

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>/December 4<sup>th</sup> 2022: Second Sunday of Advent**



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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.”

**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 Hazel Melendez, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from December 4<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Edward Von Hagel, Jr. from December 11<sup>th</sup> until December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**ADVENT PROJECT:** During Advent, we will collect blankets and coats for the Catholic Center of Concern. Please place the coats and blankets in the back of the Church near the statue of St Therese.

**ADVENT ANGEL TREE:** We have an Advent Angel Tree this year that will benefit a number of truly needy families in our local communality. Please bring the gift items back with the angel tag attached by Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRST SUNDAY:** This Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. There will be potluck brunch following the 9:00 Mass.

**DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:** Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a holy day of obligation. We will have Masses in English at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. A High Latin Mass will be offered on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 a.m.

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:** Since Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, we will have our normal 4:00 p.m., 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 10:45 a.m. Mass schedule for Christmas.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES:** Our pledge goal this year is \$20,000. Almost all money raised through this annual appeal remains within the diocese. As of mid-October, we have pledged about \$14,600 (73%) of our parish goal.

**PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS:** Please pray for our seminarians: Deacon Daniel Sessions, Patrick DePew, Max Gallegos, John Gardiner, Collins Hess, John Paul Stepnowski, Andrew Vickery, Hunter Limbaugh, Adam Sellers, Francisco Rodriguez, Justin Brouillette, Cameron Huhlein, Patrick Letterle, Wilson Moin, 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 Immaculate Conception (Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>).

**TENTATIVE FIRST COMMUNION DATE:** For 2023, Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> has been identified as the date for First Communion.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$5656 and \$475 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, Dec 3: 6:15 a.m. † Juan F. Jimenez (by the Donellan Family)  
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for John Paul Hahn (by the Donellan Family)

Sun, Dec 4: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Marc Ayers (by the Donellan Family)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Jacob Duryea (by the Donellan Family)

Mon, Dec 5: \*8:30 a.m. Private Intention

Tues, Dec 6: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Patrick Yaeger (by the Donellan Family)

Wed, Dec 7: \*7:00 a.m. Special Intention for Theresa Shields (by the Donellan Family)  
\*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Alex Brueggen (by the Donellan Family)  
6:00 p.m. Special Intention for Elena Bull (by the Donellan Family)

Thur, Dec 8: 8:30 a.m. Pro Populo  
6:30 p.m. Special Intention for Lauren Preiss (by the Donellan Family)

Fri, Dec 9: \*7:00 a.m. † Bobby Doyle (by the Bryant Family)  
\*8:30 a.m. † Charlie Carruba by Helen Brandley)

Sat, Dec 10: 4:00 p.m. † Tony Morris (by the Bryant Family)

Sun, Dec 11: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Terry Rumore (by the Rumore Family)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Charlie Rumore (by Allison Rumore)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Lisa DeKam Nicholls, Sam Montalbano, Gloria Archambault, Don Williams, Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Gail McMahon, 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, 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 Advent	Isa 35:1-6,10, James 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11
7:30 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent	Phil 4:4-7, Jn 1:19-28
9:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent	Isa 35:1-6,10, James 5:7-10, Mt 11:2-11
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent	Phil 4:4-7, Jn 1:19-28

## *Patient Preparation*

All through our society people are rushing headlong into Christmas. We have been doing it for some time already. A local big box store had Christmas paraphernalia on display in early-September this year, not long after Labor Day. Many people have already attended a Christmas party or similar function even though we have just entered in the month of December. Given the commercial push to Christmas, one of the realities we Christians must always bear in mind is that the Advent season is a time for preparation. Advent is not pre-Christmas any more than Lent is pre-Easter. We have not lost the truth that Lent is a penitential season preceding Easter, but Advent increasingly has nothing to do with penitential preparation for the coming of Christ. Instead, we are increasingly jumping the gun to festivity. Advent is a time to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' first coming and to prepare for His second coming, not turning Christmas into a month-long (or longer) celebration.

The Apostles and first disciples waited in eager expectation for Jesus' return. They were convinced that He would return soon after He ascended into heaven and they conducted themselves accordingly. Jesus' own words fostered belief in His rapid return and the coming of the end of time. Christians have now been waiting and preparing for nearly 2000 years. And yet His imminent return is as likely today as it was during the lifetimes of the Apostles. In fact, there has been no period in those last twenty centuries where Jesus was more or less likely to return. Indeed, Jesus frequently chastises the Apostles, and us as well, not to grow complacent or even sleepy in the vigil for His return. That we jump the gun to Christmas is a symptom of complacency, basking in past glory while overlooking vigilance regarding what will happen in the future. How can we wait in eager expectation for an event that we are not preparing for? In our impatience we gravitate toward past glories instead of preparing for an event that may or may not happen in our lifetimes. We may not be patient, but God is.

St Paul tells of the Lord' patience when he writes "*But for that reason I was mercifully treated, so that in me, as the foremost [sinner], Christ Jesus might display all his patience as an example for those who would come to believe in him for everlasting life*" (1Tim 1:16). In like manner, St Peter's Second Epistle also speaks of God's patience: "*The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard delay, but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance*" (2Pet 3:9). Thus, the delay in Jesus' return is geared ultimately to the salvation of souls. He bides His time so as to save souls. After all, had Jesus returned a hundred years ago, who of us would have come into being, who of us would have tasted existence let alone salvation?

So, if the God of patience chooses the end of the world to be soon or in the distant future, we must embrace the need for being prepared here and now as well as the need to be patient. If God is patient, we must also be patient as well.

As Americans, patience is not something most of us find to be easy and it certainly does not come naturally for many people. It is safe to say that most people are impatient to one degree or another. And most people don't see a degree of impatience as necessarily a bad thing. That it is part of being ambitious, that it is part of being driven might be the rationalization for overlooking our own impatience. While we will tend to give ourselves a pass with regard to having some impatience, we are much more likely to see even well tempered and controlled impatience in others as untoward, unseemly, or even as a vice. For this reason, we need to hearken back to what Sts Peter and Paul say about God's patience. After all, if God's patience with us is for the sake of the salvation of souls, can't we say that our patience with one another has something to do with our salvation and more than likely their salvation as well?

So as we prepare for the Advent of Jesus, let us strive to grow in the virtue of patience. Growing in patience is not just a good idea and a lofty goal: it can be linked to becoming more Christ-like. And since God's patience with us is for the sake of the salvation of souls, let us join in His patience and help advance the cause of our own salvation and the salvation of the world. - Fr Booth