

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**September 26<sup>th</sup>/September 27<sup>th</sup> 2020: 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (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:** 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.

**DISPENSATION FOR SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION:** Per Bishop Raica, all Roman Catholics who reside in the diocese are dispensed from the Sunday Mass obligation through November 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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, 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 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 Kedra Curtis, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from September 27<sup>th</sup> to October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Kimmy Woods from October 4<sup>th</sup> until October 10<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRST FRIDAY:** We will have our 1<sup>st</sup> Friday English Mass on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the Rectory followed with Adoration and Benediction and a Latin Mass at 6:30 p.m. in the Church.

**FIRST SATURDAY:** First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Altar server training, choir practice, and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

**FIRST SUNDAY:** Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. There will not be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES:** You should have received a Catholic Charities letter and a pledge card from the diocese. Our pledge goal this year is \$16,000. All money raised through this annual appeal remains within the diocese.

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

**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.

**2020 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE:** September 27<sup>th</sup> (17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost); October 4<sup>th</sup> (18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost); October 11<sup>th</sup> (19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost); October 25<sup>th</sup> (Christ the King); Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> (All Saints); November 29<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent); Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> (Immaculate Conception); December 13<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday); Christmas.

**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.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection for last weekend was \$4720 and \$550 was donated to the Preservation Fund.

**MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS:** (\*Masses in the Rectory Chapel)

|                |            |  |
|----------------|------------|--|
| Sat, Sept 26:  | 4:00 p.m.  | Special Intention for Kara Pepe (by the Donellan Family)       |
| Sun, Sept 27:  | 7:30 a.m.  | Special Intention for Linda Cooper (by the Donellan Family)    |
|                | 9:00 a.m.  | Pro Populo   |
|                | 10:45 a.m. | Special Intention for Bill & Judy Donellan (by the Donellans)  |
| Mon, Sept 28:  | *8:30 a.m. | Special Intention for Dominic Rumore (by the Donellans)        |
| Tues, Sept 29: | *8:30 a.m. | Special Intention for Allison Rumore (by the Donellans)        |
| Wed, Sept 30:  | *7:00 a.m. | Special Intention for the Schlenker Family (by the Donellans)  |
|                | *8:30 a.m. | Special Intention for Max Cook (by the Donellans)              |
| Thur, Oct 1:   | *8:30 a.m. | Special Intention for the Pinter Family (by the Donellans)     |
| Fri, Oct 2:    | *8:30 a.m. | † Fr Henry Thorsen   |
|                | 6:30 p.m.  | Special Intention for the Botta Family (by the Donellans)      |
| Sat, Oct 3:    | 8:30 a.m.  | Special Intention for the Tyler Family (by the Donellans)      |
|                | 4:00 p.m.  | Special Intention for Jimenez Family (by the Donellans)        |
| Sun, Oct 4:    | 7:30 a.m.  | Special Intention for Dr. & Mrs. Hahn (by the Hahns)           |
|                | 9:00 a.m.  | Pro Populo   |
|                | 10:45 a.m. | Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Scott Donellan (by the Hahns) |

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Aaron Minjares, Hamp Schauer, Bill Dinan, Carol Brandley, Eddie Hunter, Mark Corley, Lee Gaissert, Lawrence Brandley, Don Williams, Roseanne Timpa, Pete Ransom, Jerry Joiner, 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, Loretta Mara, Lillie Rumore, and Stephanie Perry.

**NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS**

|            |  |                                    |
|------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 4:00 p.m.  | 27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time | Isa 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Mt 21:33-43 |
| 7:30 a.m.  | 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  | 1Cor 1:4-8, Mt 9:1-8               |
| 9:00 a.m.  | 27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time | Isa 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Mt 21:33-43 |
| 10:45 a.m. | 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  | 1Cor 1:4-8, Mt 9:1-8               |

## *A Good Moral Compass Matters*

Without a reasonably reliable moral compass, participation in society is to one degree or another futile, counterproductive, and perhaps even sinful. How does one know how to improve the culture or to institute God's will without knowing right from wrong? Even then, mistakes and oversights can be made. For example, a Catholic organization collaborated with a secular organization that promotes moral evil. The Catholic organization reasoned that it was not furthering the evil work of the secular organization, but they were simply taking advantage of their logistics network. They failed to see that such seemingly innocent alliances involve cooperating in the sins of others. If the Church used inmates from Nazi concentration camps to repair damaged churches, this would be implicit approval of and immoral cooperation in the murder of twelve million innocent Jews, Gypsies, handicapped, mentally ill, etc. Such cooperation is utterly immoral no matter how efficient or beneficial the collaboration might have been. Nor could one justify voting for Hitler on the basis of making trains run on time, the restoration of national pride, or the revitalization of the economy. All of these good things, even a list of good things a thousand times longer, could not offset the evil of the murder of 500,000 Gypsies, of 3 million Poles, of 6 million Jews, and so on. Even if the numbers were 1.2 million instead of 12 million, or 120,000, or 12,000 the murder of innocent life could never be tolerated based on how much good the Nazis might have been able to accomplish.

This brings us to one of the pivotal moral issues of today: the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. The USCCB's *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* notes that the 'threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed. At the same time, we cannot dismiss or ignore other serious threats to human life and dignity such as racism, the environmental crisis, poverty and the death penalty.' They go on to say that 'Abortion and euthanasia have become preeminent threats to human life and dignity because they directly attack life itself, the most fundamental good and the condition for all other [goods].' What benefit is the promotion of health care, education, the environment, or the economy if the right to life for all is not guaranteed and protected?

The bishops use the word preeminent to describe the Church's opposition to abortion and euthanasia. The bishops use preeminent in *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* only regarding opposing abortion and euthanasia. In other words, opposing abortion and euthanasia is the primary, foremost, dominant, and most grave moral cause we face today. They continue, saying 'Abortion, the deliberate killing of a human being before birth, is never morally acceptable and must always be opposed. Cloning and destruction of human embryos for research or even for potential cures are always wrong. The purposeful taking of human life by assisted suicide and euthanasia is not an act of mercy, but an unjustifiable assault on human life.'

Thus, we have a responsibility to vote according to moral norms. Legalization of abortion and euthanasia could hardly have been envisioned or sanctioned by our founding fathers and these evils should be abhorrent to anyone with a properly functioning moral compass. But to make our responsibility even clearer, the bishops teach the following: 'A Catholic cannot vote for a candidate who favors a policy promoting an intrinsically evil act, such as abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, deliberately subjecting workers or the poor to subhuman living conditions, redefining marriage in ways that violate its essential meaning, or racist behavior, if the voter's intent is to support that position. In such cases, a Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation in grave evil. At the same time, a voter should not use a candidate's opposition to an intrinsic evil to justify indifference or inattentiveness to other important moral issues involving human life and dignity. There may be times when a Catholic who rejects a candidate's unacceptable position even on policies promoting an intrinsically evil act may reasonably decide to vote for that candidate for other morally grave reasons. Voting in this way would be permissible only for truly grave moral reasons, not to advance narrow interests or partisan preferences or to ignore a fundamental moral evil.' Given that abortion and euthanasia are the most fundamental – preeminent – moral issues today, it seems unlikely that voting for a candidate promoting these sins could be justified. - Fr Booth