

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

August 31st/September 1st 2024: 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
15th 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 in the vestibule at the back of the church.

IN MEMORIAM: For Jack Schauer, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from September 1st until September 7th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of John Ryan from September 8th until September 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 September 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 September 7th. Altar server training and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

LAY DOMINICANS: Adult men and women who have been Catholics for at least two years are invited to learn about the Dominican Laity and see if this is where God may be calling you. The pillars of Lay Dominican life center around prayer, study, apostolate (sharing our faith with others in ways appropriate to the laity), and community (monthly meetings on Sunday afternoons in Birmingham). As lay members of the Dominican Order, we are drawn together by the love of St. Dominic, and invite you to consider joining us! To learn more, contact Pam Leverett, chapter president, at pcleverett_66@outlook.com.

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, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, Dominic Rumore, and Matthew Gagnon.

MEMORIAL SANCTUARY LAMP SIGN-UP SHEETS for 2024, 2025, and 2026 are in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$5884 and \$200 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There is about an 8-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, Aug 31:	4:00 p.m.	† Sheila Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
Sun, Sept 1:	7:30 a.m.	† Sheila Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Fr Den Irwin (by the Hahn Family)
Mon, Sept 2	*8:30 a.m.	Private Intention
Tues, Sept 3:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Bernadette Anne Rumore (by the Hahn Family)
Wed, Sept 4:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Cindy Johnson (by Mary Jane Kelly)
Thur, Sept 5:	*8:30 a.m.	† Pete Yager (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)
Fri, Sept 6:	*8:30 a.m.	Private intention
	6:30 p.m.	† Harvey Shearer (by Lois & Paul Christensen)
Sat, Sept 7:	8:30 a.m.	† Rose Wolfe (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)
	4:00 p.m.	† Amber Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
Sun, Sept 8:	7:30 a.m.	† Amber Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Charles Anthony, Elizabeth, & Bernadette Anne Rumore (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Justin Meadows, Rachel Maxwell, John Minjares, Sr., Virginia Elmer, Richard Juneau, Diane Norton, Pedro Antonio Triana, John Davis, Chorbishop Richard Saad, Deb Rankin, Debbie Booth, Paul Trussel, Paul Caruso, Jeff Brown, Mary Simmons, Linda Henry, ShaKendria Hooks, Lisa DeKam Nicholls, Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Bob Wiseman, Eve Moore, 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, Fran Costanza, Christine Cover, Thatcher Kerzie, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Kathleen Strawmeyer, and Stephanie Perry.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS

4:00 p.m.	23 rd Sunday of Ordinary Time	Is 35:4-7, James 2:1-5, Mk 7:31-37
7:30 a.m.	16 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 3:13-21, Luke 14:1-11
9:00 a.m.	23 rd Sunday of Ordinary Time	Is 35:4-7, James 2:1-5, Mk 7:31-37
10:45 a.m.	16 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 3:13-21, Luke 14:1-11

Not All Love is Love

One of the problems we have today is that many people, perhaps most people, do not know what love actually is. We get our understanding of love from Hollywood, from Hallmark, and from an increasingly vapid pop culture. Buying a diamond, or flowers, or chocolates is love, supposedly. While love might motivate a man to buy something nice for his wife, these things can all be bought without real love. They can even be given as gifts, not as an expression of sincere love, but motivated by a wish to manipulate her or to win favor. Co-opting another with gifts is hardly an act of love but borders more on a bribe or a payoff. Reference to St Paul's definition of love from First Corinthians is instructive here: *"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things"* (1Cor 13:4-7). Gifts given for the wrong reason, given for the sake of manipulation for example, is seeking one's own interests. It is also rude and pompous to think that a wife can be bought by gifts rather than the true gift of self. In fact, Jesus teaches that the gift of self, even to the point of dying for someone else, is the essence of Gospel love: *"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends"* (Jn 15:12-13). Jesus, who is love, demonstrates this on the cross. He dies for all of mankind, dying for those who will love Him in return, dying for those who are utterly indifferent about Jesus, and dying even for those who are hostile and hateful towards Him. He did not suffer and die in order to manipulate us, but to liberate us from our sins and to make eternal life possible for us. In other words, true love of our neighbor – no matter who they are – is self-sacrificing and oriented to the good of the other, the ultimate good being the salvation of our neighbor's soul.

Some, however, have insisted that all love is of God and is therefore ordained by Him. This is sometimes referred to as 'love is love.' If we do not know what love is, if we do not understand what God has already ordained and what He has definitively proscribed (what He has forbidden), then we can easily fall for the notion that all love is the same, that all love is legitimate, and all love is love. Even the love between a husband and wife can be rendered sinful. One way this happens is when self-sacrificing love is supplanted by lust or a manipulative motivation. Also, St John makes it clear that not all love is love: *"Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a pretentious life, is not from the Father but is from the world. Yet the world and its enticement are passing away. But whoever does the will of God remains forever"* (1Jn 2:15-17). This love is not the same love John refers to in John 3:16: *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."* God so loved the world that He wanted to save it, but when we love the world, it is usually for quite different reasons. Our love for the world is often self-serving or even goes so far as idolatry.

So how do we know whether love is sinful or not. First of all, what is the object of our love and what is the nature of that love? If it is love for a thing, it is idolatry. If it is love for a neighbor, the nature of that love must correspond to who our neighbor is. A man can love another man as a friend, as a brother, or in general, but not as a wife. A man can love a woman as a friend, as a sister, or in general, but only his wife as his wife. A man can love a child as a father, as a relative, or in general, but not as his wife. It is sensual lust, which is from the world and not from the Father, that has confused so many into believing that all love is love. The object of our love must be a person – God or our neighbor – and our love must be expressed in a relationship-appropriate way. It must also be a mirror of Jesus' love for us, it must be self-sacrificing with the primary motive of benefiting the other, especially when that benefit is helping the other one to obtain eternal life. Ultimately, our love needs to be focused on doing the will of our Father, not our own will or the will of the world. - Fr Booth