

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

**October 17th/October 18th 2026: 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
21st 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.

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 the Jerry Bryant, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from October 18th to October 24th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Therese Gagnon from October 25th until October 31st.

REST IN PEACE: Joseph Dorion, husband of Kay Dorion, passed on October 11th. Visitation will be 1:00 to 7:00 p.m on Monday the 19th at Bushelon Funeral Home. The funeral Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday the 20th. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

MEN'S ROOM: The Men's room, is in the process of renovation.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a second collection this weekend for the World Mission Sunday, supporting mission churches throughout the world.

SEMINARY LIVE-IN WEEKEND: The Office of Vocations will host a Seminary Live-In at St Meinrad Seminary November 12th to 15th. This event is for men 18-35 years of age. The weekend is an opportunity for men to experience daily life in the seminary, attend classes, and meet current seminarians. There is no fee to attend, but registration is required.

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS: Blessed Sacrament will begin accepting electronic contributions in the upcoming months. It will be an on-line based system that will accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, and ACH transfers.

OCIA CLASSES: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) classes will continue on Tuesday, October 20th at 6:00 pm in the rectory chapel.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL: You can mail your pledge card to the diocese or enter your annual pledge or recurring gift any time at catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our pledge goal for this year is \$30,885. As of October 16th, \$22,300 have been pledged thus far.

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Hunter Limbaugh, Francisco Rodriguez, Justin Brouillette, Cameron Huhlein, Patrick Letterle, Wilson Moin, Joshua Callahan, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Benjamin Caruna, Maximilian Waldron, Fernando Casillas, Jorge Martinez, Jonathan Ruscoe, Nathan Mitchell, Nicholas Shovel, Axel Lopez, Fox Garon, Deacon Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, Friar Apollo, and Owen Sederstrand.

HER CHOICE FUNDRAISING BANQUET: The annual Her Choice Banquet will be held on Thurs, Nov 5th at 7:00 p.m. at The Club (1 Robert S. Smith Drive). The keynote speaker will be Dr. George Delgado, a pioneer in abortion pill reversal. Make your reservation, 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

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 \$9385 and \$675 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: The backlog of Mass Intentions has been greatly reduced. Multiple Mass Intention requests per week will again be accepted. The Mass Intentions for this week date from May 24th.

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

Sat, Oct 17:	9:15 a.m.	Special intention for the Robert & Donna Albares Family (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)
	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)
Sun, Oct 18:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Andrew Rumore Family (by the Donellan Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Fr Den Irwin (by Alan & Pam Olson)
Mon, Oct 19:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Jackson Beals (by the Schwager Family)
Tues, Oct 20:	*8:30 a.m.	† Brandon Grainger (by the Ferino Family)
Wed, Oct 21:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Charlotte Sederstrand (by Monica & Cora Duvall)
Thur, Oct 22:	*8:30 a.m.	In Honor of St Rita (by Alan & Pam Olson)
Fri, Oct 23:	*8:30 a.m.	† David Albares (by the Mathews Family)
Sat, Oct 24:	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention for Joy Jimenez (by Jacob & Gabi Gagnon)
Sun, Oct 25:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Jackson Beals (by the Schwager Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special Intention for Sarah Catherine Rumore (by Jacob & Gabi Gagnon)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially for James Cover, Dennis Taubitz, 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, 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, Christine Cover, Thatcher Kerzie, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Kathleen Strawmeyer, and Stephanie Perry.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS

4:00 p.m.	30 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Exo 22:20-26, 1Thes 1:5-10, Mt 22:34-40
7:30 a.m.	Christ the King	Col 1:12-20, Jn 18:33-37
9:00 a.m.	30 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Exo 22:20-26, 1Thes 1:5-10, Mt 22:34-40
10:45 a.m.	Christ the King	Col 1:12-20, Jn 18:33-37

When Progress Ain't Progress

It is clear that all is not right in the world and things don't seem to be improving. It is not about gas prices or the conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine. No, it is more fundamental than that. If a sizable fraction of people think that a mother can kill her children with impunity, we have gone or are in the process of going off the rails. When personal responsibility is disdained, we have gone or are in the process of going off the rails. When some are afforded agency while others are precluded from exercising their proper authority, we have gone or are in the process of going off the rails. When facts are laid aside in preference to emotions or opinions, we have gone or are in the process of going off the rails. When facts and mainstream beliefs are deemed to be fringe or extreme while falsehoods and extreme ideas are promoted as mainstream, we have gone or are in the process of going off the rails.

History teaches us that societies go off the rails more readily than we would like to admit. History also tells us that such forays into societal madness do not happen out of the blue. A slow and methodical process, perhaps over the course of several generations, can transform a society. Even science and technology can be co-opted to justify and accelerate the maddening process. For example, the theory of darwinian evolution can easily be adapted into social darwinism where one culture or race is more fit than others. If survival of the fittest applies for competing animal species, surely the same is true of cultures and races. If so, cleansing the gene pool seems like a reasonable path, nay, a moral imperative for the sake of mankind. If unregulated capitalism results in some accumulating more wealth than most others, then surely a tightly regulated economy would be better for all. Even better, if a central authority regulated all economic activity even to the point that private property is abolished, then that must be better for everyone. The victims of the nazis and communists would beg to differ.

Increasingly, we are seeing federal and state constitutions declared as impediments to 'progress.' The same is true of federal and local laws. Exercise of free speech for some, but not for others. Free exercise of religion for some, but not for others. It is no secret that Catholics have been targeted by the federal government. No one has been held accountable for these gross violations of the First Amendment. Washington State might pass a law precluding local elected officials from holding office if they hold 'extreme' views, if they belong to an organization that holds 'extreme' views, or if they contribute to an organization that holds 'extreme' views. On one level, that might seem prudent and logical. Who wants extremists in the government? But the definition of 'extreme' truly matters. As the bill is written, it would disqualify any state elected official who holds the 'extreme' view that there are only two genders and that only biological men and biological women can marry, or belongs to an organization espousing such views. All Bible-believing Christians, all conservative and orthodox Jews, and all people holding to biological truths would be disqualified from holding local office. Surely excluding people of faith who know they are accountable to God and those who understand biological facts from holding elected office will result in a better, more just, and more free society. Riiiiight.

It is almost certain, however, that someone attending a mosque or otherwise practicing islam will be exempted from such a law. Maybe not in the letter of the law, but certainly in the application and execution of that proposed law. Politics make for strange bedfellows, but modern progressives and muslims qualify as the strangest of bedfellows. They are united by a common enemy: Christians, Jews, and Judeo-Christian morality. No doubt the progressives and muslims see one another as useful idiots, but one side of this alliance will utterly crush the other when it seems opportune.

How did we get here? Quite simply, by not following the Gospel. Year after year over several generations the faith has been watered down and often become beholden to the culture instead of holding the culture to Gospel values. Jesus did not come to establish a theocracy. But He did enjoin on us the task of being the salt of the earth and the light of the world (Mt 5:13-14). We have to admit that the world has been seasoning Christians with pagan values and insisting that we keep the light of Christ either to ourselves or burning so dimly as to be indistinguishable from darkness.

- Fr Booth