

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*October 19th/October 20th 2024: 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
22nd 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.

IN MEMORIAM: For Jerry Bryant, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from October 20th to October 26th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Therese Gagnon from October 27th until November 2nd.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a second collection this weekend for the World Mission Sunday, supporting mission churches throughout the world.

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.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: The Bishop’s Annual Appeal continues. You can return you pledge card or pledge via catholiccharitiesbhm.org. The donations remain in the diocese, supporting charitable outreach and several diocesan offices. Our goal for this year is \$28,000.

HER CHOICE FUNDRAISING BANQUET: The annual Her Choice Banquet will be held on Thursday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. at The Club (1 Robert S. Smith Drive). The special guest speaker will be Alison Centofante, Founder of Centofante Strategies, a Huntsville-based consulting firm, is a child advocacy innovator, in-demand public speaker, activist, and writer with over ten years of experience speaking on abortion, marriage, human dignity, and religious freedom. 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. To confirm your participation, 205-447-8796 or hcbanquet@herchoicebirmingham.org

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$4434, \$50 was given for the Preservation Fund, and \$2738 was donated for the hurricane relief efforts. 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, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, Dominic Rumore, and Matthew Gagnon.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There is about a 6-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, Oct 19:	8:15 a.m.	Private Intention
	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for the White Family (by the Donellans)
Sun, Oct 20:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Flores Family (by the Donellans)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Linda Cooper (by the Donellans)
Mon, Oct 21	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Smith Family (by the Donellans)
Tues, Oct 22:	*8:30 a.m.	† Dan Clemens (by the Rumore Family)
Wed, Oct 23:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Catherine Runge (by the Rumore Family)
Thur, Oct 24:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Anna Goode (by the Rumore Family)
Fri, Oct 25:	*8:30 a.m.	† Melba Sue Champion (by the Duvall Family)
Sat, Oct 26:	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Laura Ducote (by the Duvall Family)
Sun, Oct 27:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Alex Ruiz (by the Duvall Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Michelle Smith (by Monica Duvall)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Phillip McCarty, Madeline Sampedro, George Sampedro, 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, Lisa DeKam Nicholls, Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Bob Wiseman, Eve Moore, 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.	30 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Jer 31:7-9, Heb 5:1-6, Mk 10:46-52
7:30 a.m.	Christ the King	Col 1:12-20, Jn 18:33-37
9:00 a.m.	30 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Jer 31:7-9, Heb 5:1-6, Mk 10:46-52
10:45 a.m.	Christ the King	Col 1:12-20, Jn 18:33-37

Implausible Plausible Denial

The elites of the world are convinced that people are stupid. They are also certain that people of faith are low grade morons. While it is true that public education has been dumbed down year after year to the point that most seniors in high school could not pass math and history exams given to eighth graders 100 years ago, we could say the same with regard to religious education. How many youths today, especially ones educated through parish PSR programs, could pass a test based on Baltimore Catechism Number 1? The answer ought to be almost everyone in third grade on up. Why? Because that catechism was intended for second graders preparing for first Communion. Baltimore Catechism #2, intended for youth preparing for confirmation, would be even more challenging today.

The public schools were originally designed to populate factories. Today, it would seem that public education has more to do with indoctrination than producing virtuous citizens. However, it is unclear what religious education strives to accomplish today. I have taught confirmation in three parishes using three different catechetical programs and they were all free of substantial religious content. Our CCD programs were once designed to educate and to prepare young people to go out into the world armed with Gospel truth and to defend the faith against a hostile, anti-Catholic culture.

The culture is certainly more hostile and anti-Catholic, but the Church has not recognized this. Proof of this lies in several recent outrages that have spawned rather pathetic responses from the bishops and from the faithful. About a year ago it became evident that the FBI had targeted Catholic churches based on the preposterous allegation that Catholics are racist and supportive of so-called white supremacists. The bishops responded by accusing the FBI of religious profiling and threatening religious liberty. How about calling it what it is, namely religious bigotry and persecution. How about informing Catholics what the FBI was doing and calling the faithful to express their outrage – peacefully – to their elected representatives. How about demanding an investigation. Nope. The FBI removed one document about the targeting of innocent Catholics from their file server. Why? Because the offending document did not meet the exacting standards of the FBI. Really?!?

Then there was the outrageous and blasphemous mocking of the Last Supper at the Paris Olympics. Individuals have a right to be offensive, but to make offensive material an official part of the Olympics opening ceremony was clearly a deliberate act on the part of those organizing the event. It was even admitted that DaVinci's *Last Supper* was the inspiration, until they faced backlash, and trying to quell the criticism, representatives from the Olympics said that the blasphemous display 'really tried to celebrate community tolerance.' When that obviously specious claim failed, they went on say that it was a parody of a painting by an obscure Dutch painter no one has ever heard of, not Leonardo DaVinci's *Last Supper*. Riiiiight.

Now we have a governor mocking Catholicism, specifically the reception of Communion. Her video shows the Governor of Michigan, a fairly Catholic state, administering a Dorito to a kneeling woman. It is a clear mimicking of Holy Communion. After all, in what context does anyone receive a corn chip on their tongue while kneeling? Is this a common practice in people's homes, in restaurants, or in any public space? Do people receive any food or drink this way? No, the clear context is Communion and the clear intent is to mock and denigrate. When challenged on this, the governor claimed that the video they made had nothing to do with Communion at all. They were celebrating the 2022 CHIPS act which is intended to foster more semiconductor – chip – production in America. Yes, Doritos are chips, but what does placing one on someone else's tongue have to do with semiconductors? Why does the recipient kneel to celebrate semiconductors? What does the recipient, a Canadian feminist podcaster, have to do with American semiconductors? Nothing.

In all of these cases malice of intent is impossible to deny. All of the rationalizations do not pass the smell test, unless you are a low grade moron. No, they are all implausible attempts at plausible denial. Soon, they won't bother with the denials at all.

- Fr Booth