

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

May 23rd / May 24th 2026: Pentecost



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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 Guillermo Davila Camacho, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from May 24th to May 30th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Ida Olson from May 31st until June 6th.

PLENARY INDULGENCE: Under the usual conditions, a plenary indulgence can be obtained on Pentecost by reciting the *Veni, Creator Spiritus*, which is the sequence prior to the Gospel on Pentecost Sunday for both Latin and English.

FIRST SUNDAY: For the first Sunday of June, instead of coffee and donuts there will be potluck brunch following the 9:00 Mass.

SACRED HEART: The American bishops will consecrate the nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in honor of our nation’s 250th anniversary. Bishop Raica has chosen to transfer the liturgical celebration of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart from Friday, June 12th to Sunday June 14th. This applies only for this year and is intended to broaden the participation in this feast and the nation’s consecration. All Masses on June 13th and 14th, both Latin and English, will be for the Sacred Heart while liturgy on Friday, June 12th, will be for Friday of the 10th week of Ordinary Time.

CONTINUATION OF FOOD DRIVE: The food drive begun in Lent benefitting the Franciscan Poor of Jesus Christ, who have a ministry to the homeless, and a local food bank will continue on an ongoing basis. If you have further questions, please contact Shannon Dunaway (ssullivan7606@gmail.com) or Steve and Brandy Katona (Katonafamily@yahoo.com).

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Deacon John Paul Stepnowski, Deacon Andrew Vickery, Deacon 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, Deacon Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, Friar Apollo, and Owen Sederstrand.

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN RELIGIOUS LIFE: Please pray for Sister María Josefa of the Divine Providence and Jessica Saville.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$7613 and \$6330 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There is large backlog on Mass Intentions. Therefore, until further notice, Mass Intentions will only be accepted on a one Mass per family per week basis. No exceptions. The Mass Intentions for this week date from July 13th.

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

Sat, May 23: 4:00 p.m. † Tim MacKinaw (by Julie Bryant)
Sun, May 24: 7:30 a.m. † Grace Hill (by the Clemens Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Beverly Scroggins (by the Clemens Family)
Mon, May 25: *8:30 a.m. † Thellis Williamson (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, May 26: *8:30 a.m. † Mary Cooper (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, May 27: *8:30 a.m. † Eddie Zimmer (by the Donellan Family)
Thur, May 28: *8:30 a.m. † Frederick Zimmer (by the Donellan Family)
Fri, May 29: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Kara Pepe (by the Donellan Family)
Sat, May 30: 4:00 p.m. Special intention for Mike & Wendy Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, May 31: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for Dan & Stephanie Burke (by the Donellan Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special intention for Sterling & Jill Caudle (by the Donellan Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially for Suzanne Vickery, Casey Daniel, Kathy Newman, Daniel Flemming, George Sampedro, Jesse Hernandez, Jose Mariano Hernández Avila, Stan Hartdegen, Kent Graeve, Justin Meadows, Rachel Maxwell, John Minjares, Sr., Virginia Elmer, 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, 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. Holy Trinity	Exo 34:4-6,8-9, 2Cor 13:11-13, Jn 3:16-18
7:30 a.m. Holy Trinity	Rom 11:33-36, Mt 28:18-20
9:00 a.m. Holy Trinity	Exo 34:4-6,8-9, 2Cor 13:11-13, Jn 3:16-18
10:45 a.m. Holy Trinity	Rom 11:33-36, Mt 28:18-20

From One Language to Many Languages to One True Language

The confusion of the languages at the tower of Babel must have been distressing and comical at the same time. Languages all changing in an instant as a result of man trying to storm heaven on his own terms. All of a sudden, two men hefting a large stone could no longer coordinate their actions. No doubt they shouted at each other, but that didn't help at all. They would have to drop the stone eventually. They could not hold on to the stone until they worked it all out. Two foremen discussing the building plans suddenly thrust into utter confusion. Pointing and shouting to no avail. They get angrier and angrier before they stormed away from one another. Sooner or later they all had to find someone that spoke like they did. We are not told how many languages were imposed on mankind in this episode, but it surely was more than a few. But how would they have gotten their act together to assemble into groups speaking the same language? Who could organize such an endeavor without a common language?

It is likely that God had imposed the same language upon families, family groups, and clans of relatives. The Bible does not say it happened that way, however, but the tower of Babel episode is placed among genealogies in the book of Genesis. That these genealogies all span seamlessly across the Babel event suggests the this did not confuse husbands and wives, parents and children, and so on. Family cohesiveness was maintained for the sake of mankind despite the arrogance of trying to take heaven on our own terms. It would have been cruel for husband and wife to suddenly speak different languages. Even more cruel for mothers and children not being able to communicate.

The whole purpose of God in confusing the languages of mankind was to prevent us from reiterating the same sin of Adam and Eve: wanting to be like God. Man had lost sight of being a creature made by an all-powerful and all-wise Creator. Adam and Eve knew this better than anyone else since they walked and talked with God. Until they didn't. They were exiled from the Garden of Eden and yet somehow mankind learned nothing from this episode. If Adam and Eve were barred from an earthly paradise, what hubris to assume that a heavenly paradise could be obtained by doing an end run around God. Adam and Eve began with direct access to God but lost it. Their offspring at the tower Babel didn't start with this blessing. Nor do we.

It is no surprise that we are just as prone to cross the line between creature and Creator, seeking what does not pertain to us. They tried to storm heaven with a tower – doomed to fail from the outset – and mankind tries to wield god-like power. Power over nature. Power over one another. Power over life itself. Like the Tower of Babel, this too is doomed to fail from the outset. Just consider the folly of creating a new virus designed to infect humans. What could go right with that? Look at the suffering and death wrought by monkeying around with things beyond our understanding and beyond our control. Nature laughs at us. God shakes His head in disgust. We won't learn from Covid any more than the people at Babel heeded the lessons from Adam and Eve's folly.

We play god to our own detriment while God offers us Himself in the Holy Spirit. We cannot become gods like Adam and Eve wanted, but we can become tabernacles of God the Spirit. We cannot build and innovate our way into heaven like they tried to do at Babel, but we have become citizens of heaven and can even come to reside there by having the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Thanks to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and His continued outpouring through the sacraments, we can have our deepest and otherwise unobtainable desires fulfilled. Not on our terms but on God's terms. Not on our timetable but all in God's time. Not by our efforts but by God's unmerited gift to us. Not in this world that we have messed up and continue to mess up but in the world to come.

And unlike Babel, we won't have to search for others that speak our language. No, God searched for us, found us, and invited us to join His family – the Church – through baptism. The new universal language, if we choose to speak it and if we bother to hear it, is that of love. It is the language that ought to be spoken because it most certainly is the language of heaven.

- Fr Booth