

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**March 30<sup>th</sup> / March 31<sup>st</sup> 2024: Easter Sunday**



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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. If you wish to join Blessed Sacrament, please pick up a parish census form in the vestibule at the back of the church.

**IN MEMORIAM:** For Chester Olson, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from March 31<sup>st</sup> until April 6<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Fr Mark Beard from April 7<sup>th</sup> until April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRST FRIDAY:** We will have our First Friday English Mass on April 5<sup>th</sup> 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 April 6<sup>th</sup>. Altar server training and Martha and Mary Altar Sodality 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.

**CONFIRMATION:** We are planning on having Confirmation later this year at a date that is to be determined. The bishop has offered to confirm using the new rite in Latin followed by a High Latin Mass where he will sit in choir.

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2023** have been mailed. If you contributed \$250 or more you should have received your statement.

**MEMORIAL SANCTUARY LAMP SIGN-UP SHEETS** for 2024, 2025, and 2026 are in the vestibule at the back of the Church.

**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, Michael Masny, Ross Gilliland, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Nick Smith, and Dominic Rumore.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last weekend was \$6341 and the Preservation Fund collection was \$105. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

**NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS:** There is about a 7-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, Mar 30: 8:00 p.m. Special Intention for Michael Masny (by John & Lucrecia Hall)

Sun, Mar 31: 7:30 a.m. † Julie Wang Kelly (by Kevin Kelly)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for AnnaLu Hemphill (by John & Lucrecia Hall)

Mon, Apr 1: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Margaret Masny (by Monica Duvall)

Tues, Apr 2: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Michael Masny (by Monica Duvall)

Wed, Apr 3: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Sisters of the Poor of Jesus Christ (by John & Lucrecia Hall)

Thur, Apr 4: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mary Hannah Runge (by John & Lucrecia Hall)

Fri, Apr 5: \*8:30 a.m. † Doris Ballasch (by Andrew & Hallie Hill)  
6:30 p.m. † Randy Sequiera (by Andrew & Hallie Hill)

Sat, Apr 6: 8:30 a.m. † Julie Wang Kelly (by Kevin Kelly)  
4:00 p.m. † Penny Cardenas (by the Bryant Family)

Sun, Apr 7: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Ronnie & Mema Mathews (by the Juneau Family)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Sarah Catherine Rumore (by Charlotte & Terry Rumore)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Richard Juneau, Diane Norton, Laura Minjares, Pedro Antonio Triana, John Davis, Chorbishop Richard Saad, Mary Jerabek, Sr Maria Lucis, Debbie Booth, Deacon Walter Henderson, Paul Trussel, Paul Caruso, Jeff Brown, Mary Simmons, Linda Henry, ShaKendria Hooks, Lisa DeKam Nicholls, Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, Gail McMahan, Bob Wiseman, Eve Moore, Bill Dinan, Carol Brandley, Eddie Hunter, Lawrence Brandley, Pete Ransom, Jerry Joiner, Beryl Curtis, Linda Cooper, Danny Rohling, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, Beverly Scroggins, William Scroggins, 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**

8:00 p.m. Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:32-35, 1Jn 5:1-6, Jn 20:19-31
7:30 a.m. Low Sunday	1Jn 5:4-10, Jn 20:19-31
9:00 a.m. Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 4:32-35, 1Jn 5:1-6, Jn 20:19-31
10:45 a.m. Low Sunday	1Jn 5:4-10, Jn 20:19-31

## *In Christ, Nothing is in Vain*

Nearly three thousand years ago, King Solomon, the wisest of all men, would lament *“For the fate of the sons of men and the fate of beasts is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath, and man has no advantage over the beasts; for all is vanity. All go to one place; all are from the dust, and all turn to dust again”* (Eccl 3:19-20). Solomon noted that the wise, the foolish, the rich, the poor, the strong, the feeble, the high-born, the low-born, the just, the unjust, the innocent, the guilty, the oppressor, and the oppressed all suffer and die exactly the same. Wisdom and folly produce the same result in the end. Even before King Solomon declared all to be vanity of vanities and a chase after the wind, Job would express a similar sentiment: *“Perish the day on which I was born, the night when they said, ‘The child is a boy!’ May that day be darkness: may God above not care for it, may light not shine upon it!”* (Job 3:3-4). Job in his suffering longs for death, Solomon laments that death makes all men equal. Even a king like Solomon – wise, rich, and powerful – dies like a dog and suffering men long even to die like one too. This lamentable reality was expressed in the time of Job and Solomon when the promise of heaven did not enter the hopes of the suffering. In their time many centuries ago, God had not yet revealed the promise of eternal life. Adam and Eve managed to close off paradise for all of mankind because of their disobedience.

Therefore death became the absolute end for all of the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve. Death had the absolute and final say. Death ended power, wisdom, fame, and prosperity totally and absolutely. Death ended joy and suffering alike. From the standpoint of the wisest man alive, it is death that is what makes all in life vanity of vanities. But now, we can say along with St Paul *“Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”* (1Cor 15:54-55). And this is all because Jesus rose from the dead that death need not have power over mankind.

Indeed, King Solomon can no longer say that man and beast share the same breath because God shared our breath and our death. Solomon’s lament of men dying like beasts turns into St Paul being able to claim *“For not all flesh is alike, but there is one kind for men, another for animals”* (1Cor 15:39), for only man rises from the dead. In the same way, as Job longed to die to end his suffering, St Paul can now long for death for very different reasons. *“For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better”* (Phil 1:21-23).

In other words, the resurrection of Jesus changes everything. Suffering and death are no longer to be feared. Yes, suffering still happens more or less to all – physical, emotional, spiritual suffering – it now has been transformed by Jesus’ own suffering. Yes, death must still be faced, it must still be reckoned with, but now it need not be dreaded as it was in the past. Death becomes a part of life, not the end of it, because of Jesus. We now all have an eternal future as opposed to a common end in death.

Suffering and death have vexed mankind from the very beginning, both being the direct consequences of the sin of Adam and Eve. Suffering and death need no longer disturb us. Why? Because God Himself, the Word Incarnate, the sinless Victim of our sins, has suffered and died. He took our sins upon Himself, He suffered and died so that our two greatest foes, sin and death, need not have dominion over us. Now the only thing that we need to fear is what possibly lies beyond death. And what lies beyond death need only be feared if we are not living in, not living with, not living like, and not living for Jesus in this life. If we are not in a state of grace, if we have not repented of our sins and fail to live lives of faith, hope, and love, then what Solomon lamented still holds true. Apart from Jesus, without the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, without truly being and acting like sons and daughters of the Father, then all is vanity of vanities.

- Fr Booth