

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

July 22nd/July 23rd 2023: Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
Eighth 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 Beverly Grisham, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from July 23rd to July 29th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Eugene Mason from July 30th until August 5th.

THIS COMING FIRST SUNDAY: For the First Sunday in August, instead of having coffee and donuts, there will be a potluck breakfast following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. So bring your favorite breakfast cassarole or dish to share after Mass on Sunday, August 6th. The normal First Sunday coffee and donut routine will resume again in September.

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 Cathedral. This year the celebrant of the Mass will be Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi, archbishop of Mobile. Archbishop Rodi will be joined by Bishop Raica and various priests from the diocese. The memorial 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: 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 \$3723 and \$200 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There is about a 7-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, July 22: 4:00 p.m. Private Intention
Sun, July 23: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Kay Deering (by the Rumore Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Myra Myers (by the Rumore Family)
Mon, July 24: *8:30 a.m. † Therese Gagnon (by Diane Penney)
Tues, July 25: *8:30 a.m. † Therese Gagnon (by Diane Penney)
Wed, July 26: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Angela Kerper (by Diane Penney)
Thur, July 27: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Greg Echols (by Diane Penney)
Fri, July 28: *8:30 a.m. † Therese Gagnon (by the Mathews Family)
Sat, July 29: 4:00 p.m. † Matthew Carter (by Helen Brandley)
Sun, July 30: 7:30 a.m. † Private Intention (by Helen Brandley)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Therese Gagnon (by the Charlotte and Terry Rumore Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Deacon Walter Henderson, Susan Corsini, Paul Trussel, Paul Caruso, Madeline Sampedro, Jeff Brown, Mary Simmons, Linda Henry, ShaKendria Hooks, Lisa DeKam Nicholls, 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

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| 4:00 p.m. 17 th Sunday of Ordinary Time | 1Kings 3:5,7-12, Rom 8:28-30, Mt 13:44-52 |
| 7:30 a.m. 9 th Sunday after Pentecost | 1Cor 10:6-13, Lk 19:41-47 |
| 9:00 a.m. 17 th Sunday of Ordinary Time | 1Kings 3:5,7-12, Rom 8:28-30, Mt 13:44-52 |
| 10:45 a.m. 9 th Sunday after Pentecost | 1Cor 10:6-13, Lk 19:41-47 |

More Dangerous Than Fear

Sometimes you really have to wonder. At a recent congressional hearing on governmental censorship of Americans, several of the witnesses invited to testify were openly attacked, vilified, and slandered in order to prevent them from relating their experiences of being censored. The slander was designed to disqualify the victims so that the slurs cast at them would make their testimony unworthy to be heard. Members of the federal government endeavored to silence victims of censorship in the name of claiming that the government does not censor. Wow. To do so on camera is even more amazing. The smarter thing to have done would be to feign compassion and understanding. ‘Really, someone tried to silence you? In these United States? That’s outrageous! We need to investigate this...’ They’d no doubt fail to investigate but be on the record of opposing any violation of the First Amendment. The slanderers made it clear that freedom of speech is for some but not for others.

If freedom of speech is under the gun, one might ask about our other personal First Amendment rights such as freedom to free exercise of religion and the freedom of assembly. Surely these rights are not threatened, right? According to many elected and non-elected officials, any practicing Catholic nominated to be a federal judge is essentially disqualified on that basis alone. They happily discard the First Amendment for the sake of protecting a false right, abortion, nowhere to be found in the federal Constitution. So much for freedom of religion. During the recent pandemic, were our right to assemble peaceably and our right to exercise our religion respected? Not so much. For the sake of the ‘common good’ our rights were curtailed and our bishops remained largely silent. Indeed, there is no ‘common good’ clause in the Bill of Rights that allows the government to alienate our inalienable rights. The smarter thing to have done would be for the bishops to dispense the vulnerable and the fearful from their Sunday obligation but otherwise carry on. Instead, Christians chose to bow down before the ‘common good’ in favor of giving the Supreme Good His due.

Maybe the response during the pandemic was a well intentioned mistake or a panicked over reaction. Perhaps, but probably not. A recent movie has received harsh criticism and outright opposition largely because of its subject matter. This movie highlights the evils of the trafficking of children. Critics have claimed that this is a minuscule or even a non-existent problem. Hardly. Child trafficking is a significant problem today, perhaps more so than ever before. Some critics have dismissed this movie as being a product or a promotion of a specific reviled conspiracy theory. Oddly, UFOs have rapidly ceased to be the realm of tinfoil-hat-wearing conspiracy theorists but have become a reasonable and respected belief despite the fact that no decent, clear, or compelling photograph has even been taken of a UFO. Surely given the one billion continuously-filming surveillance cameras in operation and over forty billion personal cameras in use today, billions of which are within arm’s reach at all times, one good, well-focused, and high-resolution snap of a flying saucer would exist. Zero UFO photos, yet there are an estimated 4 to 10 million children trafficked annually. One is a respectable belief, the other is a despicable conspiracy theory.

One would hope that our fundamental rights matter to everyone. If Fred’s rights are infringed, what protects the rights of Barney, Wilma, and Betty? One would hope that the trafficking of children and all of the horrors that surround it would be an issue that all would condemn and diligently seek to eliminate from every country and culture of the world. It might happen to your daughter, your niece, your granddaughter, your neighbor’s child or a complete stranger, but it should be, no it must be intolerable to anybody with a conscience and the slightest shred of human decency.

So, why do people turn a blind eye to the violation of people’s God-given civil rights? Why in the world would anyone be indifferent to child trafficking, minimize its reality, or even deny that it exists? We might think it is fear since fear brings out odd and atypical behavior. The reality is that a different emotion is at work here: disgust. Disgust is more dangerous than fear. Why? We naturally avoid fearful things, but we strive to eliminate disgusting things.

- Fr Booth