

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> / April 13<sup>th</sup> 2025: Palm Sunday**



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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 George Lally, Sr., the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from April 13<sup>th</sup> to April 19<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Cindy Messmer from April 20<sup>th</sup> until April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**REST IN PEACE:** Grace Hill, wife of Robert Hill, passed away on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Her funeral will be on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

**PALM SUNDAY:** This Sunday is Palm Sunday. Due to time constraints, for the 7:30 a.m. Mass on Palm Sunday the abbreviated Gospel will be used, the palms will be previously blessed, and there will be no procession. Also, the 10:45 Mass will be a Low Mass.

**CHRISM MASS:** Due to the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral, there will be no morning Mass at Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be at 2:30 p.m. on Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**MORNING WITH MARY & THIRD SUNDAY:** There will be no morning with Mary and there will be no potluck lunch after the 10:45 Mass next weekend due to Easter.

**ST ELIAS FUN RUN & FOOD FESTIVAL:** St Elias Maronite Catholic Church is hosting a charity fun run – 5k, 1 mile, and sleep in – on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. More info on the fun run can be obtained at <https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Birmingham/Cedar5K>. More info on the Food Festival can be found at <https://stelias.org/festival/>

**GOLF FORE LIFE:** The Her Choice Birmingham Women's Center annual golf tournament will be played on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at Highland Park Golf Course. Please come play golf and help raise money for Her Choice, a pro-life pregnancy resource center. Tee-off will be at 9:00 a.m. and box lunches will be available afterwards. The cost is \$250 (\$125 of which is tax deductible) per individual golfer and prizes will be awarded immediately following the tournament. Questions can be directed to Jim Pinto at [Golf4life@herchoicebirmingham.org](mailto:Golf4life@herchoicebirmingham.org). Please register at <https://www.herchoicebirmingham.org/gfl/form.htm> by May 10th.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$9241 and \$520 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.

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:**

Thur, Apr 17: 5:30 p.m. Confessions  
6:30 p.m. Latin High Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Fri Apr 18: 1:30 p.m. Confessions  
2:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
3:00 p.m. Latin Liturgy of the Lord's Passion  
Sat, Apr 19 8:00 p.m. High Easter Vigil Mass in Latin  
Sun, Apr 20 7:30 a.m. Easter Low Mass in Latin  
9:00 a.m. Easter Mass in English  
10:45 a.m. Easter High Mass in Latin

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

Sat, Apr 12: 4:00 p.m. Special intention for the Pohorelsky Family (by the Hahns)  
Sun, Apr 13` : 7:30 a.m. Special intention for the Fernandes Family (by the Hahns)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special intention for the Jimenez Family (by the Hahns)  
Mon, Apr 14 \*8:30 a.m. Special intention for Allison Rumore (by the Hahns)  
Tues, Apr 15: *Chrism Mass at the Cathedral*  
Wed, Apr 16: \*8:30 a.m. Special intention for Ben & Annabelle DiPiazza (by the DiPiazza Family)  
Thur, Apr 17: 6:30 p.m. † Elizabeth Herring (by the DiPiazza Family)  
Fri, Apr 18: 3:00 p.m. *Latin Liturgy of the Lord's Passion*  
Sat, Apr 19: 8:00 p.m. † Andrea Tullos (by the Juneau Family)  
Sun, Apr 20` : 7:30 a.m. † Julie Wang Kelly (by Kevin Kelly)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special intention for Cardinal Burke (by the Juneau Family)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Katherine Dunham, 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, Danny Rohling, 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**

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Gen 1:1-2:2, Exo 14:24-15:1, Isa 4:2-6, Dt 31:22-30, Col 3:1-4, Mt 28:1-7  
7:30 a.m. Easter Sunday 1Cor 5:7-8, Lk 24:1-12  
9:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Acts 10:34,37-43, Col 3:1-4, Jn 20:1-9  
10:45 a.m. Easter Sunday 1Cor 5:7-8, Lk 24:1-12

## *Jesus Our Suffering Servant*

Last week we saw foreshadowing of Jesus' Passion in Wisdom chapter 3 and even more clearly in Psalm 22. Other passages in the Old Testament do much the same. This is especially the case with the Suffering Servant Songs found in the Book of Isaiah. Specifically, these songs are found in Isaiah 42:1-4, 49:1-6, 50:4-11, and 52:13-53:12. It is not difficult at all to see Jesus in these passages. For example, the third Suffering Servant Song from chapter 50 of Isaiah reads:

*"The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to answer the weary a word that will waken them. Morning after morning he wakens my ear to hear as disciples do; The Lord God opened my ear; I did not refuse, did not turn away. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who tore out my beard; My face I did not hide from insults and spitting. The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; Therefore I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He who declares my innocence is near. Who will oppose me? Let us appear together. Who will dispute my right? Let them confront me. See, the Lord God is my help; who will declare me guilty? See, they will all wear out like a garment, consumed by moths. Who among you fears the Lord, heeds his servant's voice? Whoever walk in darkness, without any light, yet trust in the name of the Lord and rely upon their God! All you who kindle flames and set flares alight, walk by the light of your own fire and by the flares you have burnt! This is your fate from my hand: you shall lie down in a place of torment."*

Jesus willingly gave Himself over to abuse. Those who fear the Lord and heed the servants voice will even be guided in darkness, but those who walk by the light of their own fire will lie down in a place of torment. Reference to Jesus is even more explicit in the fourth Suffering Servant Song:

*"See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted. Even as many were amazed at him – so marred were his features, beyond that of mortals his appearance, beyond that of human beings – so shall he startle many nations, kings shall stand speechless; For those who have not been told shall see, those who have not heard shall ponder it. Who would believe what we have heard? To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? He grew up like a sapling before him, like a shoot from the parched earth; He had no majestic bearing to catch our eye, no beauty to draw us to him. He was spurned and avoided by men, a man of suffering, knowing pain, like one from whom you turn your face, spurned, and we held him in no esteem. Yet it was our pain that he bore, our sufferings he endured. We thought of him as stricken, struck down by God and afflicted, But he was pierced for our sins, crushed for our iniquity. He bore the punishment that makes us whole, by his wounds we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, all following our own way; But the Lord laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though harshly treated, he submitted and did not open his mouth; Like a lamb led to slaughter or a sheep silent before shearers, he did not open his mouth. Seized and condemned, he was taken away. Who would have thought any more of his destiny? For he was cut off from the land of the living, struck for the sins of his people. He was given a grave among the wicked, a burial place with evildoers, though he had done no wrong, nor was deceit found in his mouth. But it was the Lord's will to crush him with pain. By making his life as a reparation offering, he shall see his offspring, shall lengthen his days, and the Lord's will shall be accomplished through him. Because of his anguish he shall see the light; because of his knowledge he shall be content; My servant, the just one, shall justify the many, their iniquity he shall bear. Therefore I will give him his portion among the many, and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty, because he surrendered himself to death, was counted among the transgressors, bore the sins of many, and interceded for the transgressors."*

The parallels with this fourth Suffering Servant Song with Jesus are uncanny. He bore the punishment for our sins, He endured the suffering due our sins. He was killed for the sins of His people though He had done no wrong. Like a Lamb led to the slaughter as a reparation offering, Jesus kept His peace, and His death indeed justifies many. Amen!

- Fr Booth