

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

June 15<sup>th</sup>/June 16<sup>th</sup> 2024: Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)  
Fourth 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. 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 Julius Lee, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from June 16<sup>th</sup> to June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Omer & Ida Hull from June 30<sup>th</sup> until July 6<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**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.

**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 Pam Leverett, chapter president, at pcleverett\_66@outlook.com.

**LIFE ON WHEELS:** Life On Wheels, a mobile pro-life service provider that works in conjunction with Her Choice, needs client advocates and drivers. Please consider volunteering with Life On Wheels, a medical mobile clinic that provides free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, resources, and encouragement to women throughout Birmingham. If you have an interest in learning more or serving in this non-profit ministry, serving women, saving babies, and sharing Jesus, please contact Alejandra Lewis (205) 614-1221 or ale@lowironcity.com

**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, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, and Dominic Rumore.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last weekend was \$5278 and the Preservation Fund collection was \$55. 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, June 15: 9:15 a.m. Special Intention for the Jonathan & Nicole Zaucha Family  
(by the Hahn Family)  
4:00 p.m. Special Intention for the Pinter Family (by the Hahn Family)  
Sun, June 16: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Meeker Family (by the Hahn  
Family)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. † For the Souls in Purgatory (by the Hahn Family)  
Mon, June 17 \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Sharon Gagnon (by Susan Tyler)  
Tues, June 18: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Sandra Smith (by Martin & Kay Dorion)  
Wed, June 19: \*8:30 a.m. Special Intention for the Zaucha Family (by the Hall Family)  
Thur, June 20: \*8:30 a.m. Private Intention  
Fri, June 21: \*8:30 a.m. † Buster Engert (by the Juneau Family)  
Sat, June 22: 4:00 p.m. † Jerry Bryant (by the Bryant Family)  
Sun, June 23: 7:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mary Beth Schwager (by Brian  
Schwager)  
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
10:45 a.m. Special Intention for Mary Beth Schwager (by Patrick  
Schwager)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially Rachel Maxwell, John Minjares, Sr., Virginia Elmer, Richard Juneau, Diane Norton, Laura Minjares, Pedro Antonio Triana, John Davis, Chorbishop Richard Saad, Mary Jerabek, Sr Maria Lucis, Debbie Booth, Paul Trussel, Paul Caruso, Jeff Brown, Mary Simmons, Linda Henry, ShaKendria Hooks, Lisa DeKam Nicholls, Ronnie Buchanan, Barbara Williams, 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**

4:00 p.m. Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time	Job 38:1,8-11, 2Cor 5:14-17, Mk 4:35-41
7:30 a.m. Fifth Sunday After Pentecost	1Pet 3:8-15, Mt 5:20-24
9:00 a.m. Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time	Job 38:1,8-11, 2Cor 5:14-17, Mk 4:35-41
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## *The Illusion of Independence*

We like to think that we are independent. We like to think that we are less vulnerable than we truly are. Much of our independence is more of an illusion than we might realize or care to admit. For example, how dependent are we on having various forms of merchandise delivered to our door? It is convenient. It offers us a wide spectrum of goods to which we might never otherwise have access. If you needed shoes, you once went to a shoe store or a department store and had to live with whatever they sold, and you might not be able to get what you wanted from the selection they offered because it was out of stock. Or that style of shoe just did not come in your size. Now, we have access to shoes of every shape, size, style, and color because of online shopping. If you wanted a particular dietary supplement, you had to go to the drug store or the supermarket. If you were looking for ashwagandha extract (whatever that is), the pharmacist would have said ‘do what?’ Now with online shopping you can get ashwagandha that is in capsule form or not, vegan or not, organic or not, from India or not, from the Himalayas or not, and so on. But what if some enviro-zealot politicians or bureaucrats outlaw home deliveries because of the carbon footprint of all of those delivery trucks? Or what if an online retailer chooses to refuse your business because you are a Christian, because you don’t seem to support the same causes they do, or because of the content of your social media? You might even be boycotted at local stores because of your beliefs. It is already happening that some people are being de-banked, having their bank accounts and credit cards cancelled because of what they believe. How independent are we without a credit card or a bank account?

And then there is our dependence on the various utilities we take for granted. When we lose power for a couple of hours, many of us are at a loss. No internet. No light. No computer. No cable. No heat or A/C. But what if the power is down even longer and not just in our neighborhood? No cell coverage, no landlines, no refrigeration and much spoiled food. Perhaps we would have only a barbecue for cooking so long as the charcoal or propane holds out. Many natural gas ovens and stoves won’t work without electrical power. Temporary power loss is inconvenient, but a permanent widespread loss would be devastating. That would translate into no running water and no natural gas since electrical pumps are necessary to deliver water and gas. Eventually there would be no food and other essentials in local stores nor would there be fuel for our cars.

The vast majority of Americans are hardly prepared for such a possibility. It is likely that preppers and survivalists are much less prepared than they think. Yes, they may have a stockpile of various essentials, but how long might they last? Early in the cold war, beginning in the late 1950s, some built fallout or even bomb shelters with the expectation of surviving a nuclear war. That trend faded out most likely because people realized that when they emerged from their bunker the world would be hardly recognizable and less than habitable. Remote regions would be spared the direct effects of the nuclear weapons, but widespread radioactive fallout might or might not be avoided. Even if the local area was spared, what are the odds that hunkering down for months in a confined space, which would likely be more or less dark for lack of electricity, that people would maintain their mental health and avoid killing one another?

Indeed, we really ought to know that any dependence we have on the things of the world is tenuous at best. Becoming preppers or survivalists is hardly the answer. No, everything we rely on in this world is ultimately built upon a foundation of sand. We want to be independent, we want to be masters of our own destiny, but those desires are ill-conceived. Wanting to be masters of our own fate is not much different than the desires of Adam and Eve that led to their downfall. They wanted to be like gods even though God had provided for their every need in the Garden.

Truly our most fundamental need is to be right with God, to have Jesus in our life that we might secure eternal life, that we *“might have life and have it more abundantly”* (Jn 10:10) in heaven but also in this world despite the vast unreliability of all things temporal and mundane. - Fr Booth