

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

January 11th/January 12th 2019: Baptism of the Lord (English)

Holy Family (Latin)



1460 Pearson Avenue SW
Birmingham, Alabama 35211

Phone: (205) 785-9840

E-mail: church@myblessedsacrament.org

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 Jeremy Noblitt, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from January 12th to January 18th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Mary & Bill Dinan from February 2nd until February 8th.

REST IN PEACE: Anna Marie Madison, sister of Lillie Little, passed away on January 8th. 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.

MORNING WITH MARY CANCELLED THIS MONTH: Due to the timing of the Mass and March for Life this Saturday, March 18th the Morning with Mary activities will be cancelled this month. Mass at the Cathedral begins at 9:00 a.m. and the March at 10:45 a.m. in Brother Bryan Park.

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.

PARISH COUNCIL: The Parish Council will meet on Thursday, January 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the Rectory.

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.

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.

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.

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

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$4721 and \$260 were collected for the Preservation Fund.

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

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

Sat, Jan 11:	4:00 p.m.	Pro Populo
Sun, Jan 12:	9:00 a.m.	† Jeremy Noblitt (by Marian Dinan)
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Sharon Gagnon (by Danny & Judy Rohling)
Mon, Jan 13	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Veronica Coole
Tues, Jan 14:	*8:30 a.m.	† Carolyn Sertell (by Susan Sertell)
Wed, Jan 15:	*7:00 a.m.	† Jeremy Noblitt (by the Duryea Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Austin Griswold (by Cathy Schauer)
Thur, Jan 16:	*8:30 a.m.	† Fr Camillus Blazak
Fri, Jan 17:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Anna Rumore (by the Rumore Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Fr Lambert Greenan, OP
Sat, Jan 18:	9:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Miriam Newman (by the Rumore Family) – <i>Mass at St Paul's</i>
	4:00 p.m.	† Jeremy Noblitt (by James & Nida Hammond)
Sun, Jan 19:	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Lily Rohling (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. Second Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 49:3, 5-6, 1Cor 1:1-3, Jn 1:29-34
4:00 p.m. Second Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 49:3, 5-6, 1Cor 1:1-3, Jn 1:29-34
10:45 a.m. Second Sunday after Epiphany	Rom 12:6-16, Jn 2:1-11

Baptism

What does it mean to be baptized? Increasingly, we are seeing people take a casual approach to the significance of baptism. For some, baptism has become more of a social event than one that carries religious import. The idea of christening, a word sometimes used as a synonym for baptism, now tends to suggest more of a naming ceremony for an infant. Yes, there is a long tradition for children to be formally named at their baptism much like Jewish boys were named at their circumcision, but the naming now seems more important than the baptism itself if there even is a baptism at all. If things continue to ‘progress’ in this way, baptism might soon become eclipsed by purely social events such as the baby shower or the much newer idea of a so-called gender reveal event or party. Christening of a ship, once understood as a sort of ‘baptism’ of a new ship when it is launched into the water for the first time, is now almost exclusively associated with naming the ship and the breaking of a champagne, wine, or liquor bottle on its bow. In more the Christian times of the past, the blessing of the ship at it launching was far more important than assigning a name to the vessel.

All of this casualness and secularization of baptism bodes not well for the future. In fact, if people properly understood what baptism actually does, the baby shower or the gender reveal might cease to have any place in our culture. So what does baptism do? There are five basic effects of baptism.

1) Baptism brings about the forgiveness of sins. For the infant or child, Original Sin is forgiven. What this means is that the alienation from God that Adam and Eve brought about for all of their progeny is undone and we enter into a relationship with God. For someone over the age of reason, they have the additional benefit of having their personal, actual sins forgiven in the waters of baptism.

2) In baptism we become a new creature, we are reborn. This is a spiritual reality, not a physical one. By nature we are children of our parents, but in the rebirth of baptism we become adopted sons and daughters of God the Father. As part of being a new creation, we become tabernacles of the Holy Spirit and through Jesus, we become partakers of the divine nature and are heirs along with Christ. As a new creature, we become vessels of grace instead of being vessels of wrath.

3) By virtue of our baptism we become members of Christ, we become members of the mystical Body of Christ. Thus, we become members of the Church, the Bride of Christ. Being members of Christ, however, is not a static reality but a call to share in the mission of Jesus. We therefore share in the offices of Jesus’ ministry, those being priest, prophet, and king. In the priesthood of the faithful we sacrifice of ourselves and intercede on other’s behalf. In terms of being a prophet, we are called to witness to the truths that God has revealed to us the Scriptures and through the Church. As members of Him, we will also share in the kingship of Christ and reign with Him in heaven for all eternity.

4) As members of the mystical Body of Christ we not only enter into a relationship with the Holy Trinity, but also with the rest of those who are baptized. Just as two skin or liver cells can be seen to exist individually, nevertheless they are part of the greater whole of our bodies. Spiritually, the same is true with all the baptized who share a common spiritual bond. Just as we are sons and daughters of the Father and brothers and sisters of Jesus by adoption, we therefore form a family where we are spiritual brothers and sisters. We share a common human ancestry by virtue of being descendants of Adam and Eve, but we are more closely bound to one another spiritually through baptism.

5) Finally, we are marked through our baptism in an indelible character. This character identifies us as belonging to Jesus and consecrates us – sets us apart – worship and serve God. This spiritual character makes it so that if we have died with Christ in baptism then we will also rise with Him in the resurrection from the dead.

Given these realities, how can we think that a gender reveal, a baby shower, or a naming ceremony can possibly compete in importance with the great gift of baptism?

- Fr Booth