocese. Since the 75th birthday of a bishop is a known event, the pope might already have the next bishop lined up so that the successor could be named at the same time the resignation is offered. Another possibility is that the pope assigns the new bishop to a diocese well before the retirement of the current bishop. The new bishop would be a coadjutor, which means that he would not be the bishop of the diocese but he would be the heir apparent to succeed the bishop once he turns 75. This is sometimes done in very large dioceses to give the coadjutor bishop time to become familiar with that diocese or it might be done so that the coadjutor can assist a bishop if he is suffering from failing health.

The pope could also immediately accept a bishop's resignation but without immediately naming a successor. At this point, a council of priests in the diocese would be obliged to elect an administrator to act in the place of the bishop. The administrator could be one of the priests of the diocese or even the retired bishop so long as the pope did not prohibit the retiring bishop from acting as the administrator. In some cases, the pope might even specify the administrator. This was recently done in Buffalo, NY where disgraced Bishop Edward Malone was removed from office by the pope who named Bishop Edward Scharfenberger, the bishop of Albany, to act as the administrator of the Buffalo diocese while remaining the bishop of Albany. In the case where the council of priests elects an administrator, the priest or bishop elected heads the diocese until a new bishop is selected and installed in the diocese. As an administrator, he would have limited authority such that he cannot make significant changes in the diocese, even if the elected administrator is the retiring bishop himself. That limitation lasts for a year. This is pretty much what happened when Bishop Foley retired: his retirement was accepted and the priest council elected him as the administrator of the diocese until Bishop Baker was installed some 27 months later.

The pope might also choose to delay the acceptance of the bishop's resignation until the next bishop is selected and installed. This is what is currently happening with Bishop Baker. He remains our bishop with full authority. Currently there are 11 other bishops like Bishop Baker serving beyond their retirement age. Additionally, there are six dioceses (Alexandria, LA, Anchorage, Atlanta, Buffalo, Duluth, and Rapid City) that have no bishop but only an administrator. Thus, there are a total of 18 American dioceses awaiting a new bishop, some of which will be a much higher priority than Birmingham, such as Atlanta, Boston, St Louis, and Philadelphia.

So how is a new bishop selected? First, the bishops of the local region, in our case Biloxi, Jackson, and Birmingham, submit names of priests they think might make suitable bishops to the archdiocese, in our case Mobile. The archbishop then submits the names of three priests to the papal nuncio in Washington, DC. The nuncio, basically the Vatican's ambassador, takes the three names and comes up with his own list of three candidates, which may or may not include some of the names submitted by the archbishop. The nuncio's list is then forwarded to the Vatican for consideration, and they come up with their own list of most suitable candidates to be presented to the pope, which again may or may not include candidates from the nuncio's list. The pope then selects one of the candidates, who might already be a bishop or might be a priest. That name is then transmitted to the nuncio who then informs the candidate that he has been selected to be the bishop of the diocese in question.

If the priest or bishop declines the offer to be the bishop of that diocese, the process starts over from scratch. The whole process is done in secrecy so that no one is to know the candidates on any of the lists or whom the pope selected if the candidate declines. Given that the final list is formulated inside the Vatican, it is very unlikely that any rumors of our next bishop will be credible. - Fr Booth