

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

**September 27th/September 28th 2025: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (English)
16th 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.

NOTICE ON CHECKS: Please make out all checks to Blessed Sacrament or Blessed Sacrament Church.

IN MEMORIAM: For John McCarrick, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from September 28th to October 4th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Molly Dublois from October 5th until October 11th.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday English Mass on October 3rd at 8:30 a.m. in the Rectory followed with Adoration and Benediction and a Latin Low Mass at 6:30 p.m. in the Church.

FIRST SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on October 4th. Altar server training will follow Mass.

FIRST SUNDAY: Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: Pledge Sunday for the Bishop’s Annual Appeal campaign for 2026 is on September 28th. You should receive a Pledge Card in the mail soon, but you also can enter your annual pledge or recurring gift any time at catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our pledge goal for this year is \$29,000.

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

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$6747 and \$435 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

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.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There is about a 9 month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, Sep 27: 4:00 p.m. † Clement E. Muck, Jr. (by the Duvall Family)
Sun, Sep 28: 7:30 a.m. † Beverly Scroggins (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Rev William Scroggins (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)
Mon, Sep 29 *8:30 a.m. Special intention for the Clemens Family (by the Juneau Family)
Tues, Sep 30: *8:30 a.m. † Dorothy Ann Bismack (by Monica Duvall)
Wed, Oct 1: *8:30 a.m. † Dorothy Ann Bismack (by Birmingham CSH)
Thur, Oct 2: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for the Clemens Family (by the Tyler Family)
Fri, Oct 3: *8:30 a.m. † Rev William Scroggins (by John & Lucrecia Hall)
6:30 p.m. † Beverly Scroggins (by John & Lucrecia Hall)
Sat, Oct 4: 8:30 a.m. † Justina Monterroso Zetino (by John & Lucrecia Hall)
4:00 p.m. † James Richard McNally (by Lynn Bryant)
Sun, Oct 5: 7:30 a.m. † Beverly Scroggins (by Alan & Pam Olson)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Rev William Scroggins (by Alan & Pam Olson)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Fr Charles Merrill, Brian Schwager, Patrick Schwager, 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. 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4, 2Tim 1:6-8,13-14, Lk 17:5-10
7:30 a.m. 17 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 4:1-6, Mt 22:34-46
9:00 a.m. 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4, 2Tim 1:6-8,13-14, Lk 17:5-10
10:45 a.m. 17 th Sunday After Pentecost	Eph 4:1-6, Mt 22:34-46

Our Salvation is Not an Event

Another way of looking at our salvation is to consider how we are to be judged. We will all be judged. Generally speaking, we will all be judged twice, once at the moment of our death and once again at the end of the world. The first judgment is a one-on-one encounter with Christ. The second is the general judgment occurring at the end of time where we will all be judged individually but in front of the assembled multitude of mankind. The two judgments will be the same. There will be no one judged as saved in the particular judgment who will be later judged as damned in the general judgment nor will there be anyone who is condemned at the particular judgment later to be regarded as saved. In other words, there are no second chances.

The particular judgment occurs at the moment of death. There are exceptions, most notably Dismas, the good thief, who was judged by Jesus while they both hung from their respective crosses. After asking Jesus to remember him when He comes into His kingdom, Jesus says to him *“Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise”* (Lk 23:43). Dismas is utterly unique, he is not the pattern by which men are saved. He is the exception, not the rule. He had no opportunity to be baptized nor to have a disciple’s life. Jesus did not hold that against him. Others who might not go through the particular judgment are those alive at the time of Jesus’ second coming at the end of time. It is likely, but not certain, that they will simply be part of the general judgment. No matter what, however, we will be found worthy of heaven or we won’t. Many of those who are judged worthy of paradise will not be found perfect. We are expected to become holy in this life so as to be holy enough for heaven. Reiterating what God expected of the Jews (e.g., Lev 11:44-45, 19:2, 20:26, etc.), Peter teaches *“as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct, for it is written, ‘Be holy because I am holy’* (1Pet 1:15-16). We will have to be cleansed of what is unfit for heaven: we are to be holy, not just snow-covered dung heaps as Luther taught. We are to be righteous, through God’s grace, not simply have Christ’s righteousness passively imputed to us.

The second judgment we will all experience is the final or general judgment at the end of time when Christ appears. As mentioned earlier, this judgment will confirm the first or particular judgment. The difference is that we will all see each person’s judgment where all of their actions will be revealed to all of mankind. *“There is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known. Therefore whatever you have said in the darkness will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be proclaimed on the housetops”* (Lk12:2-3). All of the shameful things we have done, said, and thought will be exposed for all to see. With the exception of infants, we all have unfortunate things we truly regret, or we ought to regret.

The point of the general judgment’s revelations of each one’s thoughts, words, and deeds is not to embarrass us, but to accomplish two things. First, it shows forth God’s fathomless mercy. The man who did a multitude of unspeakable things before his conversion will manifest God’s mercy. The man who lived a basically good life, doing nothing nearly as evil as the one who did a multitude of unspeakable things, but refusing to repent of gossiping or lusting or envy or holding a hateful grudge will nevertheless show forth God’s justice when he is judged unworthy of heaven. Some will object that one man is condemned for what seem to be fewer and lesser sins than the other, but *“You say, ‘The Lord’s way is not fair!’ Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair? Are not your ways unfair? When the just turn away from justice to do evil and die, on account of the evil they did they must die. But if the wicked turn from the wickedness they did and do what is right and just, they save their lives; since they turned away from all the sins they committed, they shall live; they shall not die”* (Ez 18:25-28). Secondly, the revelation of everyone’s thoughts, words, and deeds will make it clear why aunt Wilma was condemned while uncle Fred was found worthy. Everyone who knew Fred and Wilma thought Fred was something of a rascal but Wilma was saintly, but God sees what we don’t see. Indeed, there will be surprises at the general judgment, as Matthew 25:31-46 indicates.

- Fr Booth