

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

*May 17th/May 18th 2025: 5th Sunday of Easter (English)
4th Sunday After Easter (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 Maxine Olson, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from May 18th to May 24th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Chester Olson from May 25th until May 31st.

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.

PERMANENT DIACONATE FORMATION: Men, do you feel God is calling you to serve in a deeper way in your parish and community? If so, perhaps you are being called to be a deacon. The Inquiry period begins on August 16th. An Inquiry Information Session will be held on Tuesday, June 3rd at 6:00 p.m. at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, 2061 Patton Chapel Road, Hoover, AL 35216. Wives are encouraged to attend with their husbands. Additional information and requirements to enter formation can be found at the Office of Permanent Diaconate website - <https://www.bhmdiocese.org/office-of-permanent-diaconate>. You can also fill out the registration form for the Inquiry period at this website. Online registration is open now through July 3rd. If you have questions, contact Deacon Jeff Montgomery at jmontgomery@bhmdiocese.org.

SEVEN SISTERS DAY OF REFLECTION: Join dozens of women in our diocese who have answered the call! One Holy Hour each week, one priest, Seven Sisters! You are invited to a Morning of Reflection, Saturday, June 14th at St Theresa Catholic Church in Leeds. There will be Mass at 9:00 a.m. with Fr Gray Bean followed by informative talks, including keynote speaker, Janette Howe, the Foundress of the Seven Sisters Apostolate. Lunch will be provided. For more information call Kathy Paffumi (205) 266-9687 or SevenSistersApostolate.org. Email to register at sevensistersbirminghamAL@gmail.com

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, Ross Gilliland, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Nick Smith, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, and Friar Apollo.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$4842 and \$4820 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.

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

Sat, May 17:	9:15 a.m.	Special intention for Colette Gagnon (by the Maziarz Family)
	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Sandra Smith (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, May 18:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Colette Gagnon (by Elizabeth & Charles Anthony Rumore)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Colette Gagnon (by the David Hill Family)
Mon, May 19	*8:30 a.m.	† Bill Dinan (by the St Bernadette's Band)
Tues, May 20:	*8:30 a.m.	† Bill Dinan (by Ann Noblitt & Ginny Daniel)
Wed, May 21:	*8:30 a.m.	† The Souls in Purgatory (by the Ferino Family)
Thur, May 22:	*8:30 a.m.	† The Souls in Purgatory (by the Ferino Family)
Fri, May 23:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Danny & Judy Rohling (by the Hahn Family)
Sat, May 24:	4:00 p.m.	† Bill Dinan (by the Bryant Family)
Sun, May 25:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Osorio Family (by Alan & Pam Olson)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Ivan Piola (by the Lang 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

4:00 p.m.	6 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 15:1-2,22-29, Rev 21:10-14,22-23, Jn 14:23-29
7:30 a.m.	5 th Sunday After Easter	James 1:22-27, Jn 16:23-30
9:00 a.m.	6 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 15:1-2,22-29, Rev 21:10-14,22-23, Jn 14:23-29
10:45 a.m.	5 th Sunday After Easter	James 1:22-27, Jn 16:23-30

Habemus Papam!

It was noted last week that a new pope is not a novel event but a continuing reality in the Church. Jesus clearly meant for there to be one Church, His Church, and not a plethora of quarreling factions. For example, Jesus teaches that *“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector”* (Mt 18:15-17). As things stand today, if a divorced man marries your sister and he does not have an annulment, you should challenge him to seek an annulment for his sake and the sake of your sister. He refuses to listen. So several siblings appeal to him and he still refuses to listen. At this point, to what church would the appeal belong? If your sister’s husband is a methodist, is that the right church? If the man and your sister were married in a baptist church, would the case be brought to them? Would the case be brought to the Catholic Church since your sister is a Catholic? Different answers will come from different denominations, and almost all of them would simply punt on what Jesus clearly taught about marriage: *“Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, no human being must separate... I say to you, whoever divorces his wife (unless the marriage is unlawful [i.e., morally obscene]) and marries another commits adultery”* (Mt 19:4-6, 9).

Jesus likewise asserted the necessity of their being one unified Church at the Last Supper. *“And now, [Father], I will no longer be in the world, but they are in the world, while I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are... I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me.”* (Jn 17:11, 20-23). It is clear from what Jesus says here that the spread of the Gospel is contingent on the unity of the Church, and it is also clear that evangelization is hardly progressing in this age of denominational division. Why should the world take Christians seriously if one group says adultery is tolerable, that others say immoral unions are permissible, that baptism is utterly unnecessary, that baptism is necessary but only for adults, that baptism is necessary for salvation for people of every age, and so on?

More could be said of the need for there to be but one, unified Church. It must also be noted that Jesus established a degree of organization, a hierarchy among His followers. There were followers, there were more committed followers called disciples, and then there were the twelve Apostles. A clear distinction exists between these groups. Followers came and went but did not go everywhere Jesus went. Those who followed Jesus more consistently would be called disciples. And the Apostles were called by Jesus specifically to form His core disciples. Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathea, Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were devout followers of Jesus. Matthias, Stephen, and Barsabbas are examples of disciples, and the Apostles are listed explicitly. Even among the Twelve it is indisputable that Peter, James, and John formed Jesus’ innermost circle of followers. Prime among these three is clearly Peter. Indeed, Jesus again says at the Last Supper *“Simon, Simon, behold Satan has demanded to sift all of you [plural] like wheat, but I have prayed that your [singular] own faith may not fail; and once you [singular] have turned back, you [singular] must strengthen your brothers”* (Lk 22:31-32). Just as Peter is the one selected to feed and tend Jesus’ sheep, he is also the only one called to strengthen his brother Apostles after Jesus’ arrest, Passion, and Resurrection. Peter’s role is and remains unique.

- Fr Booth