

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**November 6<sup>th</sup>/October 7<sup>th</sup> 2021: 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)  
5<sup>th</sup> Supplemental Mass after Epiphany (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 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.

**NOTE ON CONFESSIONS:** If there is a significant line for confession, Fr Booth might say part of the formula of absolution while the penitent recites the act of contrition. The full formula of absolution is always said, but the first part might be said softly during the act of contrition. Thus, you might only hear “and I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

**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 November 7<sup>th</sup> to November 13<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Ronnie Mason from November 14<sup>th</sup> until November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRST SUNDAY:** This Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

**FUNDRAISER FOR OUR FRANCISCANS:** All are invited to a fundraising dinner for our Franciscans, the Poor of Jesus Christ, that will be held at the social hall of Our Lady of the Valley. The event will occur on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:15 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 p.m. There will be a raffle, including artwork by Sr Clara, \$1,000 cash, and one week at a Lake Martin house that sleeps 20. There is no cost to attend, but an appeal for donations will be made. Banquet registration required by November 24<sup>th</sup>

**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 Immaculate Conception (Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>), and Christmas (Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>).

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$5290 and \$600 was donated to the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

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

- Sat, Nov 6: 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Ben Rumore (by the Donellans)  
4:00 p.m. † David Waligora (by Mary & Betty Mason)
- Sun, Nov 7: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Zellie Federle (by the Donellans)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Betsy Fleming (by the Donellans)
- Mon, Nov 8: \*8:30 a.m. † Dick Montalbano (by Bill & Marian Dinan)
- Tues, Nov 9: \*8:30 a.m. † Souls in Purgatory
- Wed, Nov 10: \*7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Linda Cooper (by the Donellans)  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Jacie Donellan (by the Donellans)
- Thur, Nov 11: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Adrian Jimenez (by the Donellans)
- Fri, Nov 12: \*7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Charlie Rumore (by the Donellans)  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Nick and Angie Donellan (by the Donellans)
- Sat, Nov 13: 4:00 p.m. † David Waligora (by Mary & Betty Mason)
- Sun, Nov 14: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Nick and Angie Donellan (by the Donellans)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Bill and Judy Donellan (by the Donellans)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially William Hull, Theresa Ragusa, Gloria Archambault, Anthony Morris, James Bonner, Matthew Clune Sr., Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Gail McMahon, Gracimo Ribeiro Bento, Sister Miracles, Bob Wiseman, Eve Moore, 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**

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| 4:00 p.m. 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time          | Dan 12:1-3, Heb 10:11-14,18, Mk 13:24-32 |
| 7:30 a.m. 6 <sup>th</sup> Supplemental Mass after Epiphany  | 1Thes 1:2-10, Mt 13:31-35                |
| 9:00 a.m. 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time          | Dan 12:1-3, Heb 10:11-14,18, Mk 13:24-32 |
| 10:45 a.m. 6 <sup>th</sup> Supplemental Mass after Epiphany | 1Thes 1:2-10, Mt 13:31-35                |

## *Human Life*

As discussed last week, a scientist suggested that chemistry, not our intellect or will, governs our behavior. There is no doubt that chemistry explains how our various organs work: the heart pumps, the liver detoxifies, the kidneys filter, and so on because of chemistry. This fact is the basis for modern medicine. Chemical compounds are developed to augment, curtail, regulate, or stop specific biological processes. In the same way, amino acids, vitamins, and minerals are necessary for the chemistry of the body to proceed. For example, vitamin D is necessary for healthy blood pressure levels, absorbing calcium for strong bones, helping the immune system fight infectious diseases (including covid), and seems to play a role in reducing seasonal depression common during the winter months. Carbohydrates, protein, and fat from our food form the energy sources for our bodies. All of this is chemistry, so it might seem logical that human life can be reduced to chemistry, even with regards to our behavior.

While chemistry does govern many of the body's functions, chemistry is only a part of the equation. Indeed, if chemistry uniquely determined our actions such that we have no free will, only the illusion of free will, then how can one explain the huge variation in human behavior over time and across cultures? In the case of religion, can we say that belief has no bearing on behavior such that a Christian, a Jew, a muslim, a hindu, and an atheist will all behave the same way in the same circumstances? Hardly. Taking a Christian, a Jew, a muslim, a hindu, and an atheist raised at the same time in the same culture, we will see clear behavioral differences. Simply considering meat consumption, the Christian and atheist won't have religiously determined dietary restrictions, muslims will eat only halal meat, most Jews will only eat kosher meat, and many hindus will eat no meat at all. Changing religions often changes dietary preferences. Thus, whether one eats bacon or beef is not biologically or culturally determined: choice is involved. Here we see that culture and religion influence behavior apart from mere chemistry, but culture, religion, and chemistry affect but don't determine our behavior.

Nevertheless, the opinion of that scientist and others like her, that human free will is an illusion and that chemistry uniquely governs our behavior, is likely to gain traction since moderating factors like religion and authentic culture are having less and less influence as time marches on. We are less religious and less fervent in religious observance than we were in the recent past. Our culture has become more and more violent, polarized, depraved, and even demonic. We tolerate evils, such as abortion, deviant behavior, and gender degeneracy, that even the vastly immoral regimes of the recent and not so recent past would hardly have tolerated. But with weakened religious compasses and a wicked culture, we are likely to fall for the deception that man is merely a chemical being.

If we fall for this deception, then we will see more and more immorality that becomes socially acceptable. We might even come to the false conclusion that heinous crimes like murder, rape, torture, and child abuse carry no moral stigma at all. This sounds unlikely, but given where our culture has gone in the last twenty years, can we really say becoming even more tolerant of evil is impossible?

If life is just mere chemistry, then human life ceases to be sacred. Murder is just ending one instance of self-aware chemistry. Silencing unwanted opinions becomes mere thought hygiene. Owning other people becomes a reasonable and practical thing if we are just self-aware chemistry. If this sounds outlandish, just consider abortion, supposedly the cure of the 'disease' of pregnancy and the removal of a 'blob of cells.' Or, consider the creation and handling of human embryos in the lab. These embryos – tiny human beings with a mother and a father – become mere property, a mere means to an end. These human embryos are frozen as if they were burritos or pizza. And they are discarded or abandoned with greater ease than we might discard or abandon frozen burritos or pizza.

If our behavior is determined by chemistry, then the evil we do is also just the result of chemistry. Chemistry in and of itself is amoral, neither moral or immoral, so our acts, no matter how repulsive or heinous, are amoral too if man can be reduced to mere chemistry. Hopefully we don't fall for this lie, hopefully we never surrender the truth that human life is nothing less than sacred. - Fr Booth