

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

October 11th/October 12th 2025: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)

18th Sunday After Pentecost (Latin)



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW
Birmingham, Alabama 35211**

Phone: (205) 785-9840

E-mail: church@myblessedsacrament.org

Website: www.myblessedsacrament.org

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 Jeremy Noblitt, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from October 12th to October 18th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Jerry Bryant from October 19th until October 25th.

MORNING WITH MARY: All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, October 18th. Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m., there will be confession during adoration, followed by benediction at about 9:10 a.m., and concluding with a Latin Mass at 9:15 a.m.

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.

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: You should have received a Pledge Card in the mail, if not you also can enter your annual pledge or recurring gift any time at catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our pledge goal for this year is \$29,000. As of October 10th, we have \$19,800 pledged.

SEMINARY VISIT: The Office of Vocations is hosting a Seminary Live-In at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans from October 23rd to 26th. This event is for men 21-35 years of age and is an opportunity to experience daily life in the seminary, attend classes, and meet current seminarians. There is no fee to attend, but registration is required: <https://bhmdiocese.org/vocations>

HER CHOICE FUNDRAISING BANQUET: The annual Her Choice Banquet will be held on Thursday, November 6th at 7:00 p.m. at The Club (1 Robert S. Smith Drive). The keynote speaker will be Joy Pinto, executive director of Her Choice. 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

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, Friar Apollo, and Owen Sederstrand.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$7040 and \$2010 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There is over a 9 month backlog on Mass Intentions and the backlog continues to grow. Therefore, until further notice, Mass Intentions will only be accepted on a one Mass per family per week basis.

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

Sat, Oct 11: 4:00 p.m. † Cassidy McMillan (by Dean Fazio)
Sun, Oct 12: 7:30 a.m. † Gene & Laurene Fazio (by Dean Fazio)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special intention for Gabriel Maziarz (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
Mon, Oct 13 *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Alexa & Trey Caltigerone (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
Tues, Oct 14: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Crystal Web (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
Wed, Oct 15: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Marcus Davis (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
Thur, Oct 16: *8:30 a.m. † Carmelo Renda (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
Fri, Oct 17: *8:30 a.m. † Scot Smith (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
Sat, Oct 18: 9:15 a.m. † Albert Smith (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
4:00 p.m. † Linda Smith (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
Sun, Oct 19: 7:30 a.m. † Roberto Luna (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)
9:00 a.m. † Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Josefa Luna (by Zach & Bayley Maziarz)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially for 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, 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. 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Exo 17:8-13, 2Tim 3:14-4:2, Lk 18:1-8
7:30 a.m. 19 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 4:23-28, Mt 22:1-14
9:00 a.m. 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Exo 17:8-13, 2Tim 3:14-4:2, Lk 18:1-8
10:45 a.m. 19 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 4:23-28, Mt 22:1-14

Come, Share Your Master's Joy

Every judgment scene in the Bible is based on behavior, not faith alone. Yes, faith is a necessary ingredient for an auspicious divine judgment, but our righteousness matters as well. One can have faith and still be damned. This reality is utterly and completely inconceivable for many people today, largely stemming from the false teaching that we will be judged by God based on our faith alone. In the separation of the sheep and goats found in Matthew Chapter 25, both the sheep (the saved) and the goats (the damned) refer to Jesus, their divine Judge, as Lord: “*Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?*” (Mt 25:37) and “*Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?*” (Mt 25:44). Likewise, earlier in Matthew’s Gospel, toward the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says “*Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven*” (Mt 7:21).

Some might claim that in both cases that the damned who called Jesus ‘Lord’ really didn’t have true faith. That would be an odd conclusion. In both cases, either from Matthew 7 or Matthew 25, the damned seem to be quite surprised that they failed to obtain heaven. Jesus continues in Matthew 7, saying “*Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name? Did we not drive out demons in your name? Did we not do mighty deeds in your name?’*” (Mt 7:22). Prophesying, exorcising demons, and performing miracles would seem to be evidence of being saved. None of these things can be done apart from faith or apart from God’s power. Clearly faith and wielding divine power are not sufficient. These are not damned for lack of faith, as Jesus makes clear in the very next verse: “*Then I will declare to them solemnly, ‘I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers’*” (Mt 7:23).

Again, their behavior is the basis of their judgment despite having faith and doing miracles in Christ’s name. It is important to emphasize that works, even mighty deeds, are not how we obtain heaven as if we were earning salvation. No, salvation is purely a gift that cannot be earned: “*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them*” (Eph 2:8-10). Grace is an unmerited gift flowing from Jesus’ life, suffering, death, and resurrection wherein we are re-created, reborn, to do good works “*that we should live in them.*” Without good, appropriate, and just works our faith is dead (see James 2:14-26). Likewise, sinful behavior can also render our faith to be dead as Jesus clearly teaches when He says to believers “*Depart from me, you evildoers.*” Thus, we can say that faith through grace is necessary for salvation, but our behavior either qualifies or disqualifies us for heaven.

Yet aren’t we all sinners? Grievous sinners? Isn’t it true that “*all have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God*” (Rom 3:23)? Yes. Even babies are born with original sin, a lack of righteousness before God, and we all suffer from the effects of original sin (“*For I do not do the good I want, but I do the evil I do not want*” (Rom 7:19)), and as a result we all sin by choosing evil and rejecting good. Thus, can’t Jesus say to each of us “*Depart from me, you evildoers*” when He judges us at our death and at the end of time? Based on our own merits, yes He could say this to each of us.

The difference between salvation and damnation hinges on if we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit when we die. St Paul makes this point, saying “*For the concern of the flesh is hostility toward God; it does not submit to the law of God, nor can it; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness*” (Rom 8:7-10). So let us keep the Spirit of Christ indwelling in us so that He will not say ‘*I never knew you*’ but say instead “*Well done, my good and faithful servant... Come, share your master’s joy*” (Mt 25:23). - Fr Booth