

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

Aug 20<sup>th</sup>/Aug 21<sup>st</sup> 2022: 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (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: Saturday 3:30-3:55 p.m., Sunday 7:00-7:25, 8:30-8:55, and 10:15- 10:40 a.m.

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, to aid in the social distancing, and continues 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.”

**NOTE ON PARISH EMAIL:** If an email is sent to the church through the parish website, it is more than likely to be considered as spam by the parish email. It is recommended that emails should be sent from your own email account. You may have to resend recent emails.

**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 Helen Von Hagel, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from August 21<sup>st</sup> to August 27<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Kathryn Mabee from August 28<sup>th</sup> until September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**REST IN PEACE:** Dr. James Bonner passed away on August 13<sup>th</sup> and will be laid to rest at a future date. 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.

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

**PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS:** Please pray for our seminarians: Daniel Sessions, 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 Sunday with the addition of All Saints Day (Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>), and Immaculate Conception (Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>).

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$9182 and \$175 was donated to the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

**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, Aug 20: 4:00 p.m. Special Intention for the Gaudet Family (by the Donellan Family)
- Sun, Aug 21: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Pinter Family (by the Donellan Family)
- 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Deacon Terry & Rita Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
- Mon, Aug 22: 8:30 a.m. † Fr Henry McDaid
- Tues, Aug 23: 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Smith Family (by the Donellan Family)
- Wed, Aug 24: 7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Dominic Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
- 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Eddie Mathews (by the Donellan Family)
- Thur, Aug 25: 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Fr Augustine Tran (by Sophie Henderson)
- Fri, Aug 26: 7:00 a.m. † Fr Christopher Roberts
- 8:30 a.m. † Ronnie Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
- Sat, Aug 27: 4:00 p.m. † Ronnie Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
- Sun, Aug 28: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Carolyn Watson (by the Juneau Family)
- 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:45 a.m. † Zelf Williamson (by the Donellan Family)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Michael Nolan Griffin, Sam Montalbano, Gloria Archambault, Don Williams, Matthew Clune Sr., Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Gail McMahan, Gracimo Ribeiro Bento, Bob Wiseman, Eve Moore, Aaron Minjares, Bill Dinan, Carol Brandley, Eddie Hunter, Lawrence Brandley, 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. 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of OT Sir 3:17-18,20,28-29, Heb 12:18-19,22-24,11-13, Lk 14:1, 7-14
- 7:30 a.m. 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 2Cor 3:4-9, Lk 10:23-37
- 9:00 a.m. 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of OT Sir 3:17-18,20,28-29, Heb 12:18-19,22-24,11-13, Lk 14:1, 7-14
- 10:45 a.m. 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 2Cor 3:4-9, Lk 10:23-37

## *Is God Indifferent?*

Many people think that God, if they acknowledge His existence, is pretty much hands off when it comes to what happens on earth. Given some the images that have come from a new satellite, the James Webb Space Telescope, it might be easy to understand why people feel this way. Images from the previous space telescope, Hubble, suggested a mind-boggling 100 billion galaxies in the universe. From the very first image from the James Webb Telescope, a calibration image meant to help focus the lenses, the estimate of the number of galaxies jumped to over 200 billion. That one image, with the telescope focused on a single star, revealed hundreds of galaxies in the background. As more images come from the James Webb Telescope, it is likely that the number of galaxies in the known universe might approach 500 billion or even a trillion. And given that there are about 100 billion stars in a typical galaxy, and even more planets than that, one can think that God might not be too tremendously focused on what does or does not happen here on earth. We are but one planet among something like a trillion trillion in the universe. But God is infinite, and a trillion trillion is minuscule relative to infinity.

The sense that God is largely unaware of or disinterested in human affairs is hardly a new concept. Deists, people who believe in God but less from the testimony of the Bible than from the workings of nature, saw God as the cosmic watchmaker, having made the watch and set it in motion but otherwise uninvolved in the function of the watch. While some ancients might be described as deists, deism became popular not long before the American Revolution. Some famous examples include George Washington, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, Ethan Allen, Voltaire, Thomas Edison, Thomas Jefferson, Victor Hugo, Adam Smith, Thomas Paine, and Neil Armstrong. Others argue that God does not care or does not exist because of the evils in the world. They reason that a good God would not allow cancer or war or famine or slavery or genocide and any number of other evils. That these things exist is evidence, at least in their opinion, of God's indifference or nonexistence.

There are several things wrong with this reasoning. The first of which is that we give ourselves a pass while holding God responsible for the evil in the world. How is God responsible for slavery or genocide? Famine in modern times has more to do with man's inhumanity to man than anything else. Our current pandemics can be chalked up to man as well. Covid-19 is almost certainly a product of genetic engineering and monkey pox could have been halted within the first month of the outbreak. If medical authorities and governments insisted on behavior modification for Covid – masks, social distancing, quarantining, shutdowns, etc. – then why have there been almost no calls for behavior modification regarding monkey pox when this disease's spread can be stopped quite easily? Many evils are on us, not God.

But if God does step in and correct things in both large and small ways, should we be too surprised that He steps in to apply other forms of correction, forms of correction that seem evil to us? What child likes to be disciplined? But a child needs to understand that there are consequences for his actions. God has been patient with man, but His patience has limits. The Great Flood was brought on by man's wickedness. The subjugation of the Israelites under a number of pagan nations was brought on by their infidelity to the covenant. Ten tribes were conquered and exiled by the Assyrians never to reestablish their tribes or their place in the Promised Land. The other two tribes were defeated by the Babylonians and were exiled to Babylon also due to infidelity, but returned after 70 years to reestablish themselves, reoccupy the Promised Land, and rebuild the Temple.

Indeed, we need to see the evils that confront us, whether they are natural, manmade, or part of God's discipline for our behavior, as opportunities to choose God or reject Him. Ten of the Twelve Tribes rejected Him, two chose to return to God. After the holocaust, many Jews chose to reject God, others returned to Him. During Covid, many Christians walked away from God, some have deepened their commitment to living out their faith. No matter the source or what the trial or tribulation might be, it is an occasion to seek God or flee further from Him.

- Fr Booth