

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

July 4th/July 5th 2020: 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

5th Sunday after Pentecost (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: 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: We have returned to an approximation of our normal weekend schedule with Mass inside the Church. We will have a 4:00 p.m. Saturday English Mass, a 9:00 a.m. Sunday English Mass, a 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, **which is 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. Confessions will be offered at 3:30-3:55 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday at 7:00-7:25 a.m., 8:30-8:55 a.m., and 10:15-10:40 a.m.

REVISED DISPENSATION FOR SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION: Per Bishop Raica, all Roman Catholics who reside in the diocese are dispensed from the Sunday Mass obligation through September 6th. No one, especially the vulnerable, should feel obliged to attend Mass.

A REMINDER FROM BISHOP RAICA: Those individuals who have a fever, feel sick, are in a high-risk group (e.g., immuno-compromised or having another serious underlying health condition), are of a more advanced age, or who live with someone in one of these categories, are urged to avail themselves of the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass that I recently renewed for all Roman Catholics living in the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama.

CHANGES TO THE MASS: We will forgo the distribution of the Precious Blood, reception of which is ordinarily optional, 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 Kathryn Mabee, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from July 5th to July 11th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Marian and Saverio Miranda from July 12th until July 18th.

MEMORIAL SANCTUARY LAMP SIGN-UP SHEETS for 2021, 2022, and 2023 are at the religious goods counter in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

FIRST SUNDAY: This Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. Again, due to COVID, there will not be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

2020 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: July 12th (6th Sunday after Pentecost); July 19th (7th Sunday after Pentecost); August 9th (10th Sunday after Pentecost); August 30th (13th Sunday after Pentecost); September 13th (15th Sunday after Pentecost); September 27th (17th Sunday after Pentecost); October 4th (18th Sunday after Pentecost); October 11th (19th Sunday after 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.

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Daniel Sessions, Charles Deering, Doug Hess, Matthew Gubenski, Patrick DePew, Max Gallegos, John Gardiner, Andrew Vickery, John Paul Stepnowski, and Collins Hess. Please pray for more good men to answer God's call to the priesthood.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$4126, \$925 was offered for the Preservation Fund, and \$385 were given to the Mission Cooperative Appeal. Please feel free to mail your contributions in or save them up for when things return to normal.

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

Sat, Jul 4:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Cece Dorin (by Michael Schultz)
	4:00 p.m.	† Nancy Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, Jul 5:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Jeff & Catherine Hahn (by the Donellan Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Eleanor Pohorelsky (by Sarah Catherine Rumore)
Mon, Jul 6:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Fred Fullerton (by Susan Sertell)
Tues, Jul 7:	*8:30 a.m.	† Martin Sertell (by Susan Sertell)
Wed, Jul 8:	*7:00 a.m.	† Susan Lavery (by Matthew Leonard)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Carolyn Sertell (by Susan Sertell)
Thur, Jul 9:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Jessica Hedrick (by Jillian Wernke)
Fri, Jul 10:	*8:30 a.m.	† Susan Lavery (by Matthew Leonard)
	6:30 p.m.	Special Intention for Samantha Hedrick (by Jillian Wernke)
Sat, Jul 11:	4:00 p.m.	† Earl Norman (by Helen Brandley)
Sun, Jul 12:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for John Paul Hahn (by the Hahn Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Tom Flemming, Sr. (by Hahn Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially John Minjares, Jr., Julia Bryant, Mark Corley, 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

4:00 p.m.	15 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 55:10-11, Rom 8:18-23, Mt 13:1-23
7:30 a.m.	6 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rom. 6:3-11, Mark 8:1-9
9:00 a.m.	15 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 55:10-11, Rom 8:18-23, Mt 13:1-23
10:45 a.m.	6 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rom. 6:3-11, Mark 8:1-9

Reception of Holy Communion

So, we need to be in a state of grace and we ought to be properly disposed to receive Holy Communion. Given the timeless and profound nature of the mystery we enter at Mass, and the One we receive in the Eucharist, it stands to reason that being right with God and being properly disposed to receive our Lord cannot be considered a small matter or merely a matter of personal piety or preference. Just as we would do our best to present ourselves in the best light if we were to receive into our homes a mere human dignitary – dressing appropriately, cleaning house, being on our best behavior, etc. – it makes even greater sense to prepare ourselves to receive our divine Lord who comes to us under the appearances of mere bread and wine. Therefore, we should never consider receiving our Lord as a matter of routine or in a blasé manner. It is one thing to disrespect or insult a human dignitary through inappropriate familiarity or casual indifference, yet it is quite another thing to affront or to take our Creator and Savior for granted.

We have all seen people receive Communion on autopilot, and many of us have been guilty of this at one time or another, but we should loathe the idea of doing so on a regular basis. The Lord knows how weak and how limited we are, but at some point our weakness and limitations cease to be unfortunate consequences of our fallen nature when they rise to the level of being habitual, born of indifference, or both. Indifference in particular causes concern because apathy, lack of regard, irreverence, and even insolence are chosen attitudes and behaviors. If they are chosen, and therefore deliberate, they carry sinful culpability to one degree or another, much more so than an occasional defect in our behavior that stems from our human weakness or limitation. Again, we must examine ourselves each time we approach the Lord in Communion and ask if we are properly disposed and able to receive Him fruitfully.

We have all seen priests celebrate Mass on autopilot or even ‘just phone it in.’ Again, human weakness and limitation effect priests in the same way as anyone else, but we rightly expect more from our priests. Habitual or indifferent or irreverent celebration of Mass by a priest also carries moral culpability since these transcend human weakness by the deliberate nature of the priest’s disposition or lack of due reverence. Given that a priest’s habitual or overtly deliberate lack of proper disposition when celebrating Mass has a corrosive effect on the faithful, it carries with it the added moral deficit of scandal. After all, the priest ought to be offering Mass with the understanding and appreciation of what he is doing and what happens through his humanly weak ministry. Likewise, a priest that tries to ‘improve’ upon the Mass, making it more entertaining, making it more folksy, and all too often making the Mass more about him than about God, detracts from the Mass and creates scandal that often leads the people to take Mass and the Eucharist less seriously. Indeed, if the priest does not take the Mass and the Eucharist seriously, why should anyone else? Thankfully, the priest offering Mass robotically, just phoning it in, changing the Mass to suit his whim, or even celebrating Mass in a state of mortal sin does not negate the sacrament itself: if he says the words of institution with the intention to consecrate the bread and wine, Jesus becomes present in the Eucharist.

Indeed, when the priest says the words of institution – This is My Body, This is the chalice of My Blood – do we get the sense that he is merely reading words or that he actually believes what he is saying? When we present ourselves to receive Communion, are we just doing what everyone else is doing or are we truly aware of what is happening? We all can and we all ought to do better.

Given that the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life (CCC 1324), this needs to be reflected in how we receive Jesus, our interior disposition, whether or not we are in a state of grace, how Mass is celebrated on both sides of the altar, and in how we look forward to and how we prepare ourselves for Mass. Since the Eucharist is the source and summit of the faith and that the Mass is the supreme act of worship we can offer, these realities need to be reflected in how we all approach the altar.

- Fr Booth