

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

May 16th/May 17th 2019: Sixth Sunday of Easter (English)
Fifth Sunday After Easter (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: 7:30 a.m. and 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: [See Below](#)

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.

COVID-19 RESPONSE, MASS & DEVOTIONS: Beginning this Saturday, May 16th, we will return to an approximation of our normal weekend schedule with Mass **inside the Church**. We will have our 4:00 p.m. Saturday English Mass, 9:00 a.m. Sunday English Mass, 10:45 a.m. Sunday Latin Mass, and an additional Sunday Latin Mass at 7:30 a.m. The additional Latin Mass is intended to aid in the social distancing of parishioners, **which will be the responsibility of those attending Mass**. Please be considerate. This additional Mass will continue as long as social distancing is necessary.

COVID-19 RESPONSE, CONFESSIONS: Until further notice, confessions will be done in the Church parking lot with Fr Booth in his car. Those wishing to confess can walk up individually maintaining a six-foot distance. Hours for confession will be from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and 3:30-3:55 p.m. on Saturdays, 8:30-8:55 a.m. and 10:15-10:40 a.m. on Sundays.

DISPENSATION FOR SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION: Per Bishop Baker, all Roman Catholics who reside in the diocese are dispensed from the Sunday Mass obligation until June 30th. No one, especially the vulnerable, should feel obliged to attend Mass.

CHANGES TO THE MASS: We will continue to forgo the distribution of the Precious Blood, reception of which is ordinarily optional anyway, and the sign of peace, the omission of which is also optional.

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 Josephine S. Nettleman, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from May 17th to May 23rd. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Earnest A. Nettleman from May 24th until May 30th.

MASS OF THE ASCENSION: A Low Latin Mass will be offered this Thursday, May 21st at 6:00 p.m. for the Feast of the Lord's Ascension. In our region of dioceses, the Feast of the Lord's Ascension is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

2020 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: May 31st (Pentecost); Thursday, June 11th (Corpus Christi); June 21st (3rd Sunday of Pentecost); June 28th (4th Sunday of Pentecost); July 12th (6th Sunday after Pentecost); July 19th (7th Sunday of Pentecost); August 9th (10th Sunday after Pentecost); August 30th (13th Sunday of Pentecost); September 13th (15th Sunday after Pentecost); September 27th (17th Sunday after Pentecost); October 4th (18th Sunday of Pentecost); October 11th (19th Sunday of Pentecost); October 25th (Christ the King); Sunday, November 1st (All Saints); November 29th (1st Sunday of Advent); Tuesday, Tuesday, December 8th (Immaculate Conception); December 13th (3rd Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday); Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$8075 and \$770 was offered for the Preservation Fund. Please feel free to mail your contributions in or save them up for when we return to having public Mass.

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.

DATE FOR FIRST COMMUNION: First Communion is tentatively rescheduled for Thursday, June 11th (Corpus Christi).

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

- Sat, May 16: 4:00 p.m. † Jeffrey Holloway (by James & Nida Hammond)
- Sun, May 17: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for All Blessed Sacrament Altar Servers (by George & Madeline Sampedro)
- 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:45 a.m. Special Intention for John & Julia Estes (by George & Madeline Sampedro)
- Mon, May 18: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Thom Price (by Ryan Penney)
- Tues, May 19: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Jack Williams (by Ryan Penney)
- Wed, May 20: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Mike Peters (by Ryan Penney)
- *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Burson (by Ryan Penney)
- Thur, May 21: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Tom Graye (by Ryan Penney)
- 6:00 p.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Richard Jesse (by Ryan Penney)
- Fri, May 22: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Michael McCall (by Ryan Penney)
- *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mr. Michael Birchfield (by Ryan Penney)
- Sat, May 23: 4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Mr. Charles Birri (by Ryan Penney)
- Sun, May 24: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Ms. Debra Rice (by Ryan Penney)
- 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Dr. & Mrs. Michael Irwin (by the Hahn Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Fr Vincent Bresowar, Fr Raymond Dunmyer, Lee Gaissert, Lawrence Brandley, Don Williams, Roseanne Timpa, Pete Ransom, Jerry Joiner, Natalie Caraccilo, Beryl Curtis, Nicole Copeland, Laura Minjares, Linda Cooper, Lee Dinan, Mina Keasler, Levi Ray, John Minjares, Sr., 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, and Stephanie Perry.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS

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| 4:00 p.m. Ascension | Acts 1:1-11, Eph 1:17-23, Mt 28:16-20 |
| 7:30 a.m. Sunday After Ascension | 1Pet 4:7-11, Jn 15:26-16:4 |
| 9:00 a.m. Ascension | Acts 1:1-11, Eph 1:17-23, Mt 28:16-20 |
| 10:45 a.m. Sunday After Ascension | 1Pet 4:7-11, Jn 15:26-16:4 |

Perspective

Perspective is always of great importance. In many ways, we have lost our perspective. For example, we forget that there are facts of life that cannot be changed no matter how much we try and no matter how much we advance in technology. There will always be mosquitoes and we will always have to contend with ants at a picnic. Yes, we can treat our yards for ants, but we can't do that in the park or a campground, so ants discovering our picnic is just a matter of time. If the ants don't find the picnic, the flies will. Yes, we can apply insect repellent and light a dozen citronella candles, and yet there will be mosquitoes. Maybe there will be far fewer mosquitoes, but they will still come and they will still bite. This time of year many of us fight the dreaded onslaught of pollen. Given the situation we find ourselves in today, I have chosen to take a double dose of a nasal spray and a double dose of an antihistamine pill. Both work reasonably well for me, but I'd still have the sniffles and a cough at the recommended dosage, neither of which are welcome symptoms during this pandemic. So, I'm snuffle and cough free, but there is a price to be paid. The antihistamine makes me drowsy at the normal dose, but the double dose really does a number on me: in order to not be Sneezzy I have become Dopey and Sleepy instead.

Is it worse to be Dopey and Sleepy (as well as Jumpy, the eighth over-caffeinated dwarf) rather than being Sneezzy? Putting aside the whole pandemic thing, I'd have to say yes. Being a little bit Sneezzy and a little bit Sleepy is more tolerable than being totally Dopey, completely Sleepy, and quite Jumpy. In this case, the cure is worse than the disease. Being slathered in insect repellent seems much the same. We might come to the conclusion one day that all of the insecticides used in and around our homes was not worth it either. Pollen, flies, mosquitoes, and ants are about as ubiquitous as humidity here in the South. Our battle against these foes might prove futile in the end.

Much the same might be said for coronavirus. The various measures taken originally to preserve our hospitals so as not to overwhelm the ICUs and the number of available ventilators have proven to be harmful to most hospitals. Many hospitals will face bankruptcy or even closure because they have lost so much revenue from non-emergency procedures. To save the hospitals we have put them at risk of being lost. We can say the same thing of our economy. Shutting down has brought us to depression era levels of unemployment. Is this necessary and worthwhile? In retrospect, perhaps not. We can 'flatten the curve' but it is likely that we cannot prevent people from being infected if the experts are correct. They say that 50-75% of the population will have to be infected to achieve so-called herd immunity. It is likely that the coronavirus will be with us until that level of infection occurs. Hoping for an effective vaccine also seems futile since our flu vaccines are often quite pathetic, and these are vaccines for the various strains of the flu virus that have been with us for decades, not a virus that we have never seen before.

Fear has brought us to this point. We are acting as if we have never survived a pandemic before. Many people point to the Spanish Flu of 1918 as our most recent pandemic, but that is hardly the case. In recent history we had the 1957 Asian Flu pandemic, which killed as many as 4 million people worldwide. We also had the 1968 Hong Kong Flu that resulted in at least 1.1 million deaths across the globe. The Swine Flu outbreak in 2009 led to the deaths of perhaps half a million people. To date, we have had only about 300,000 coronavirus deaths worldwide, if the numbers can be trusted, which is on the low end of the yearly range of influenza deaths, which typically number from 290,000 to 650,000. Yes, this epidemic is not over, but is it likely that we will see the 50-100 million deaths experienced with the Spanish Flu (equivalent to 225 to 450 million given today's larger population)?

We succumb to fear because we have lost sight of the ubiquity of suffering and death. We will all suffer to one degree or another and we will all die. These are unfortunate but inescapable facts, more so than ants and mosquitoes. Our faith, however, is an entirely fortunate and a totally certain remedy. It cannot prevent suffering, but our faith gives it meaning. Our faith cannot prevent death, but it turns death into the beginning of eternal life. This is the missing perspective. As regrettable as each coronavirus death is, it is far more regrettable that many people fail to keep this epidemic in perspective through faith. - Fr Booth