

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

April 3<sup>rd</sup>/April 4<sup>th</sup> 2021: Easter



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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.

**UPDATED DISPENSATION FOR SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION:** Per Bishop Raica, all Roman Catholics who reside in the diocese are **dispensed from the Sunday Mass obligation through May 23<sup>rd</sup>**. No one, especially the vulnerable, should feel obliged to attend Mass. This is almost certainly the last extension for the Covid dispensation. Those who are not at risk, who have already had Covid, who have been vaccinated, and who have otherwise returned to a more normal life are encouraged to return to Mass.

**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 Catherine Kelly, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from April 4<sup>th</sup> to until April 10<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Crawford Mabee from April 11<sup>th</sup> until April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRST COMMUNION DATE:** First Communion will be on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Opportunities for first confession will be provided on Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> after the 10:45 Mass and at the First Communion rehearsal on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**CONFIRMATION DATE:** Confirmation will be on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be three classes offered for the confirmandi tentatively scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>, May 16<sup>th</sup>, and May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**2021 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE:** The High Mass schedule for the 10:45 a.m. Mass will be as follows: Every second, third, and fourth Sunday of the month excluding December 26<sup>th</sup> with the addition of Easter Sunday (April 4<sup>th</sup>), Corpus Christi (June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Confirmation), All Saints (November 1<sup>st</sup>), All Souls (November 2<sup>nd</sup>), Immaculate Conception (December 8<sup>th</sup>), and Christmas (December 25<sup>th</sup>).

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last weekend was \$6528 and \$750 was donated to the Preservation Fund.

**NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS:** There is about a four-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, Apr 3      8:00 p.m. † Patricia Smith (by the Runge Family)  
Sun, Apr 4:      7:30 a.m. † Jessie Smith (by the Runge Family)  
                         9:00 a.m.    Pro Populo  
                         10:45 a.m. † Fay Bestrum (by the Runge Family)  
Mon, Apr 5:    \*8:30 a.m.    Private Intention  
Tues, Apr 6:   \*8:30 a.m. † Edmund Sampedro (by the George & Madeline Sampedro)  
Wed, Apr 7:    \*7:00 a.m.    Special Intention for Douglas Duval (by the Duval Family)  
                         \*8:30 a.m. † Dolores Sampedro (by the George & Madeline Sampedro)  
Thur, Apr 8:   \*8:30 a.m. † Dorothy Sampedro (by the George & Madeline Sampedro)  
Fri, Apr 9:     \*7:00 a.m. † Celia Sampedro (by the George & Madeline Sampedro)  
                         \*8:30 a.m. † Amber Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)  
Sat, Apr 10     4:00 p.m.    Special Intention for the Jones Family (by Mary & Betty Mason)  
Sun, Apr 11:    7:30 a.m.    Special Intention for the Jones Family (by Mary & Betty Mason)  
                         9:00 a.m.    Pro Populo  
                         10:45 a.m.    Special Intention for Lori Donellan (by the Hahn Family)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Matthew Clune Sr., Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Phillip Rumore, Gail McMahon, Sarah Minjares, Gracimo Ribeiro Bento, Mary Cavanagh, Sr Miracles, Bob Wiseman, Bernita Hicks, Jerry Bryant, Eve Moore, Nida Hammond, Aaron Minjares, Hamp Schauer, Bill Dinan, Carol Brandley, Eddie Hunter, Lawrence Brandley, Don Williams, Roseanne Timpa, Pete Ransom, Jerry Joiner, Beryl Curtis, Nicole Copeland, Laura Minjares, Linda Cooper, Lee Dinan, Levi Ray, Danny Rohling, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, William Scroggins, Lamar Smith, Paul Herrmann, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, Andrea Little, Joseph Edwards, George Dunham, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, Thatcher Kerzie, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Kathleen Strawmeyer, and Stephanie Perry.

**NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS**

4:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Sunday	Acts 4:32-35, 1Jn 5:1-6, Jn 20:19-31
7:30 a.m. Low Sunday	1Jn 5:4-10, Jn 20:19-31
9:00 a.m. Divine Mercy Sunday	Acts 4:32-35, 1Jn 5:1-6, Jn 20:19-31
10:45 a.m. Low Sunday	1Jn 5:4-10, Jn 20:19-31

## ***Stronger than Fear***

Every normal human being is beset with emotions that are largely beyond our control. Emotions come, and emotions go. One day we are basically happy with our lot in life, the next we might be absolutely overwhelmed with grief. We see this in the Apostles. One day they are riding high in jubilation when Jesus enters into Jerusalem, and a few days later they begin to taste grief when Jesus announces that His betrayal is at hand. The grief deepens when Jesus is arrested in Gethsemane.

Nine of the Apostles run away cowering in a combination of grief and fear, grieving Jesus' arrest while at the same time fearing their own arrests. We know not where they hid, but it probably was not the upper room; that might be where Judas leads the mob next. Instead, Judas discovers his own grief. Seeing Jesus actually condemned grieves him. His grief leads to a fear of living. Judas can't live another day having betrayed an Innocent Man to suffer the execution reserved for the worst criminals. Fearing what he has done, fearing God's judgment, and fearing living the rest of his life like Cain, the murderer of Abel, Judas chooses to take his own life. The vice of greed brought Judas to betray Jesus, but it was grief and fear that led to despair, to abandon hope to the point of suicide.

Nine Apostles run away in fear, out of fear one ends his own life, and the other two, Peter and John run away but turn back to follow Jesus after His arrest. Out of fear, they do so at a distance. Out of fear of being associated with Jesus, Peter denies Him three times. Out of fear of being arrested, John simply blends in with the crowd, preferring to be anonymous to being a disciple. Thus, we can see how powerful fear can be in our lives. Fear can lead us to betray God, to betray others, and to betray ourselves. Fear can lead us to deny the truth, the Truth Himself, and the truth about ourselves. The Apostles' fear is entirely natural and almost all of us would have hid, denied Jesus, or sought anonymous safety in a crowd. Some might lose hope and fall into utter Judas-like despair.

We even see fear at work on Easter morning. Who goes to Jesus tomb? None of the Apostles have the nerve. Only Mary Magdalene and several other women have the courage. It is likely that the women asked the Apostles, gathered in the upper room now that Judas is dead, to roll away the stone for them but the Apostles were too afraid to help. When the women encounter the angel at the empty tomb, "*they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples*" (Mt 28:8). They go from brave sorrow to fearful joy. Fear almost never begets joy nor does joy beget fear. Yes, fear might replace joy and joy might replace fear, but fearful joy, or even joyful fear, is uncommon because the events that bring out a combination of fear and joy are uncommon. We can safely say that the events that cause fearful joy or joyful fear are rightly called life-changing events. Usually the event itself is a source for joy, but the meaning of the event is also a source of fear.

For example, news of a pregnancy, especially a first pregnancy, will bring about great joy in both mother and father. That a baby is on the way is also cause for fear. A man takes great joy in being a father, but what it means to be a father brings about fear. Knowledge that his life has changed brings joy, but the meaning of the change itself spawns fear. For the women at the tomb, the news of the Resurrection brings joy. It is the uncertainty of the meaning of the empty tomb that breeds fear. They have no idea yet what the Resurrection means in general and what it means for them personally.

Will Jesus continue teaching, heeling, and vexing the scribes and Pharisees? Will He be hunted down again and killed, this time with all of His disciples? Will Jesus travel off to some foreign land expecting them to follow? They had a better understanding of what life would be like with a dead and buried Jesus than what life meant with a Risen and Living Jesus. Had Jesus not risen from the dead, the Apostles and disciples would have more or less returned to their old way of living. Jesus would have touched their lives, but He would not have given life itself new meaning.

However, the Resurrection makes a return to their old lives impossible. The Resurrection is an absolutely life-changing, even universe-changing, event. Like a baby changes everything for mom and dad, the Resurrection changes everything for everybody for every generation.

- Fr Booth