

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

*June 10<sup>th</sup>/June 11<sup>th</sup> 2023: Corpus Christi (English)  
Second Sunday After Pentecost (Latin)*



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

**E-mail: [church@myblessedsacrament.org](mailto:church@myblessedsacrament.org)  
Website: [www.myblessedsacrament.org](http://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, Wednesday, and Friday**

**Latin Weekday Masses: 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 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 a.m., to aid in 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.

**REST IN PEACE:** Victoria Sanderson, daughter of Victor and Bea Sanderson, passed away on June 7<sup>th</sup> and was laid to rest on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Eternal rest has been granted unto her and perpetual light now shines upon her. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**IN MEMORIAM:** For Julia V. Bryant, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from 11<sup>th</sup> until June 17<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Julia N.V. Woods from June 18<sup>th</sup> until June 24<sup>th</sup>.

**MORNING WITH MARY:** All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. 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 about 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.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:** “Come Drink the Water of Renewed Love.” Give your marriage the gift of attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – a weekend-long retreat focusing on each other, find deeper intimacy, rekindle your romance, and revitalize your marriage – and leave with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy. From June 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> at John Carroll Catholic High School. Meals are provided but overnight accommodations are not. You can get more information or register online at [www.wvme.org](http://www.wvme.org).

**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.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$6072 and \$880 was donated to the Preservation Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

**NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS:** There is about a 6-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, June 10: 4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Clem and Alice Muck (by the Duvall Family)  
Sun, June 11: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Alexandra Erickson (by the Duvall Family)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. † Jame Danos (by Ed & Susan Fay)  
Mon, June 12: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Doug Duvall (by the Duvall Family)  
Tues, June 13: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Richard & Patricia LaHood (by Axelson Family)  
Wed, June 14: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Kathy Paffumi (by Monica Duvall)  
Thur, June 15: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Emily Lawshe (by Monica Duvall)  
Fri, June 16: \*8:30 a.m. † Therese Gagnon (by the Tyler Family)  
Sat, June 17: 9:15 a.m. † Rita Carlyle (by the Juneau Family)  
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Bridget Bascon (by the Lang Family)  
Sun, June 18: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Nicholas Hardin (by the Lang Family)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. † Jose and Margarita Minjares (by John Minares)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Paul Trussel, Paul Caruso, Madeline Sampedro, Jeff Brown, Mary Simmons, Linda Henry, ShaKendria Hooks, 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, Linda Cooper, Danny Rohling, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, Beverly Scroggins, William Scroggins, Lamar Smith, Wayne Little, Maria Morin, Andrea Little, Joseph Edwards, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, Thatcher Kerzie, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Kathleen Strawmeyer, and Stephanie Perry.

**NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS**

4:00 p.m. Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time	Exo 19:2-6, Rom 5:6-11, Mt 9:36-10:8
7:30 a.m. Third Sunday after Pentecost	1Pet 5:6-11, Lk 15:1-10
9:00 a.m. Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time	Exo 19:2-6, Rom 5:6-11, Mt 9:36-10:8
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday after Pentecost	1Pet 5:6-11, Lk 15:1-10

## *Really and Truly Present*

Why do we believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist, or rather, that the Eucharist is truly Jesus? To many Catholics today, however, this is no longer a question at all. They have concluded that the Eucharist is merely a symbol of Jesus' Body and Blood or that the Eucharist is simply a metaphor. This mistake is easy to make. Our senses tell us that only bread and wine are present, nothing more. But can we be so sure that our sight, our taste, our touch, and our smell are reliable in detecting the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ? Perhaps a case might be made that our senses could be able to discern the Lord's Body and Blood. At some point in our lives we have tasted and smelled our own blood through a nosebleed, an injury to the mouth, and number of other ways. Most of us have handled raw meat before, we know what it feels like what it looks like, and smells like, and we might have tasted rare, under cooked, or even perhaps raw meat before. Likewise, microscopes, mass spectrometers, and other instruments are able to analyze flesh in various ways, so the Eucharist ought to be subject to scientific inquiry, right? When it comes to the Lord's Soul and Divinity, however, there is no human sense or scientific instrument capable of detecting or even hinting at the presence of these in the Eucharist. What does a human soul look or taste like? What does divinity smell like? What is the chemical composition of a soul?

Alas, our senses will never respond to the presence of Jesus' Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. The same will be the case for scientific instruments. We can see why we will never detect the Soul and Divinity of Christ because these are non-physical realities. Our senses and scientific measurement are restricted to the physical universe and can say nothing about philosophical or spiritual categories. What does the square root of a number smell, taste, and feel like? We might say we can see the square root of a number, but only represented through symbols. How much does truth or beauty weigh? Does kindness have a smell? What is the width, breadth, or height of sadness, joy, or any other emotion? The square root of seventeen, truth, beauty, kindness, sadness, and joy are all real, truly real things that are beyond our senses and elude measurement because they are non-physical realities.

They are truly real but non-physical. They are not bound up in matter, they exist apart from the stuff that makes up this world. The very same thing can be said of Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist. It is, or more accurately, He is real but not of this world, not bound up in material elements. Again, this is obvious regarding His Soul and Divinity, but less so regarding the Lord's Body and Blood. We must remember that Jesus has a risen Body, a real body that is truly human but not subject to the forces, contingencies, and conditions of this world. Because it is supernatural His Body is no longer subject to death, decay, nor any form of change, such as suffering from pain, hunger, the cold, and so forth. No such claims can be made regarding a physical body, not one of us, no matter who we are, can say this. We bleed. We suffer. We change. We die. Indeed, if the Body and Blood of Jesus present in the Eucharist was physical, breaking or chewing the Host would cause Jesus to bleed, to feel pain, to suffer, and even to die again. If Jesus' resurrected Body was physical, He would still be able to suffer and die, which is utterly incompatible and offensive to Christian faith.

Many people suffer from a materialistic understanding of the world, reducing everything to human senses and scientific measurement. This view of reality is naive, it is unrealistic, it is ultimately unscientific. Jesus is present in the Eucharist in a non-physical, non-materialistic manner such that He is truly present but not physically. He is truly present spiritually, not in the sense of mere symbolism, nor present virtually, nor present by virtue of pious wishes. He is truly present sacramentally, that is, in a manner meant to convey grace to those who receive Him worthily.

Just as Jesus became one of us for the sake of our salvation, He comes to in the Eucharist for the same reason: "*Jesus said to them, 'Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day'*" (Jn 6:53-54).

- Fr Booth