

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

March 12th/March 13th 2022: Second Sunday of Lent



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Birmingham, Alabama 35211**

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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.

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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 Crawford Mabee, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from March 13th to March 19th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Bessie K. Lawrence from March 20th until March 26th.

WELCOME SR ISABEL: Again we are blessed with a new sister, Sr Isabel, who arrived last week. Please welcome her.

REFINISHING THE BALDACHIN: The Bishop has approved the professional polishing of the bronze baldachin over the High Altar. Work has begun and should take three to four weeks.

NO MORNING WITH MARY: Due to work on the baldachin, there will be no third Saturday Morning with Mary devotions this month.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: We will have Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m. during the Fridays of Lent (Stations on Good Friday, April 15th it will be at 2:30 p.m.).

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).

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week and the previous week was \$12,437, \$275 was donated to the Preservation Fund, and \$1084 given for the Black and Indian Missions. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

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

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

Sat, Mar 12: 4:00 p.m. † Jonathan Riddle (by Linda Miller)
Sun, Mar 13: 7:30 a.m. † Charlie Carruba (by Cathy Schauer)
9:00 a.m. † Charlie Carruba (by Ann Noblitt and Ginny Daniel)
10:45 a.m. Pro Populo
Mon, Mar 14: *8:30 a.m. † Wynn Ostlie (by the Bryant Family)
Tues, Mar 15: *8:30 a.m. † Wynn Ostlie (by Ann Noblitt and Ginny Daniel)
Wed, Mar 16: *7:00 a.m. † John Fay (by Terry and Charlotte Rumore)
*8:30 a.m. Private Intention
Thur, Mar 17: *8:30 a.m. † Julie Wang Kelly (by Kevin E. Kelly)
Fri, Mar 18: *7:00 a.m. Private Intention
*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Cathy Fehr (by the Rumore Family)
Sat, Mar 19: 4:00 p.m. † Charlie Carruba (by the Bryant Family)
Sun, Mar 20: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Judy Rohling (by the Rumore Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Beth & Eddie Mathews (by Terry & Charlotte 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, 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. Third Sunday of Lent	Ex 3:1-8,13-15, 1Cor 10:1-6,10-12, Lk 13:1-9
7:30 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Eph 5:1-9, Lk 11:14-28
9:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Ex 3:1-8,13-15, 1Cor 10:1-6,10-12, Lk 13:1-9
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Eph 5:1-9, Lk 11:14-28

Transfiguration

Occasionally we have something happen to us or we witness an event that is deeply profound or even life-changing. The event just cries out to be shared with others, sharing our joys or our sorrows. Yet such events might be very difficult to share with others. Our ability to convey the event to someone who has not had a similar experience can be very difficult. We might not have the capacity to describe what we have experienced or it might be the case that there are just no adequate words.

No verbal account of natural childbirth can tell a man what it is like to give birth. A father can be beside his wife, but he can only have a theoretical understanding of childbirth. Likewise, it would probably be very difficult to describe combat. Even though there are thousands of war movies, most fail to describe the actual experience of war. Social decorum and limited technology keep war films from describing the truth about war. But even when a director chooses to portray the horrors of war and if technology permits, the movie will still fall short. 'Saving Private Ryan' attempted to show the reality of the D-Day landings, it still fell short of the true horrors of what happened on those beaches.

Childbirth and war, dramatic as they are, are worldly events that defy accurate description. Imagine how Peter, James, and John would have struggled to describe Jesus' Transfiguration. This was no worldly event. Only these three men have seen Jesus in all of His glory, have seen Moses and Elijah centuries after their deaths, and heard the Father speak from the luminous cloud. Peter, James, and John were all simple men. None of them were highly educated, none of them had the gift of poetic expression, and as far as we know, none of them had the eye of an artist. So the evangelists could only say that Jesus' face was dazzling and that His clothes were radiant. No doubt these words fall quite short.

In our own lives, when we try to explain profound events and our explanation is not working we have to say or they think 'you had to be there.' In a certain way, Peter is saying this even before the Transfiguration is even over. He says to Jesus "*Lord, it is good that we are here!*" and then offers to build tents for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. Being there on the mountaintop with Jesus, Moses, and Elijah is just too wonderful not to prolong. Peter wants this vision to last indefinitely and he might have wanted to go back down the mountain to bring the other disciples back to see this wondrous spectacle. The Transfiguration is too good a thing not to prolong and too good a thing not to share.

Peter did not want to have to say to Andrew, Matthew, and the rest of the Apostles 'You had to be there.' We suspect that they wanted to share the experience with the others because Jesus commands "*Don't tell anyone of the vision until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.*" Peter, James, and John not only were unable to describe what they had seen, they were not allowed to share this experience.

But what about the experience did they want to share with others? Was it the transfigured Jesus? Or was it seeing Moses and Elijah? But because Peter, James, and John are so caught up in the heavenly vision they fail to hear what Jesus says to Moses and Elijah, which might have been the most important aspect of the entire event, thus the Father rebukes them saying "*This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.*" This rebuke applies to us as well. Many people want the heavenly, glorified Jesus but do not want to deal with the less glorious things such as Jesus' ordinary human life, His teachings, His hard teachings, His suffering, and His agonizing death. In other words, they want Easter without the events the lead up to the Resurrection.

Peter, James, and John needed to see the Transfiguration so that they would not lose hope. We need to taste the life of Jesus, listen attentively to Jesus' teachings, and join our suffering to His so that we do not fall for false hopes. We can't just skip the life of a disciple, we can't ditch our own crosses. We have to be there, we have to live it ourselves.

We cannot rely on the description of others regarding what it is like to be a disciple. We have to be there, we have to live it. If we want to see the glorified Jesus, if we want to say with Peter "*Lord, it is good that we are here!*", if we want to dwell in the heavenly tents Jesus is preparing for each of us, then we have to listen to Jesus and live the life that He has taught us.

- Fr Booth