

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**October 7<sup>th</sup>/October 8<sup>th</sup> 2023: 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)  
19<sup>th</sup> 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 Pete A. DiChiara, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from October 8<sup>th</sup> until October 14<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Jeremy Noblitt from October 15<sup>th</sup> until October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**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.

**HER CHOICE FUNDRAISING BANQUET:** The annual Her Choice Banquet will be held on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at The Club (1 Robert S. Smith Drive). The special guest speaker will be Jor-El Godsey, President of Heartbeat International, whose core mission is the leadership supply line for the growing pregnancy help movement worldwide. Make your reservation now, consider hosting a table of eight or make a life saving donation. Her Choice Birmingham Women's Center exists to help women facing a crisis pregnancy to choose life, and to help support them with that decision. Her Choice also offers post abortion recovery services. Contact at 205-447-8796 or [hcbanquet@herchoicebirmingham.org](mailto:hcbanquet@herchoicebirmingham.org)

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES:** We continue with 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](http://catholiccharitiesbhm.org). Our pledge goal for this year is \$20,000.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$9975 and \$250 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, 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)
Mon, Oct 9:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Jmr. & Mrs. Brown (by the Hall Family)
Tues, Oct 10:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Mr. & Mrs. Brown (by the Hahn Family)
Wed, Oct 11:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Fr Luke Clark, OP (by the Hahn Family)
Thur, Oct 12:	*8:30 a.m.	Anthony Morris (by Helen Brandley)
Fri, Oct 13:	*8:30 a.m.	Special Intention for Jeremy Noblitt (by Helen Brandley)
Sat, Oct 14:	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Joseph & Kay Dorion (by Helen Brandley)
Sun, Oct 15:	7:30 a.m.	Special Intention for John Paul Hahn (by the Hahn Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Anthony Hall (by John & Lucrecia Hall)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Chorbishop Richard Saad, 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. 28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	Is 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14,19-20, Mt 22:1-14
7:30 a.m. 20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 5:15-21, Jn 4:46-53
4:00 p.m. 28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	Is 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14,19-20, Mt 22:1-14
10:45 a.m. 20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 5:15-21, Jn 4:46-53

## *Is it Mortal?*

So, we arrived at Mass late. Have we sinned? If so, would it be mortal or venial. To answer these questions, we need to ask what constitutes a sin, what makes a sin moral or venial, and whether or not we missed an important part of the Mass.

How do we define sin? What makes an act sinful? Three factors must be considered to determine whether or not we have sinned. The first and most obvious factor is the act itself or thing we did. Is the act legitimate for us or not? Some acts are permissible in and of themselves, such as reading, jogging, praying, working, eating, swimming, and so on. Some acts are only permissible for certain people, such as the marital act between a husband and his wife, but not permissible for people in different situations. Some acts are never permissible, acts we normally associate with wrongdoing or sin, such as blaspheming, coveting, lust, stealing, defrauding, defaming, hating, idolatry, murdering, fornicating, and so on. Some acts in and of themselves that might be sinful but under certain conditions might not be accounted as sinful under other conditions. These acts are ones that require us to do something as opposed to requiring us to refrain from doing an act. We can always refrain from choosing idolatry or adultery, for example, but we cannot always obey someone in authority or pray as much as we ought. There is no situation where idolatry or adultery is unavoidable. But there are situations where we are unable to comply with a legitimate order: we are incapable of doing so or it is not reasonably possible to do. Carrying a piano by ourselves is an order we cannot fulfill because we lack the strength. Being ordered to feed and groom unicorns is impossible because unicorns don't exist. The Sunday Mass obligation requires us to do something that might be impossible to fulfill, such as when we are sick, when there is an ice storm or snow, when public Mass is not being offered (as in the covid shutdown), and so on.

Another factor in determining whether an act is sinful are the circumstances surrounding the act. One example would be doing something legitimate like reading or playing tennis when these are done such that we sinfully neglect serious responsibilities. For Mass attendance, sickness, weather, traffic, and other things normally out of our control are excusing circumstances. If we normally leave at 8:15 to arrive for the 9:00 Mass, leaving at that time would normally get us to church on time, but traffic or a stopped train might make us arrive late.

The third factor, besides the act itself and the circumstances surrounding the act, that must be considered as to whether we have sinned or not is the intention behind the act. If we pray – the act itself – and praying does not interfere with other pressing duties such as parenting or operating machinery that requires our full attention – circumstances – we can still sin by praying for something evil. Doing something legitimate that we know will be an occasion of sin for someone else is another example of a sinful intention.

Thus if the act itself, or if the various circumstances, or if the intention is evil, then the act is sinful. To put it another way, for an act to be good, the act itself must be good and the circumstances must be good and the intention must be good. Even acts that obviously seem good can be rendered sinful by circumstance or intention: donating a million dollars to a good and worthy charity thereby denying family members in dire need of financial assistance or doing so only for the sake of fame and notoriety. If the donation is made without neglecting other responsibilities and out of loving concern for others, then it is a good act.

Now, if the act itself or the circumstances or the intention renders an act sinful, how do we tell if it is a venial or a mortal sin? Again, three conditions must be considered. Was the sin serious, was it done deliberately, and was it done with sufficient knowledge. If all three conditions are met, it is a mortal sin. If the sin was not serious or if it was not freely chosen or if it was done without full knowledge, it is a venial sin. In other words, the bar is low for an act to be venially sinful, but much higher for it to be a mortal sin.

-Fr Booth