

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*February 12th/February 13th 2022: 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
Septuagesima (Latin)*



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

**E-mail: church@myblessedsacrament.org
Website: 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.

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 Alexander Salillas, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from February 13th until February 19th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Gary Wolter from February 20th until February 26th.

MORNING WITH MARY: All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, February 19th. Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m., there will be confession during adoration, followed by benediction at about 9:10 a.m., and concluding with a Latin Mass at 9:15 a.m.

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

WELCOME SR LUZ: We have a new sister, Sr Luz, who arrived this week. Please welcome her. She will be replacing Sr Clara who will be returning to Brazil in March.

ALL MEN INTERESTED IN A PRIESTLY VOCATION are invited by the Office of Vocations to a Priesthood Discernment Weekend for single men ages 18-40 years. It will be from Friday, February 18th to Sunday, February 20th at Casa Maria. To register or for more information, go to birminghamvocations.com

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.

2022 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 Palm Sunday (Sunday, April 10th) with the addition of Holy Thursday (Thursday, April 14th), Pentecost (Sunday, June 5th), Corpus Christi (Thursday, June 16th), Christ the King (Sunday, October 30th), All Saints (Tuesday, November 1st), and Immaculate Conception (Thursday, December 8th).

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS for 2021 have been mailed.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES for 2022, arranged alphabetically, are in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

FIRST COMMUNION DATE: For 2022, First Communion is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, May 15th.

CONFIRMATION DATE: Our next confirmation is planned for Spring of 2023.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week and the previous week was \$9359 and \$1030 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, Feb 12: 4:00 p.m. † Marguerite Ullman (by Paul Clemens)
Sun, Feb 13: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Rumore Family (by the Tyler Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Grace Gagnon (by the Jones Family)
Mon, Feb 14: *8:30 a.m. † Eugene Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
Tues, Feb 15: *8:30 a.m. † Eugene Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
Wed, Feb 16: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Sr Mary Agatha (by the Jones Family)
*8:30 a.m. † Larry Morris (by Cathy Schauer)
Thur, Feb 17: *8:30 a.m. † Mary Cavanaugh (by Helen Brandley)
Fri, Feb 18: *7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Lori Donelan (by Grace Gagnon)
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Grace Hill (by Mary Margaret Rumore)
Sat, Feb 19: 9:15 a.m. Special Intention for Robert Hill (by Mary Margaret Rumore)
4:00 p.m. † Mary Cavanaugh (by Carolyn Mickel)
Sun, Feb 20: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Moe Luyben (by Mary Margaret Rumore)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Zachary Hill (by Mary Margaret Rumore)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Gloria Archambault, 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

4:00 p.m. 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time 1Sm 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23, 1Cor 15:45-49, Lk 6:27-38
7:30 a.m. Sexagesima 2Cor 11:19-12:9, Lk 8:4-15
9:00 a.m. 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time 1Sm 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23, 1Cor 15:45-49, Lk 6:27-38
10:45 a.m. Sexagesima 2Cor 11:19-12:9, Lk 8:4-15

The Persistence of Truth

As social creatures, it should not be too surprising that various social media have become a huge part of many people's lives. Email, facepage, instawhatever, tweets, youtube, and perhaps others have become the primary source of information for many people, largely supplanting newspapers and the evening news. About 40 years ago, we saw cable news go to a 24-7 format, which truly came into its own during the First Gulf War where we were able to see real-time reporting of the air and ground war. Prior to that, however, it was newspapers, broadcast TV news, and various weekly news magazines that would cover stories in greater depth than other news outlets. These news magazines, some dating back to the 1930s, were the most popular magazines for decades. In Germany their premiere news magazine, *Der Spiegel*, was so anticipated every week that the typical publication day, Saturday, became known as *Der Spiegel Saturday*.

The new media, the social media, is chock full of all sorts of things that are hardly edifying. In fact the amount of gossip, slander, and detraction is shocking. Reputations have been ruined and some have been driven to suicide because of slander and cyber bullying. Calls for social media censorship, however, have not really been too concerned about damaged reputations or even suicide. No, the primary emphasis today on censoring people on social media has much more to do with silencing voices that contradict the official narrative. Anyone questioning the safety of the covid vaccines is deemed a nut job anti-vaxxer and will be deleted from social media for the sake of the 'truth.' True experts in vaccines and medical science are being canceled because they question the narrative. Dr. Robert Malone, the inventor of the mRNA vaccine technology, has been vilified for pointing out how the vaccines are not working and for questioning their safety. Likewise, honest working people concerned about their liberty are being branded as white supremacists, neo-nazis, misogynists, treasonous, and just about every other pejorative label. The truckers in Canada, and now a growing number of other countries, are calling for the end to the vaccine mandates which have proven ineffective and have set up means of discrimination. Instead of addressing the protest, the politicians prefer lies, slander, and demonization.

But if the politicians are right as they claim to be, why resort to attacking those who disagree? Why silence those trying to bring the truth to light? It would seem that some politicians have become drunk with power, having more power than the Constitution grants them. For them the truth is something to be manipulated and managed, the truth is what the powers that be say it is.

None of this is compatible with the faith. Slander, detraction, calumny, and demonization are all sins. Creating false narratives and suppressing the truth are sins as well. No one can sin and do so for a cause no matter how important or how just the cause might be. No one can knowingly endanger the health and wellbeing of another by compelling the vaccination especially when the vaccination carries risks that are being hidden or even for risks that have yet to be quantified. Vaccines take 10 or more years for approval so that issues like cancer, fertility, and other longterm effects can be quantified. To tell people that the vaccination is perfectly safe for adults is a lie and it is all the more egregious to say that young children should be vaccinated based on a few months of rushed clinical trials.

These truths will continue to bubble to the surface despite the cancellation and demonization of those wanting the truth to come out. The truth has a nasty habit of persisting despite mankind's best efforts to suppress it. The Church is living proof of this. The Gospel could not be destroyed by murdering Jesus or His Apostles. The Romans could not destroy it despite hundreds of years of persecution. The barbarian hordes could not kill the faith even after raiding, pillaging, and occupying much of Christendom. The muslims could not supplant the faith despite hundreds of years of trying to convert Christians at sword point. Napoleon tried and failed. The Nazis tried and failed. The Soviets tried and failed. Today's wannabe dictators will try and they will fail just like everyone else. Even persecution from within the Church will not destroy it. Jesus promised that the gates of hell will not overcome Church. We need to take this promise to heart especially in an age where the truth is unwelcome. If vaccine opponents taste persecution today, those who practice the Gospel may taste it soon enough.

- Fr Booth