

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

**September 30th/October 1st 2023: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)
18th 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 Kinsom Wood, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from October 1st until October 7th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Pete A. DiChiara from October 8th until October 14th.

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

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday English Mass on October 6th at 8:30 a.m. in the Rectory followed with Adoration and Benediction and a Latin Low Mass at 6:30 p.m. in the Church.

FIRST SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on October 7th. Altar server training and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: This is the follow-up Sunday for the Bishop’s Annual Appeal for Catholic Charities 2024 campaign. If you have not received a Pledge Card in the mail, you also can enter your annual pledge or recurring gift any time at catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our pledge goal for this year is \$20,000.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$7924 and \$1325 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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.

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, Sept 30: 4:00 p.m. † Anthony Marino, Sr. (by Margaret Masney)
Sun, Oct 1: 7:30 a.m. † Henrietta Rataj (by Margaret Masney)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for the Lena Cook (by the Donellan Family)
Mon, Oct 2: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Jeff & Catherine Hahn (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, Oct 3: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Zanella Family by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Oct 4: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Nicole Zaucha (by the Donellan Family)
Thur, Oct 5: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Paula Pinter (by the Donellan Family)
Fri, Oct 6: *8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Joseph Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
6:30 p.m. Special Intention for Scott Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
Sat, Oct 7: 8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Fr Alan Mackey (by the Donellan Family)
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for Clarissa Gaudet (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, Oct 8: 7:30 a.m. Private Intention (by the Donellan Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Nicole Zaucha (by the Tyler Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Codie Smith Fikes, 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 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. 27 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Mt 21:33-43
7:30 a.m. 19 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 4:23-28, Mt 22:1-14
4:00 p.m. 27 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Mt 21:33-43
10:45 a.m. 19 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 4:23-28, Mt 22:1-14

So You Could Not Keep Watch With Me For One Hour?

Given that the Mass is central to the practice of the faith, Mass attendance must be central to our spiritual lives. It would be impossible to sincerely say that we are devoutly Catholic if the Sunday Mass is not the highlight and focus of our week. Mass should not be an afterthought or just one of many activities we try to keep in balance. Mass is truly central, as the Catechism teaches: 'The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch. The Eucharist is the sum and summary of our faith: Our way of thinking is attuned to the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in turn confirms our way of thinking' (CCC 1324, 1327). In other words, the Mass and the Eucharist are supremely important, an importance that can hardly be overstated. We therefore have a solemn responsibility to attend Mass every Sunday and holy day of obligation and no other activity should compete with the Mass.

It is quite possible that we arrive late to Mass for reasons beyond our control. Any number of things might have delayed our arrival that are not our fault and thus incur no sin. Deliberately arriving late or arriving late for reasons that were foreseeable and avoidable, however, is sinful. We have to bear in mind that the First Precept of the Church to attend Mass on all Sundays and all holy days of obligation isn't just a rule. No, attending Mass flows from the Third Commandment and is the source and summit of the Christian life, so we must take Mass attendance seriously.

We have a duty to arrive on time even though we might arrive at Mass late through no fault of our own or it might be that we are culpable for being tardy. But how about leaving before the Mass ends? Again, our duty is to attend the whole Mass from beginning to its end. Mass starts when the priest begins the entrance procession either from the back of the Church or from the sacristy (English) or when the priest genuflects just before the prayers at the foot of the altar (Latin). Mass ends when the priest kisses the altar and genuflects toward the tabernacle prior to processing out of the sanctuary (English) or after the recitation of the Last Gospel (Latin). Leaving Mass early is much like arriving late, we either do so legitimately or not, we might leave for suitably serious reasons or we might leave early for reasons that cannot be justified.

So if we leave prior to the end of the Mass, it will be sinful unless there is a serious reason to do so. Serious reasons might include an on-call doctor or nurse having to leave for the hospital, illness of a family member, a family emergency that requires our immediate attention, a safety situation in or outside the church that necessitates evacuation, and the like. In other words, leaving early must not be taken lightly and should only be done under serious, urgent, and unavoidable circumstances. If, for example, the air conditioning is out on a hot August day, someone who is sensitive to excessive heat could legitimately leave early if they can stand the heat no longer. If someone becomes ill during Mass, that would be legitimate unless the symptoms are mild or otherwise tolerable: someone having watery eyes or a bit of a runny nose due to seasonal allergies is one thing, but a serious allergy symptom like swelling or shortness of breath is quite another.

Leaving early to avoid traffic, leaving early to get out of the parking lot without delay, leaving early to get to the restaurant before it gets crowded, leaving early to watch a baseball or football game, leaving early to make a tee time, leaving early to get coffee and donuts or to get to the potluck before the others, leaving early to have a cigarette, or leaving early for any other trivial reason would be a sinful act. None of these things are serious nor are they necessary. It is important to remember that we are not sinning against the congregation or the priest when we leave before the end of the Mass without having a just reason. No, not staying until the Mass has ended is an offense against God Himself. Can we honestly say that a sporting event, donuts, lunch, traffic, etc. are more important than giving God His due? Can we short change God with impunity? -Fr Booth