

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

August 30th/August 31st 2025: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)
12th 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. To join Blessed Sacrament, please pick up a parish census form in the vestibule at the back of the church.

NOTICE ON CHECKS: Please make out all checks to Blessed Sacrament or Blessed Sacrament Church.

IN MEMORIAM: For Jack Schauer, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from August 31st to September 6th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Walter Roberts from September 7th until September 13th.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday English Mass on September 5th 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 6th. Altar server training and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality will follow Mass.

FIRST SUNDAY: Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 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 Amanda Lang, chapter president, at justin.amanda.lang@gmail.com

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Deacon John Paul Stepnowski, Deacon Andrew Vickery, John Gardiner, Collins Hess, Hunter Limbaugh, Francisco Rodriguez, Justin Brouillette, Cameron Huhlein, Patrick Letterle, Wilson Moin, Joshua Callahan, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Nick Smith, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, Fernando Casillas, Jack Lyons, Jorge Martinez, Jonathan Ruscoe, Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, and Friar Apollo.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$5206 and \$585 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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

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

Sat, Aug 30: 4:00 p.m. † Trip Williams (by the Hahn Family)
Sun, Aug 31: 7:30 a.m. † Al Rohling (by the Hahn Family)
 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
 10:45 a.m. † Rev William Scroggins (by the Hahn Family)
Mon, Sep 1 *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Roman Gabriel Staub (by the Jimenez Family)
Tues, Sep 2: *8:30 a.m. † Christian Harvey (by the Tyler Family)
Wed, Sep 3: *8:30 a.m. † Trip Williams (by the DiPiazza Family)
Thur, Sep 4: *8:30 a.m. † Trip Williams (by the DiPiazza Family)
Fri, Sep 5: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Andrew Rumore (by the DiPiazza Family)
 6:30 p.m. Special intention for Jeremy DiPiazza (by the DiPiazza Family)
Sat, Sep 6: 8:30 a.m. Special intention Destiny Guevara (by the Guevara Family)
 4:00 p.m. Special intention Jack Yaeger (by the Gagnon Family)
Sun, Sep 7: 7:30 a.m. Special intention Agnes Regina Maziarz (by Brandon & Erin Maziarz)
 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
 10:45 a.m. † Beverly Scroggins (by the Hahn Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially George Sampedro, Jesse Hernandez, Jose Mariano Hernández Avila, Stan Hartdegen, Kent Graeve, Justin Meadows, Rachel Maxwell, John Minjares, Sr., Virginia Elmer, Diane Norton, Pedro Antonio Triana, John Davis, Chorbishop Richard Saad, Deb Rankin, Paul Trussel, Paul Caruso, Jeff Brown, Mary Simmons, Linda Henry, Lisa DeKam Nicholls, Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Bob Wiseman, Eve Moore, Carol Brandley, Eddie Hunter, Pete Ransom, Jerry Joiner, Beryl Curtis, Linda Cooper, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, 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 in Ordinary Time	Wis 9:13-18, Philemon 9-10,12-17, Lk 14:25-33
7:30 a.m. 13 th Sunday After Pentecost	Gal 3:16-22, Lk 17:11-19
9:00 a.m. 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wis 9:13-18, Philemon 9-10,12-17, Lk 14:25-33
10:45 a.m. 13 th Sunday After Pentecost	Gal 3:16-22, Lk 17:11-19

Life is a Process. So is Salvation

All through the history of Israel they seesawed in and out of covenant fidelity. They had God's covenant through Abraham and the covenant through Moses. Fidelity to those covenants was often less than ideal. For example, their covenants with God absolutely precluded any devotion, dependence, or worship toward another god. There is no other God but the One True God, but the people, the priests, and the kings all dallied with the false gods of the pagans round about. This infidelity was especially egregious when the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah tolerated or embraced pagan worship. King David, hardly a perfect man, was held in high esteem with God because David did not lead the people into apostasy. David's son King Solomon, the last king to reign over the united twelve tribes and the wisest man to ever live, was not faithful despite his wisdom. He let foreign wives beguile him to the point that he allowed the worship of pagan gods in the Promised Land. God revealed through Moses that any king of the Jews *"shall not have a great number of horses; nor shall he make his people go back again to Egypt to acquire many horses, for the Lord said to you, Do not go back that way again. Neither shall he have a great number of wives, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he accumulate a vast amount of silver and gold"* (Deut 17:16-17). Solomon the wise failed: he had many horses, he amassed great wealth, he had 1000 wives and concubines, and those wives turned his heart away from God with their false deities.

Thus, they observed and spurned the covenants on an individual level, with regard to faithful and unfaithful priests, and at a national level. God sends prophets, warns them through the prophets, and chastises them back into fidelity in a repeated cycle. Much the same can be said for us on a personal level, on the level of the clergy, and as God's people. We are certainly in a time of waning fidelity to the Gospel, in a time where the priesthood is hardly what it ought to be, and in a time where a once Gospel-influenced culture is more and more aligned toward pagan, even demonic values. This might feel unique to our time, but it has happened in the past and Christianity has rebounded back to fidelity much like ancient Israel. It is also possible that we are in an irreversible slide into apostasy.

Either way, we must realize that we also bounce in and out of God's grace. This plays out differently in every life. Many people start out strong in the faith, struggle in early adulthood, and will either abandon the faith altogether or return at some point after having matured. Many people struggle with faith and morals all of their lives. Some overcome such struggles and grow deeper in faith and devotion. Some can't be bothered with God at all and some event – a tragedy, the birth of a child, a diagnosis of a serious disease, etc. – will inspire them to turn to God or it will cement their unbelief.

The Biblical witness especially regarding the history of the Jews, Church history over the last two millennia, and our own personal experience tells us that our relationship with God is hardly static. In other words, salvation is not an event but a process. Liberation from bondage in Egypt was a process. Entering into the Promised Land was a process. The unfolding of the Gospel was a process. The growth and maturation of the Church has been a process. And our own personal journey with God is a process. We cannot point to a single event and say that it and it alone was the cause of mankind's salvation: the Resurrection depends on the Crucifixion, which depends on Jesus' teaching (He was handed over for what He taught), which depends on Jesus' childhood, which depends on His Nativity, which depends on the Annunciation, and so forth. So why in the world do some people insist that their salvation can be reduced to a singular event in their lives? Yes, our personal salvation has a beginning, usually at baptism, but salvation on a personal level is not a one-and-done event.

Like all relationships, our relationship with God has its ups and downs. There are times when God seems close and other times when we perceive His absence even though our faith tells us otherwise. There are times when sin overcomes us and we need to repent. No matter what, however, we must keep in mind that God is always faithful and any defect in our relationship with Him is our fault and hardly His. Thankfully, He is patient with us for the sake of our salvation.

- Fr Booth