

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

November 2nd/November 3rd 2024: 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
4th Supplemental Sunday after Epiphany (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 Daniel Welch, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from November 3rd until November 9th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Julie Kelly from November 10th until November 16th.

FIRST SUNDAY: This Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 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. So far, Blessed Sacrament has pledged \$24,725, which is about 88% of our goal.

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 \$5502 and \$5050 was given for the Preservation Fund. 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, Nov 2:	8:30 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory
	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Anthony Sabri (by the Hahns)
Sun, Nov 3:	7:30 a.m.	† Dan Clemens (by the Clemens Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Paul Ulliman (by the Clemens Family)
Mon, Nov 4	*8:30 a.m.	† Chris Foley (by the Clemens Family)
Tues, Nov 5:	*8:30 a.m.	† Jeanne McCormack (by the Clemens Family)
Wed, Nov 6:	*8:30 a.m.	† Jeanne McCormack (by Paul Clemens)
Thur, Nov 7:	*8:30 a.m.	† Dan Clemens (by Paul Clemens)
Fri, Nov 8:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Pat & Mary Beth Schwager (by Brenna Schwager)
Sat, Nov 9:	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Pat & Mary Beth Schwager (by Brenna Schwager)
Sun, Nov 10:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Pat & Mary Beth Schwager (by Brenna Schwager)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Amelia Schotzko (by Brenna Schwager)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Kent Graeve, 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.	32 nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	1Kgs 17:10-16, Heb 9:24-28, Mk 12:38-44
7:30 a.m.	5 th Supplemental Sunday after Epiphany	Col 3:12-17, Mt 13:24-30
9:00 a.m.	32 nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	1Kgs 17:10-16, Heb 9:24-28, Mk 12:38-44
10:45 a.m.	5 th Supplemental Sunday after Epiphany	Col 3:12-17, Mt 13:24-30

Doing Good or Evil in the Lord's Sight

We are very close to the November 5th elections. Thanks to then-Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, churches and other non-profits cannot advocate for or against any candidate nor can we endorse one political party over another. Johnson was worried that the various churches in Texas would have endorsed his opponents: he was not all that worried about anything but his own chances of re-election. So, no church can make endorsements or recommend voting against any candidate or party, but we can look at what the Bible teaches about leadership. Indeed, there were three kings of all the Jews, nineteen kings and one queen of Judah, and nineteen kings of Israel. That is forty-two leaders from which we can discern what God expects of those who possess political power.

In the unified Kingdom of Israel, which included all twelve tribes, King Saul did what was evil in the Lord's sight, King David did what was right in the Lord's sight, and King Solomon did what was evil in the Lord's sight. After Solomon, the unified kingdom split into the northern kingdom of Israel (ten tribes) and the southern kingdom of Judah (two tribes).

In the kingdom of Judah, King Rehoboam did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Abijah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Asa did what was right in the Lord's sight, Jehoshaphat did what was right in the Lord's sight, Jehoram did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Ahaziah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Queen Athaliah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Joash did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Amaziah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Uzziah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Jotham did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Ahaz did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Hezekiah did what was right in the Lord's sight, Manasseh did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Amon did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Josiah did what was right in the Lord's sight, Jehoahaz did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Jehoiakim did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Jehoiachin did what was evil in the Lord's sight, and Zedekiah did what was evil in the Lord's sight.

With regard to the Kingdom of Israel, the northern kingdom, King Jeroboam did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Nadab did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Baasha did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Elah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Zimri did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Omri did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Ahab did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Ahaziah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Joram did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Jehu did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Jehoahaz did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Jehoash did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Jeroboam II did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Zechariah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Shallum did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Menahem did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Pekahiah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, Pekah did what was evil in the Lord's sight, and Hoshea did what was evil in the Lord's sight.

It must be admitted that Kings Solomon, Joash, Amaziah, Uzziah, Jotham, and Jehu had mixed records, some good and some bad, but they were hardly reckoned as good kings. Only David, Asa, Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah, and Josiah were proclaimed by God as good. Taking a bad king, say Ahab, and a good king, say David, what makes one good and the other bad in the eyes of the Lord? Some, nay many, would argue that personal piety and behavior would be the yardstick. But that is not what the Bible puts forward as a measure of a good or bad leader. David was an adulterer – maybe worse – and a murderer. Ahab was neither. What made Ahab evil in the sight of the Lord? *“Ahab set up an altar to Baal in the house of Baal which he built in Samaria, and also made an asherah [an idol]. Ahab did more to provoke the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than any of the kings of Israel before him”* 2Kings (16:32-33).

In other words, and this is true for the kings that did evil in the Lord's sight, they were judged evil because they led the people away from God. Despite the deplorable acts of David, he protected and preserved Judaism, such that God said through Paul: *“I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will carry out my every wish”* (Acts 13:22). One thing that we should ask of everyone on the ballot, no matter the office, will they lead people to or away from God. - Fr Booth