

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

April 2nd / April 3rd 2022: Fifth Sunday of Lent
First Passion Sunday (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.

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 Theodore Curtis, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from April 3rd to April 9th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Betty Curtis from April 10th until April 16th.

REFINISHING THE BALDACHIN: Work on the baldachin is completed.

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.).

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

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE: The bishop has not given permission for two Masses on Holy Thursday and two liturgies on Good Friday, which is what we have done in the past. This year we will have Holy Thursday Mass in Latin at 6:30 p.m., Good Friday liturgy in Latin at 3:00 p.m., and the Easter Vigil in English at 8:00 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 \$5937 and \$1730 was donated to the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

FIRST COMMUNION DATE: For 2022, First Communion is scheduled for Sunday, May 15th. A there will be a rehearsal on Saturday, 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, Apr 2:	8:30 a.m.	Private Intention
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Lena Clare Cook (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, Apr 3:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Runge Family (by the Hahn Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for the Mathews Family (by the Hahn Family)
Mon, Apr 4:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Anna Grace Rumore (by the Hahn Family)
Tues, Apr 5:	*8:30 a.m.	† Margaret Smith (by the Hahn Family)
Wed, Apr 6:	*7:00 a.m.	† Margaret Smith (by the Hall Family)
	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Ella Rose Morrow (by the Duvall Family)
Thur, Apr 7:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Helena Marie Ducote (by the Duvall Family)
Fri, Apr 8:	*7:00 a.m.	Special Intention for the Andrew Duryea (by the Duvall Family)
	8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Runge Family (by the Hall Family)
Sat, Apr 8:	4:00 p.m.	† Charlie Carruba (by Carolyn Mickel)
Sun, Apr 10:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for the Mathews Family (by the Hall Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Mary Claire Mathews (by Alysa Tyler)

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. Passion (Palm) Sunday	Isa 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Lk 22:14-23:56
7:30 a.m. Passion (Palm) Sunday	Phil 2:5-11, Mt 26:36-27:60
9:00 a.m. Passion (Palm) Sunday	Isa 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Lk 22:14-23:56
10:45 a.m. Passion (Palm) Sunday	Phil 2:5-11, Mt 26:36-27:60

Hypocrisy

Hemphill Elementary is located just a few blocks from the church on Cotton Avenue. It has been around for quite some time and even has origins that predate our parish. One of the things that has bothered me for a long time is that there is no school zone on any of the four streets surrounding this elementary school. With the speed limit on both Tuscaloosa and Cotton Avenues being 35 mph, having traffic slow down near the school makes sense. Every other school that I am aware of has a school zone where the speed limit drops to 20 or 25 mph. In any case, I was delighted to see that they have just installed school zone signs on Cotton Avenue that will hopefully become operational soon.

One is left to wonder why there was no school zone there before. An oversight? It escaped the attention of the teachers, the parents, the administrators, the school district, and the City of Birmingham for decades? Likewise, one is left to wonder why there is one now. Did someone finally come to their senses? Was there a close-call involving a child? Was a child injured? One hopes it did not require a child to be endangered or even seriously injured for someone to act. Surely the parents, teachers, and school administrators care for these children. The school district ought to care, and the same goes for the City of Birmingham. The lack of attention on someone's part is at least negligence or perhaps total indifference. Whoever might have failed could hardly be honest as to why there was no school zone there before. How could they say that they did not care? How could they say they were indifferent to the safety of children? How could they say that children elsewhere in the city deserve such a safety feature as a school zone but the kids attending Hemphill do not?

Whether it was indifference or negligence, it can also be surmised that hypocrisy was also a factor. Again, anyone responsible for the presence or absence of this school zone would never say that safety for children was not an important priority. When there is a disconnect between what we say or believe and what we actually do, or when we condemn or criticize a behavior in others that we also engage in, then we are dealing with hypocrisy. Hypocrisy is widespread and no one is immune. Many politicians in Washington are responsible for our high gas prices and inflation but blame Vladimir Putin as if Putin has more power over our economy than our politicians do. The Church has been chiding the world to pay workers a dignified living wage while the Church herself regularly underpays its lay employees. Some politicians want to disarm the American citizen and defund the police while at the same time enjoying the safety that comes with being surrounded by armed guards. Rich environmentalists will go to climate change conferences in their private jets. The American bishops institute child protection measures that don't apply to them. And so on and on and on.

So, why do we say or believe one thing and end up doing something contrary to what we say or believe? Human weakness is a factor. A man might be happily married but still looks immodestly at other women. Pride is certainly a factor. A politician might think he is more valuable or more important than the people and thus deserves special treatment and exemptions from the rules. Rationalization is certainly a factor. It was a common practice in the days of Jesus' ministry for people to dedicate some of their wealth to the Temple as a sacrifice (korban) but retain the use of the property until a later date, such as their death. That which is dedicated now but offered later could not be used by anyone else, thus a son could withhold financial support from his mother or father because he had dedicated his money to the Temple. The rationalization was that since the money was offered to God, this was a higher duty than to support mere humans such as parents. This rationalization results in a violation of the Fourth Commandment as Jesus points out in Matthew 15:1-6.

We also need to be on the lookout for hypocrisy in our lives because it undermines our Christian witness. The man with a Christian-themed bumper sticker on his car but drives like a demon is hardly witnessing to the faith. The woman who claims to be devout but will miss Mass on a regular basis is hardly witnessing to the faith. The young man who regularly takes the Lord's name in vain is hardly witnessing to the faith. And so on and on and on.

- Fr Booth