

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**August 14<sup>th</sup>/August 15<sup>th</sup> 2021: Assumption**



**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 Beverly Grisham, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from August 15<sup>th</sup> to August 21<sup>st</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Helen Von Hagel from August 22<sup>nd</sup> until August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**REST IN PEACE:** Charlie Carruba, husband of Annette Carruba, passed away on August 7<sup>th</sup>. His Funeral will be on Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**SPECIAL THANKS:** Thank you to all who contributed to defray the costs of Mary Cavanaugh's funeral expenses. The excess amount will be donated to the Preservation Fund.

**THIRD SUNDAY:** This Sunday is the Third Sunday of the month. We will have 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 this Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> following the 10:45 Mass in lieu of our normal vocations prayers.

**MORNING WITH MARY:** All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m., there will be confession during adoration, followed by benediction at 9:10 a.m., and concluding with a Latin Mass at 9:15 a.m.

**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 [prometours.com/france](http://prometours.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. May 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, Bham 35242.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$6849 and \$810 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 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 Donellans)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Zaucha Family (by the Donellans)
Mon, Aug 16:	*8:30 a.m.	† Sam & Mary Montalbano (by Marian & Bill Dinan)
Tues, Aug 17:	*8:30 a.m.	† Julia Bryant (by Marian & Bill Dinan)
Wed, Aug 18:	*7:00 a.m.	† William Lang (by Charlotte & Terry Rumore)
	*8:30 a.m.	† William Lang (by the Hall Family)
Thur, Aug 19:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Mandy Waligora (by the Masons)
Fri, Aug 20:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Stephanie Labauve (by the Juneaus)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Mandy Waligora (by the Masons)
Sat, Aug 21	9:15 a.m.	Special Intention for Amy Juneau (by the Juneaus)
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for the Jones Family (by the Masons)
Sun, Aug 22:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Minjares Family (by the Juneaus)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† William Lang (by the Tyler Family)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Virginia Bullock, 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.	21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Josh 24:1-2,15-17,18, Eph 5:21-32, Jn 6:60-69
7:30 a.m.	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Gal 3:16-22, Lk 17:11-19
9:00 a.m.	21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Josh 24:1-2,15-17,18, Eph 5:21-32, Jn 6:60-69
10:45 a.m.	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Gal 3:16-22, Lk 17:11-19

## *Assumption*

The Ark of the Covenant, built by Moses to the exact specifications revealed to him by God, went with the Israelites wherever they wandered during the Exodus. All forty years in the desert, God was with them, not just in a vague way, but specially present to the Jewish people. Specifically, it was through the Ark of the Covenant that God chose to be present to the Israelites in the Holy of Holies of the tabernacle, which was true during their wandering and later when they eventually occupied the Promised Land. The Ark of the Old Covenant contained God's word inscribed on the stone tablets, the Ten Commandments; it contained the bread from heaven, the manna that sustained them in the wilderness; and it contained Aaron's staff, wielded by Moses to perform many of the miracles that liberated and preserved the Jews.

We also see these same items in the New Covenant. We have the Word of God incarnate as Jesus. The Word is no longer inscribed on stone, but comes to us under the New Covenant clothed in human flesh. The stone tablets were the words of the covenant, but Jesus Himself is the new and everlasting covenant. Likewise, Aaron's staff represented the priesthood of the Old Covenant, but Jesus is the great High Priest of the New Covenant. Jesus does not descend from Aaron, but is a priest of the order of Melchizedek whose priesthood knows no beginning or end. No ancestry or progeny are specified for Melchizedek, which makes him unique in the Old Testament, and this was thus seen as a sign that his priesthood was unique and everlasting. Melchizedek offered bread and wine, but Jesus offers Himself on the cross and sacramentally under the appearances of bread and wine.

Jesus is the New Manna. We read in John's Gospel: "*I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world*" (Jn 6:48-51). The manna sustained Israel in their wanderings through the desert before entering the Promised Land, but the New Manna, the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, sustains us as we wander in this world before we enter the true New Promised Land of Heaven. The manna of the Old Testament merely sustained the physical body and preserved the people from starvation. The Eucharist, however, sustains our souls and, along with the other sacraments and a life lived according to the will of God, preserves us from eternal death and damnation.

The Old Covenant had an Ark for containing tokens of the covenant: the word, the bread, and the priesthood. The Old Ark, made of gold and wood, has long been lost and perhaps even destroyed. It has not been seen since about 587 BC. The New Covenant also has an Ark. This New Ark, this new tabernacle, is not made of gold or wood nor was it fashioned with human hands. The New Ark of the Covenant is none other than the Virgin Mary. We can say this with supreme confidence because God tabernacled with us in her womb.

The Israelites held the Ark of the Covenant in awe and high esteem, not because it was made of gold, but because of what it contained. We too are called to hold the New Ark of the Covenant in high esteem. King David danced for joy before the Old Ark, John the Baptist leaps for joy in the presence of the New Ark, Mary. God gave Mary a special place in creation and in His plan of redemption. He also gave her a special place in heaven: "*God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant could be seen in the temple... A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars*" (Rev 11:19, 12:1). In other words, the New Ark of the Covenant was not lost or destroyed, but resides in heaven.

Having a special place in creation, a special place in redemption, and a special place in heaven, let us hold Mary in a special place within our hearts. Failing to do so is failing to take Scripture seriously. After all, Mary herself testifies in response to Elizabeth's greeting that "*all generations will call me blessed*" (Lk 1:48).

- Fr Booth