

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

June 24th/June 25th 2023: Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

Fourth 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, 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.

IN MEMORIAM: For Mary and Sam Montalbano, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of their souls from June 25th until July 1st. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Mary and Sam Montalbano from July 2nd until July 8th.

SECOND COLLECTION: This Sunday there will be a second collection for the Mission Cooperative Appeal. This collection brings much needed help to specific dioceses and ministries located in various countries, such as Mexico, India, Cameroon, Nigeria, and Nicaragua.

FR BOOTH VACATION: Fr Booth will be on vacation from June 26th through June 30th and from July 3rd through July 7th. There will be no Masses at Blessed Sacrament Monday through Friday this week and the next week.

FIRST SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on July 1st. Altar server training and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

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

FIRST FRIDAY: Due to Fr Booth’s vacation, there will be no First Friday Masses or devotions on Friday, July 7th.

FATHER JAMES E. COYLE MEMORIAL MASS: Let us remember a holy priest killed in the line of duty. A memorial Mass will be offered on Friday, August 11th at 10:00 a.m. at St Paul’s. The celebrant of the Mass will be Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi, archbishop of Mobile who will be joined by Bishop Raica and priests from the diocese. The Mass will be followed by a reception and a reflection upon the life of Father Coyle.

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 \$8709 and \$1000 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: (*NO PUBLIC MASSES MON-FRI*)

Sat, June 24:	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Aurora Hardin (by the Lang Family)
Sun, June 25:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Marc Ross Payte (by the Lang Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Rose Sheffler (by the Lang Family)
Mon, June 26:		Private Intention (by Shannon Dunaway)
Tues, June 27:		Private Intention (by Shannon Dunaway)
Wed, June 28:		Private Intention (by Shannon Dunaway)
Thur, June 29:		Private Intention (by Shannon Dunaway)
Fri, June 30:		Private Intention (by Shannon Dunaway)
Sat, June 24:	4:00 p.m.	Private Intention (by Shannon Dunaway)
Sun, June 25:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Marc Ross Payte (by the Lang Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Rose Sheffler (by the Lang Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Susan Corsini, 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 McMahan, 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.	13 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	2Kings 4:8-11,14-16, Rom 6:3-4, 8-11, Mt 10:37-42
7:30 a.m.	5 th Sunday after Pentecost	1Pet 3:8-15, Mt 5:20-24
9:00 a.m.	13 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	2Kings 4:8-11,14-16, Rom 6:3-4, 8-11, Mt 10:37-42
10:45 a.m.	5 th Sunday after Pentecost	1Pet 3:8-15, Mt 5:20-24

Institutional Folly

Why would a well established beer brand adopt a spokesman so controversial, provocative, and divisive? It is not as if they have lacked for creative advertising in the past. Forty years of careful and insightful marketing instantly up in smoke. A brand that is new, obscure, or edgy might regard such a move as worth consideration. In doing so, they might become a household name and might increase their sales. Perhaps a brand that is on the verge of collapse would contemplate doing such a thing. After all, if you are minuscule or a has-been, what do you really have to lose? A moribund brand, whether because it has failed to succeed or it is in succeeding in failing, has almost nothing to lose. If a gambler is down to his last chip, there is no sense in suddenly playing safe. If he is up by fifty thousand dollars, however, it would be foolhardy to entertain unnecessary risks.

So why take such a foolish risk? We could ask the same of several well established retailers that have managed to offend their customers over the same indecent issue. With billions in sales lost and brands tarnished, what was there to be gained? There are other beers and retailers that can fulfill consumer demand, and it would seem people are taking their business elsewhere. In catering to 0.1% of the population, was it prudent to offend the other 99.9%? Or 80%? Or 20%? Or even 5%?

It is possible they might have presumed on the American spirit of forgiveness. We are more likely to forgive and forget than to hold a grudge. But why take that chance, especially when no apology comes forth? Even better, why have other beer brands, retailers, and other corporations, after having seen what happened to the sales and stock price of those who entertained this kind of indecent advocacy, decided to follow suit? Expecting a different result is one definition of crazy.

There has to be a reason for such self-destructive behavior. Simply put, that reason is fear. Are multibillion dollar businesses afraid of a few thousand men dressing up as and pretending to be women? Hardly. The current indecency is just a tool for elites to make businesses compliant to their agenda. Men in makeup and dresses are hardly the beneficiaries of this agenda: the elites could care less about them and probably hold these confused men in deep contempt. Indeed, corporations and individuals alike have been threatened for not kowtowing to the politically correct issue of the moment. This has been happening now for years. All that has changed are the wedge issues, the ferocity of the rhetoric, and the gravity of threats for noncompliance with the issue de jour.

People have been 'de-platformed' for telling the truth and for not complying with the elite's agenda. They have had their jobs threatened and even been fired for their beliefs. People have been arrested and tried for their values, values that are hardly on the fringe or illegal or immoral. For example, pro-life advocates have been arrested and persecuted many times, even here in Birmingham. A group of young people protested – legally – on public property about ten years ago were arrested strip searched, and imprisoned without charges. Many internet search engines won't allow you to find this story anymore. Individuals and companies alike have been refused loans, have had their credit cards canceled, have had their bank accounts closed, have had their bank accounts frozen, and have been denied legal counsel all for holding beliefs and opinions contrary to the elite narrative. With commerce becoming more and more digital, persecution becomes much easier and the threat much more real.

Fear has brought corporations to embrace immorality. The same can happen of us. We respond to fearful things in a number of ways. We confront fear, we retreat from the threat, we acquiesce, or we freeze or shut down. The only thing that those instilling fear in others really fear is that they might encounter significant opposition. A street thug is much less likely to rob someone able to defend themselves physically or who might be armed.

Does this mean that we need to take up a martial art or pack heat? That won't work against a bank that closes your accounts or a corrupt legal system. No, the Christian response to fear is twofold. First, we practice the virtues, especially prudence and fortitude. Second, we put the worldly threats and the fear that they engender in perspective. Are we to fear the persecution threatened by the elites and their minions, or are we fear God's wrath?

- Fr Booth