

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

**November 16th/November 17th 2024: 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
6th Supplemental Sunday after Epiphany (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.

IN MEMORIAM: For Ronnie Mason, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from November 17th to November 23rd. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Audra and Reid Wilson from November 24th until November 30th.

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. So far, Blessed Sacrament has pledged \$25,410, which is about 91% of our goal.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$6345 and \$80 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

PERPETUAL ADORATION: Our Lady of Sorrows in Homewood is inviting people to come and adore our Lord in the Eucharist. They have had 24/7/365 Eucharistic Adoration for over 30 years. If you are interested in adoring Jesus in the Eucharist, please contact Bo Lovell at (205) 965-3041.

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 7-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, Nov 16: 9:15 a.m. † Carol & Larry Schwager (by Brenna Schwager)
4:00 p.m. † Harvey & Audrey O’Conner (by Brenna Schwager)

Sun, Nov 17: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Danny Rohling (by the Hahn Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. David Hill & Family (by the Hahn Family)

Mon, Nov 18 *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Flores & Family (by the Hahn Family)

Tues, Nov 19: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. White & Family (by the Hahn Family)

Wed, Nov 20: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Kelly & Family (by the Hahn Family)

Thur, Nov 21: *8:30 a.m. † Mr. Melvin Rohling (by the Hahn Family)

Fri, Nov 22: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for John Schnur (by the Schnur Family)

Sat, Nov 23: 4:00 p.m. Special intention for John Schnur (by the Schnur Family)

Sun, Nov 24: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for John Schnur (by the Schnur Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special intention for John Schnur (by the Schnur Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Stan Hartdegen, 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. Christ the King	Dan 7:13-14, Rev 1:5-8, Jn 18:33-37
7:30 a.m. 24 th Sunday after Pentecost	Col 1:9-14, Mt 24:15-35
9:00 a.m. Christ the King	Dan 7:13-14, Rev 1:5-8, Jn 18:33-37
10:45 a.m. 24 th Sunday after Pentecost	Col 1:9-14, Mt 24:15-35

Come, Lord Jesus

At the end of St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the phrase "*Marana tha*" (1Cor 16:22) appears. This is from Jesus' native language of Aramaic, which translates to "*O Lord, Come.*" This is an emphatic request, almost a command or even a demand for Jesus to return. Similar words are found in Greek very near the end of the Book of Revelation where St John writes "*Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!*" (Rev 22:20). Prior to St John's request for Jesus to return, He testifies to John "*Yes, I am coming soon.*" These are but a few of the times where the return of Jesus is mentioned. He Himself says "*And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be*" (Jn 14:3). Nevertheless, it seems that both St Paul, St John, and others anticipated the return of Jesus and that it would happen in their earthly lifetimes or soon thereafter.

Things have not happened as they had imagined. This should be no surprise since Jesus also said of the timing of His return, "*But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father*" (Mk 13:32). Over nineteen centuries have passed since St John invited Jesus to return. Nevertheless, every generation since the Apostles has made the Aramaic words "*Marana tha*" their own, expecting Jesus to return and in many cases truly hoping that He would return and do so soon.

Do we expect Jesus to return? Do we expect that He might return in our own lifetimes? Many people today are not giving much thought to the Second Coming of Jesus. Some are too caught up in daily life to dwell too much on the return of Jesus and the end of the world as we now know it. They are more concerned about making it to the end of the month financially, too caught up in making ends meet than making it to the end of the world. This preoccupation with the issues and anxieties of the world is exactly how Satan wants to distract us, how Satan wants us to keep our eyes on the here and now instead of on heaven and eternity.

Do we expect that Jesus might return soon? Again, the anxieties of this world distract us from thinking He might return at all, so it is even easier to discount the possibility that Jesus would return soon. Even if we acknowledge the certainty of Jesus' return at the end of time, it is very easy to mentally push the Second Coming into the vague and far distant future. Surely we have plenty of time to worry about the Second Coming, surely it will happen after I and my loved ones are long dead. Maybe, but maybe not.

If Jesus is coming not in the distant future but in the next couple of years, months, weeks, days, or hours, do we welcome His return or does the prospect of Jesus' return bring forth dread in our hearts and minds? If we are living as we ought to live by putting God first in all things, if we live lives of faith, hope, and love, if we are in a state of grace, if we truly hate each and every one of our sins, if we have truly forgiven all others and hold no grudges, and if we love every neighbor as we love ourselves, then we should have nothing to fear from Jesus' Second Advent, His Second Coming. In fact, we should long for Jesus to return so that His Kingdom might come forth in all of its glory and this world of corruption, sorrow, suffering, and pain will come to an end.

This is why the Church turns its focus on the end of the world in the month of November and why she celebrates Advent every year. The first half of Advent is concerned with the Second Coming as a reminder that we must prepare for the end of the world as we know it and prepare for the end of our personal participation in this world. Indeed, being prepared for the Second Coming of Jesus is the very best way for us to prepare to celebrate His First Coming as a Babe born in Bethlehem. News of Jesus' birth brought forth great fear for King Herod and the people of Jerusalem because they were unprepared for the coming of the Messiah. Are we going to welcome Jesus' return or are we going to be like Herod and his minions who were terrified of the birth of Jesus? Let us make the words "*Marana tha*" or "*O Lord, Come*" our own, and let us truly mean that we want Jesus to return and to do so soon. And be truly prepared for entry into His kingdom.

- Fr Booth