

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

August 8<sup>th</sup>/August 9<sup>th</sup>: 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (Latin)



1460 Pearson Avenue SW  
Birmingham, Alabama 35211  
Phone: (205) 785-9840

E-mail: [church@myblessedsacrament.org](mailto:church@myblessedsacrament.org)  
Website: [www.myblessedsacrament.org](http://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 an additional Sunday Latin Mass at 7:30, which is intended to aid in the social distancing, and will continue on a provisional basis.

**COVID-19 RESPONSE, CONFESSIONS:** Confessions have returned to the confessional. 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.

**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 Eileen Schauer, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from August 8<sup>th</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Beverly Grisham from August 15<sup>th</sup> until August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**THIRD SUNDAY:** Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of the month. We will a potluck lunch following the 10:45 a.m. Mass.

**CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART:** In union with Latin Mass communities worldwide, we will have a consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary next Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. The consecration will be done following the 10:45 Mass in lieu of our normal vocations prayers.

**TRADITIONIS CUSTODES:** In response to Pope Francis' recent *motu proprio* letter on the Latin Mass, Bishop Raica has graciously authorized and approved the continuation of the Latin Mass here at Blessed Sacrament.

**PILGRIMAGE:** Join Fr Bryan Jerabek of the Cathedral of St Paul on a pilgrimage this November 13<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> through the south of France. This trip features visits to some of the most incredible places and the holiest shrines found in France, including Toulouse, Lourdes, Rocamadour, Avignon, Aix-en-Provence, Cotignac, Sainte-Baume, Carcassonne and Nice. Space is limited to forty pilgrims total. For more information please visit the trip webpage at [prorometours.com/france](http://prorometours.com/france)

**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, Hunter Limbaugh, Francisco Rodriguez, Adam Sellers, and Dominic Rumore. Please pray for more good men to answer God's call to the priesthood.

**2021 HIGH MASS SCHEDULE:** The High Mass schedule for the 10:45 a.m. Mass is as follows: Every second, third, and fourth Sunday of the month excluding December 26<sup>th</sup> with the addition of All Saints (Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>), All Souls (Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>), Immaculate Conception (Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>), and Christmas (Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>).

**GAIL MCMAHON,** our organist for 20 years, has retired due to health considerations. Get Well and Thank You cards can be sent c/o Ann Rodgers, 5031 Stratford Rd, Biham 35242.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$5856 and \$275 was donated to the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

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

Sat, Aug 7	8:30 a.m.	† William Lang (by Peter & Sharon Gagnon)
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Jerry Bryant (by Chuck Bryant)
Sun, Aug 8:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Lena Clare Cook (by the Donellan Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Pinter Family (by the Donellan Family)
Mon, Aug 9:	*8:30 a.m.	† Sam & Marian Miranda (by Marian & Bill Dinan)
Tues, Aug 10:	*8:30 a.m.	† William Lang (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Aug 11:	*7:00 a.m.	† Peter Revilla (by the Donellan Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	† Zelf Williamson (by the Donellan Family)
Thur, Aug 12:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Eli Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
Fri, Aug 13:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for the Rumore Family (by the Donellan Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Jeff & Catherine Hahn (by the Donellan Family)
Sat, Aug 14	4:00 p.m.	† Julia Bryant (by Marian & Bill Dinan)
Sun, Aug 15:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Mathews Family (by the Donellan Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Zaucha Family (by the Donellan Family)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Charlie Carruba, Fritz Fridley, Virginia Bullock, Jan Joseph, Gloria Archambault, Anthony Morris, James Bonner, Matthew Clune Sr., Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Gail McMahon, Gracimo Ribeiro Bento, Sister Miracles, Bob Wiseman, Jerry Bryant, Eve Moore, Nida Hammond, Aaron Minjares, Bill Dinan, Carol Brandley, Eddie Hunter, Lawrence Brandley, Don Williams, Roseanne Timpa, Pete Ransom, Jerry Joiner, Beryl Curtis, Nicole Copeland, Linda Cooper, Lee Dinan, 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.	The Assumption	1Chr 15:3-4,15-16,16:1-2, 1Cor 15:54-57, Lk 11:27-28
7:30 a.m.	The Assumption	Judith 13:22-25,15:10, Lk 1:41-50
9:00 a.m.	The Assumption	Rev 11:19,12:1-6,10, 1Cor 15:20-27, Lk 1:39-56
10:45 a.m.	The Assumption	Judith 13:22-25,15:10, Lk 1:41-50

## *Wakefulness*

Last Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, the Church celebrated the feast of the Transfiguration. Peter, James, and John are taken up a mountain by Jesus who is transfigured before them. We are told that “*Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him*” (Lk 9:32). Those two men standing with Jesus are Moses and Elijah, recognized instantly by Peter, James, and John now that they are fully awake. Many of us go through some or even much of our lives not necessarily overcome by sleep like Peter, James, and John, but certainly not fully awake. Being in such a state of ‘awakeness’ does not happen in response to chugging seventeen cups of coffee. Nor is it the ‘wokeness’ spoken of today in some circles of society.

No, many of us are spiritually drowsy and some are spiritually comatose. In fact, one might enjoy a state of total physical, mental, and emotional wakefulness while still being sound asleep spiritually. It is also not a matter of intellectual capacity or degree of formal education. After all, Peter, James, and John are hardly geniuses nor were they bookworms. Luke and Paul might be described as intelligent and well educated, but not those three Apostles witnessing the Transfiguration. The other two men, Moses and Elijah, appearing with the transfigured Jesus were not known as educated or brilliant men either. Yet Moses and Elijah are undoubtedly far more spiritually awake than any of the Apostles. Why? Because they are no longer hindered by fallen human nature and worldly concerns.

So, why aren’t we all spiritually awake, why might we be spiritually drowsy or comatose? Again, our fallen human nature gets in the way. Because we are fallen, we don’t see everything clearly or in the correct light. Worldly concerns, because we can’t see clearly, become critical while spiritual needs are easily overlooked, brushed aside, or given low priority. Moses and Elijah are unencumbered by such trivialities as hunger, fatigue, disease, mortgages, deadlines, and the other things that cause us to worry. Indeed, heaven is the only carefree existence possible for mankind.

Worldly concerns and our limitations are not the only things that hinder us from being spiritually awake. Perhaps we have not had a true or substantial spiritual formation. Some people are utterly un-catechized, not knowing Jesus from Elvis. Others have been or have allowed themselves to be mis-catechized. Some, nay, many have become spiritually dopey because they have chosen to “*follow cleverly devised myths*” (2Pet 1:16) such as the New Age silliness or half-baked, watered-down Christianity. How many supposedly devout Catholics have fallen for supporting so-called gay marriage, the false right to have an abortion, the absolute lie that we can do good by doing evil, the bizarre belief that gender is a matter of choice, or the total sham of separating their faith from the rest of their lives. For many, it is not much different from the mafioso who murders, defrauds, and debases six days a week but devoutly goes to Mass on Sunday. It is simply a matter of degree.

It is not just a fallen nature, lack of knowledge of Christ, worldly concern, or the acceptance of a false Gospel. Many people, even those striving to be good disciples of Christ, might be in a spiritual stupor brought on by repeated sin. Repetitious sin acclimates us to moral darkness, a darkness that makes spiritual slumber all the more possible. Repetitious sin slowly brings us deeper and deeper into darkness, so it should be no surprise that clearing the spiritual cobwebs of habitual sin and coming into the spiritual light is also a slow process once one chooses to become more fully awake.

Once Peter, James and John had become fully awake through a special grace, they saw everything in a new light, the light of the glorified Jesus. They will never see the world the same again for having seen the transfigured Jesus. We won’t see Jesus as these men did, but we do see the glorified Jesus at every Mass in the Eucharist. But while our eyes see worldly bread, does our faith see the heavenly Jesus? While at Mass do we say, like Peter, James, and John during the Transfiguration, “*Master, it is good that we are here*”? Seeing Jesus in the Eucharist and receiving Him should be life-changing and enlightening. If not, we are spiritually drowsy and we are in need of becoming fully awake, a process that can certainly take a lifetime to achieve.

- Fr Booth