

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*August 19th/August 20th 2023: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)
12th Sunday After Pentecost*



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

**E-mail: church@myblessedsacrament.org
Website: 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.

IN MEMORIAM: For Helen Von Hagel, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from August 20th to August 26th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Howard Von Hagel from August 27th until September 2nd.

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.

PRO-LIFE FUNDRAISER: The National Day of Service theme for American Heritage Girls this year is Respect Life. Therefore, Troop AL1128 is hosting a “baby shower” and donating all items to Her Choice on Saturday, September 16th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., at the Our Lady of the Valley Social Hall. Items requested are: diapers (premie to size 6), new baby clothes (premie to 12 months), baby bottles, Similac, and baby hygiene products. Items can be dropped off on September 16th and 17th at the OLV church vestibles or brought to the baby shower. Drinks and cookies will be provided at the baby shower.

BINGO LUNCHEON: Everyone is invited to the St Elias Bingo Luncheon on Wednesday, September 27th, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and include a delicious Lebanese lunch and a free bingo card. They can be purchased at the door along with more bingo cards. Payment may be made by cash or check. Take-outs are available by calling ahead to (205) 837-5566. Free delivery will be made on orders of 10 or more lunches if they are called in on Monday or Tuesday (9/25 or 9/26). All proceeds will go to the orphanages in Lebanon who are in dire need of help. Call St. Elias as (205) 251-5057 for more information.

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, Joshua Callahan, Michael Masny, Ross Gilliland, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Nick Smith, and Dominic Rumore. May more good men to answer God’s call to the priesthood.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$4020 and \$1450 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, Aug 19: 9:15 a.m. † Zelf Williamson (by the Donellan Family)
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Fr Leonard Mary, MFVA (by the Donellan Family)
- Sun, Aug 20: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Wendy Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Charles Anthony & Elizabeth Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
- Mon, Aug 21: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Angie Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
- Tues, Aug 22: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Sandy Sublett (by the Donellan Family)
- Wed, Aug 23: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Eli Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
- Thur, Aug 24: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Jim & Kay Deering (by the Donellan Family)
- Fri, Aug 25: *8:30 a.m. † Bob Bryant (by the Byant Family)
- Sat, Aug 26: 4:00 p.m. † Julia V. Bryant (by the Byant Family)
- Sun, Aug 27: 7:30 a.m. † Jerry Bryant (by the Byant Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Dan & Stephanie Burke (by the Hahn Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Fr Michael Adams, Mary Jerabek, Sr Maria Lucis, Debbie Booth, Deacon Walter Henderson, Paul Trussel, Paul Caruso, Jeff Brown, Mary Simmons, Linda Henry, ShaKendria Hooks, Lisa DeKam Nicholls, 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. 21 th Sunday of Ordinary Time | Isa 22:19-23, Rom 11:33-36, Mt 16:13-20 |
| 7:30 a.m. 13 th Sunday After Pentecost | Gal 3:16-22, Lk 17:11-19 |
| 9:00 a.m. 21 th Sunday of Ordinary Time | Isa 22:19-23, Rom 11:33-36, Mt 16:13-20 |
| 10:45 a.m. 13 th Sunday After Pentecost | Gal 3:16-22, Lk 17:11-19 |

Endure in the Faith

A few weeks ago, the topics of anger, fear, hatred, and disgust were discussed. Anger usually arises from suffering an injustice or a perceived injustice. Fear, in the negative sense of the word, is a response to danger, pain, suffering, or hardship. Fear, in the positive sense of the word, pertains to deep and profound respect and awe of something or someone greater or more powerful than ourselves. Positive fear can be taught, such as a fisherman teaching his son to fear the sea, not just because of the dangers involved with fishing, but also because of the immenseness and power possessed by large bodies of water. They'd be fools not to respect the sea. Likewise, the fear of the Lord can also be taught: *"The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The statutes of the Lord are true, all of them just"* (Ps 19:10), *"Come, children, listen to me; I will teach you fear of the Lord"* (Ps 34:12), *"Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and discipline. Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your mother's teaching"* (Prov 1:7-8), *"Instruct the wise, and they become still wiser; teach the just, and they advance in learning. The beginning of wisdom is fear of the Lord, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding"* (Prov 9:9-10).

Anger and negative fear can lead to hatred. Hatred can be simply emotional, but long lasting hatred is usually chosen. I can be angry with the government but I would be a fool to hate it. Hating the corruption, incompetence, injustice, and indifference in an otherwise good form of government is a more rational response. I can fear bees and do my best to avoid them, but what do I gain by choosing to hate them? Bees do what bees do, and if I get stung, it is either an unfortunate consequence of bee behavior or the result of my doing something stupid.

Disgust can be innate, such as the normal response to the smell of rotting food or the smell of a skunk. We do not have to teach people to be disgusted with unpleasant sights or smells. Perhaps we instinctively know that foul smells usually come from things that are unhealthy or threats to our well-being. There are also things that disgust that are hardly universal, things that are more unique to individuals, such as a disgust for the smell of cooking meat, disgust for a food or drink that might have made someone quite sick, or even disgust for themselves. However, disgust can also be taught.

Indeed, it is not uncommon for people to teach their kids and for governments to teach their people to be disgusted by others who look, think, believe, worship, or live in a way that is regarded as unacceptable, contemptible, or worse. It is no secret that the nazis tapped into a growing anti-semitism in Europe, they were able to make Jews the source of disgust for millions of people. This made it easy for many well educated and law abiding Germans to help persecute the Jews or at least stand idly by while their neighbors were rounded up and slaughtered. Much the same indoctrination continues to happen in some circles of islam, that Israel and all Jews must be exterminated. The Armenians, Christians living in modern day Turkey, have also suffered genocide because generations of Turks have been taught that they are despicable people worthy of extermination. Some would say that the nazis simply hated the Jews, that some muslims simply hate Israel and the Jews, and that the Turks simply hate the Armenians. But could anyone imagine the nazis teaming up with the Jews for the sake of a common cause? Would Iran ever become allied with Israel or the Turks to collaborate with the Armenians? When disgust has been instilled in a population, there is no common ground to the found, there is no unifying principle that could bring those who are disgusted together with the ones they disgust. Where is there room for compromise when extermination is the ultimate goal?

Sadly, disgust for Christians has been growing for some time. While this might be part of the ever present tension between the worldly and the believer, it might also be the beginnings of disgust rising to the levels seen with the nazis, the Turks, hard-line muslims, and others throughout history. Yes, Jesus warned us that the world will hate us on account of Him (Mt 10:22, Mk 13:13, Lk 21:17), but our response remains the same in the face of hatred or disgust: *"You will be hated by all because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved"* (Mt 10:22).

-Fr Booth