

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

October 24th/October 25th 2020: 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

Christ the King (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 Sam & Jennifer Buchanan, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of their souls from October 25th to October 31st. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Dickey Montalbano from November 1st until November 7th.

FIRST SUNDAY: Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. Due to Covid, there will not be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

ALL SOULS DAY: We will have an English Mass at 8:30 a.m. and a Latin Low Mass at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2nd. Both Masses will be in the church. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the souls in purgatory by visiting a church and reciting an Our Father and the Nicene Creed.

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.

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.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection for last weekend was \$2464, \$50 was donated to the Preservation Fund, and \$734 was donated to the World Missions.

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

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)
Mon, Oct 26: *8:30 a.m. † Mary Cooper (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, Oct 27: *8:30 a.m. † Eddie Zimmer (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Oct 28: *7:00 a.m. † Freddie Zimmer (by the Donellan Family)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Hesley Family (by the Donellan Family)
Thur, Oct 29: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for John Anthony & Mary Jimenez (by the Donellan Family)
Fri, Oct 30: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Charlie & Allison Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Jackson Mackin (by the Donellan Family)
Sat, Oct 31: 4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Peter Gagnon (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, Nov 1: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Jennifer Casey (by the Donellan Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Don Williamson (by the Donellan Family)

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. All Saints	Rev 7:2-4,9-14, 1Jn 3:1-3, Mt 5:1-12
7:30 a.m. All Saints	Rev 7:2-12, Mt 5:1-12
9:00 a.m. All Saints	Rev 7:2-4,9-14, 1Jn 3:1-3, Mt 5:1-12
10:45 a.m. All Saints	Rev 7:2-12, Mt 5:1-12

Even More Ballot Morality

In summary, the preeminent issue facing us today is the sanctity human life, constantly and directly threatened through profound evils such as abortion, euthanasia, and infanticide. Other moral issues are similar to direct threats to innocent human life, which include denial of religious liberty, offenses against the sanctity and dignity of marriage, and unjust discrimination. Promotion of any of these offenses cannot be tolerated in a candidate for political office. Direct threats to innocent human life take precedence over the others because every other human right presumes upon, depends upon, and hinges on the right to life. Nevertheless, we cannot tolerate infringement upon religious liberty, perversion of married life, or the institutionalization or propagation of unjust discrimination. Explicit advocacy or promotion of any of these matters should disqualify a candidate from receiving our vote.

Of course these are not the only issues at play when discerning how we ought to vote. Someone reading these teachings on the morality of casting a vote over the last few weeks might be asking ‘But what about such-and-such issue?! Isn’t this issue important, too?’ Although a particular topic might be quite near and dear to our hearts, it cannot supplant the very right to human life itself. For example, someone might be passionate about the treatment of animals. While this is a legitimate and laudable concern, it does not carry the same weight as human life and many other issues. The degree of passion for the welfare and ethical treatment of animals cannot make this issue directly comparable to abortion, euthanasia, or infanticide. Profound emotion or intense dedication to a cause does not change the objective moral significance of that cause. For example, the late Diana, Princess of Wales, passionately championed banning the use of landmines, which is a noble and laudable cause. However, if she were running for office and if she also promoted abortion or euthanasia, we could not vote for her no matter how much we agreed with her regarding landmines. Even though landmines touch upon the sanctity human life, they potentially serve a legitimate purpose in warfare if used in a morally defensible manner.

That ‘if’ is key. Like many issues, the matters of warfare, with the exception of deliberate targeting of civilian populations, generally fall under the category of prudential judgment. In other words, there are serious issues that may not rise to the level of being intrinsically evil. Direct abortion is always evil. Euthanasia is always evil. Unjust discrimination is always evil. Impinging upon the free exercise of religion is always evil. Undermining or perverting the one-man, one-woman marriage is always evil. War itself can be evil or it might be a legitimate act of self-defense on the part of a nation. Capital punishment can be evil or it might be a legitimate act of a government, again as an act of self-defense against particularly dangerous individuals. Intentions and circumstances matter in such cases. For example, we recognize the fundamental difference between premeditated murder and killing someone in true self-defense. In both cases a man’s life is taken but the intentions and circumstances are significantly different. Likewise, capital punishment as a means of vengeance would be evil but some criminals can be executed if that is the only way to protect society. Acts such as capital punishment and war require great discernment and profound prudence in order to be legitimate.

Other issues, albeit less weighty than abortion or war, also often fall into the category of prudential judgment. For example, stimulating the economy can be done in a number of ways, such as tax cuts, deregulation, encouragement of research and development, modification of monetary policy, etc., some of which will be effective under some conditions, others less so. Some methods touch on morality, such as the morality of indebting future generations through unchecked deficit spending or burdening current generations with confiscatory tax rates. Immigration, the environment, education, crime, healthcare, foreign policy, terrorism, social security, national security, energy policy, and domestic tranquility are all issues subject to prudential judgment that may involve one or more moral components. Nevertheless, multiple morally legitimate approaches are possible with these issues. In other words, all issues matter but some are utterly essential.

- Fr Booth