

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

October 17th/October 18th 2020: 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

20th 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 22nd. 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 Dennis G. Woods, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from October 18th to October 24th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Sam & Jennifer Buchanan from October 25th until October 31st.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a second collection this weekend for the World Mission Sunday, supporting mission churches throughout the world.

HER CHOICE BANQUET: This year, in place of the traditional banquet, Her Choice invites you to an inspiring on-line Gospel of Life Event on Thursday, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Over the past year, and throughout the Covid Pandemic, Her Choice has demonstrated heroic love to those in crisis pregnancies. Through their dedication, at least 90 abortion-minded mothers choose life. They have also continued their ongoing support of mothers and rendered post abortion healing. Please go to HerChoiceBirmingham.org/HeroicLove to learn more, donate, and invite others to participate or call at 205-447-8796.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$8889 and \$1100 was donated to the Preservation Fund.

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.

FIRST COMMUNION DATE: For 2021, 1st Communion will be on Sunday, April 18th.

CONFIRMATION DATE: For 2021, Confirmation will be on Thursday, June 3rd.

2020 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE: October 25th (Christ the King); Sunday, November 1st (All Saints); November 29th (1st Sunday of Advent); Tuesday, December 8th (Immaculate Conception); December 13th (3rd Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday); Christmas.

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

Sat, Oct 17:	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Mark Anthony & Mary Therese Jimenez (by Sophie Duvall)
	4:00 p.m.	† Jeremy Noblitt (by Ann Noblitt)
Sun, Oct 18:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Emily Williams (by Mary Margaret Rumore)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Williams Family (by Mary Margaret Rumore)
Mon, Oct 19:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Joe Osment (by Bill & Marian Dinan)
Tues, Oct 20:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Jackie Borowski (by Bill & Marian Dinan)
Wed, Oct 21:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Mikhail & Irena Dimov (by George & Madeline Sampedro)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Rea Family (by the Sampedros)
Thur, Oct 22:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Freppon Family (by George & Madeline Sampedro)
Fri, Oct 23:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Mary Margaret Rumore (by Mary Claire Mathews)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Andrew Walther (by Grace Gagnon)
Sat, Oct 24:	4:00 p.m.	† Edward Joseph Thornton, Jr. (by the Hahns)
Sun, Oct 25:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Charles Anthony Rumore (by the Hahns)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Allison Rumore (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.	309 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Exo 22:20-26, 1Thes 1:5-10, Mt 22:34-40
7:30 a.m.	Christ the King	Col 1:12-20, Jn 18:33-37
9:00 a.m.	30 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Exo 22:20-26, 1Thes 1:5-10, Mt 22:34-40
10:45 a.m.	Christ the King	Col 1:12-20, Jn 18:33-37

More Ballot Morality

Given that it is immoral to vote deliberately for a pro-abortion candidate, it might seem as if Catholics are nothing more than one-issue voters. This is hardly the case. Abortion, euthanasia, and if it ever came to it, infanticide are the preeminent issues of our time. Associated issues include embryonic stem cell research and cloning where human life is treated as a mere means to an end. All other considerations or issues regarding the choice of whom to vote for are secondary because every other human right hinges upon the very right to life itself. If some people can be denied the right to life, then anyone can be denied the right to life. If anyone can be denied the right to life, then all other moral and civil rights can be denied. As if on cue, a journalist recently called for anyone and everyone who supports a particular set of beliefs to be ‘prosecuted and convicted and removed from our society.’ Freedom of speech? Freedom of thought? Due process? The rule of law? Convicted of what crime? By removed from society does he mean execution? Anyone who disagrees with this journalist no doubt is unworthy of freedom or even life.

Nevertheless, other issues exist that cannot be supported through our vote. Denial of religious liberty is one such issue. While not rising to the same level as the right to life, religious freedom is an inalienable human right. By natural law and by our own Constitution, we have freedom of religion. Now it is more common for people to think that we have a right to freedom from religion – not meaning the right to personally reject any set of religious beliefs, which is a right – as if the right, nay, the duty exists to expunge religion from all public discourse. The position that we do not have a fundamental right to freedom of religion or policies reflecting a denial of religious liberty should disqualify any politician of our vote or political support.

Another issue that falls into the same category of the right to religious liberty is the sanctity of marriage. Marriage was instituted not by government decree, not by some legislative action, not by mere social convention but by our Creator. This is self-evident in nature. It is self-evident in our nature. It is self-evident biologically. The physical complementarity of man and woman and the lack of the same complementarity between a man and a man and the lack of the same complementarity between a woman and a woman tell us directly what the basic nature of marriage ought to be. This complementarity tells us that marriage is between male and female. Now it must be said that it is much less obvious that polygamy is a deviation from what our Creator had intended – He tolerated polygamy early in man’s history – just by nature alone, but human experience speaks almost as loudly as the testimony of Scripture. After all, *“Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh”* (Gen 2:24). Likewise, the indissolubility of marriage, while attested to in both Old and especially the New Testaments, should also be self-evident. The stability of the family is essential for the culture, which is particularly true with regard to the health and well being of children. In other words, any candidate for office we vote for must uphold the one-man, one-woman nuclear family and reject any form of social engineering seeking to redefine, undermine, or dissolve the family.

Racism and other forms of unjust discrimination constitute yet another moral issue that cannot be tolerated in a political candidate. What makes racism more difficult is that it takes many quite subtle forms. Likewise, racism has become a common slur leveled against those not championing certain political opinions or causes but who are not necessarily racist or are even less racist than their accusers. Therefore, thorough discernment is essential. We see racism in the form of pandering to one group over another, in merely seeing people as nothing more than a demographic, in assuming that some groups are incapable of advancing by their own merits, and in the exploitation of vulnerable people for political or economic purposes. Human dignity demands that all be treated as true equals. Our Lord demands that we treat one another consistent with the fact that we are all made in the image and likeness of God. Failing to recognize that we are all made in the image and likeness of God is the very root of how we end up with abortion, religious intolerance, policies undermining the family, and racism.

- Fr Booth