

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

July 12<sup>th</sup>/July 13<sup>th</sup> 2025: 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (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 Julius Lee, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from from July 13<sup>th</sup> to July 19<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Mary P. Hastings from July 20<sup>th</sup> until July 26<sup>th</sup>.

**MORNING WITH MARY:** All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m., there will be confession during adoration, followed by benediction at 9:10 a.m., and concluding with a Latin Mass at about 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.

**FATHER JAMES E. COYLE MEMORIAL MASS:** Let us remember a holy priest killed in the line of duty. A memorial Mass will be offered on Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at St Paul’s. Mass will be followed by a reception and a reflection upon the life of Fr Coyle.

**LAY DOMINICANS:** Adult men and women who have been Catholics for at least two years are invited to learn about the Dominican Laity and see if this is where God may be calling you. The pillars of Lay Dominican life center around prayer, study, apostolate (sharing our faith with others in ways appropriate to the laity), and community (monthly meetings on Sunday afternoons in Birmingham). As lay members of the Dominican Order, we are drawn together by the love of St Dominic, and invite you to consider joining us! To learn more, contact Amanda Lang, chapter president, at [justin.amanda.lang@gmail.com](mailto:justin.amanda.lang@gmail.com)

**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, Ross Gilliland, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Nick Smith, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, Fernando Casillas, Jack Lyons, Jorge Martinez, Jonathan Ruscoe, Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, and Friar Apollo.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$4499 and \$1065 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, Jul 12:	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Shane Henderson (by the Duvall Family)
Sun, Jul 13:	7:30 a.m.	† Cody Johnson (by the Donellan Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Don Williamson (by the Donellan Family)
Mon, Jul 14	*8:30 a.m.	† Becky Mitchell (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, Jul 15:	*8:30 a.m.	† Charlene Cooper (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Jul 16:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Pinter Family (by the Donellan Family)
Thur, Jul 17:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Michael Hill Family (by the Donellan Family)
Fri, Jul 18:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Gabryel Family (by the Donellan Family)
Sat, Jul 19:	9:10 a.m.	Special intention for the Juneau Family (by the Donellan Family)
	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Peter & Sharon Family (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, Jul 20:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Philip Cook (by the Donellan Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Agnes Regina Maziarz (by Elizabeth & Charles Anthony Rumore)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially 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, 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. 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen 18:1-10, Col 1:24-28, Lk 10:38-42
7:30 a.m. 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	Rom 6:3-11, Mk 8:1-9
9:00 a.m. 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	Gen 18:1-10, Col 1:24-28, Lk 10:38-42
10:45 a.m. 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost	Rom 6:3-11, Mk 8:1-9

## *Freedom*

Freedom is a misunderstood and abused concept today. Our founding fathers saw freedom to be liberation from tyranny and oppression, freedom from foreign rule, and freedom from economic exploitation. Ultimately, it was the freedom to do what they perceived was right and just. Many came to the colonies to practice their own religion, to establish their own farms and businesses, and to escape poverty and indebtedness. Others came against their will because some put economic gain over the rights, freedom, and dignity of others. Sadly, the colonies were largely populated by those seeking freedom to determine their own futures and that same freedom was denied to slaves. While the institution of slavery was not a uniquely American blight – the British were certainly responsible in establishing and maintaining slavery in the colonies – it is a sad testimony to how we can be sensitive to our own freedom while at the same time ignoring or denying freedom to others.

By virtue of our fallen nature, we are all prone to selfishness. While we can't simply write off, ignore, or excuse a sad episode in our history due to our flawed human nature, we must wonder how those who wrote 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness' could ignore what was happening in the slave states. Yes, economic interests were a factor: transforming an economy and a culture does not simply happen by edict, by the outpouring of huge sums of money, or by good intentions. Evidence of this can be seen in the recent attempts at nation building in the Middle East, which have failed utterly. Likewise, the Soviet Union no longer exists, but that does not mean that Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, etc. are shining beacons of freedom and democracy. It is also apparent that not a few wish to return to Soviet totalitarianism.

Not a few Americans also wish to establish tyranny in the land of the free and the home of the brave. Words are bandied about, such as justice, equality, equity, fairness, etc., but those using these words have a very different understanding of them. George Orwell could not have been more correct, only his timing was off.

What is at work here is again our fallen human nature. Freedom is often seen today as the ability to do what we want to do on our own terms. That is not freedom. It is much closer to anarchy. Only a halfwit could fully embrace anarchy since there is no long term benefit for a moral, social, and political free-for-all. Instead we have those pushing for a socialist or even communist America with the understanding that they themselves will be among the elites, that they will be among those who are more equal than the others. They would happily tell others how to live while placing no such restrictions on themselves. They don't see the utter hypocrisy of their beliefs any more than the founding fathers did in extolling the God given rights of all, except for some.

The real problem of freedom, given our flawed human nature, is quite simply selfishness. No one wants to be among the unwashed masses, the proletariat, the physically enslaved, the economically enslaved, or the morally enslaved. We want to be among the elites. We are fascinated with celebrities, with royalty, with the rich, and with the powerful. We don't want to be denied the same luxuries of the rich, powerful, and famous and many go deeply into debt as a result. This is not what we were meant for. True freedom sometimes requires a degree of self sacrifice but is not self-destructive or injurious to others.

No, the freedom of the Gospel is freedom from enslavement to sin that leads to eternal death. Again, St Paul teaches that *"you were called for freedom, brothers. But do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather, serve one another through love. For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'"* (Gal 5:13-14). Thus, our freedom ought to be directed toward doing what is good and righteous through loving God above all else and our neighbors as ourselves. It also turns out that serving God and neighbor provides greater earthly happiness than the selfishness to which we are prone.

- Fr Booth