

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

February 8th/February 9th 2025: 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)
5th Sunday after Epiphany (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.

IN MEMORIAM: Colt Hull, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from February 9th to February 15th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Joel Levenberg from February 16th until February 22nd.

MORNING WITH MARY: All ladies are invited to a morning of devotion next Saturday, February 15th. Adoration will begin at 8:30 a.m., there will be confession during adoration, followed by benediction at about 9:10 a.m., and concluding with a low Latin Mass at about 9:15 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY: Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of the month. We will have vocations prayers and a potluck lunch following the 10:45 a.m. Mass.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES FOR 2025: Contribution envelopes are located in the back vestibule. If yours are not there, let Fr Booth know.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS for 2024 have been mailed out.

FIRST COMMUNION: We tentatively scheduled our First Communion on March 30th, Gaudete Sunday, at the 10:45 Mass. Opportunities for first confession will be announced.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: The Bishop’s Annual Appeal continues. You can return your pledge card or pledge via catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our goal for this year is \$28,000. So far, Blessed Sacrament has pledged \$28,035 and thus exceeding our goal.

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, Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, and Friar Apollo.

PERPETUAL ADORATION: Our Lady of Sorrows in Homewood is inviting people to come and adore our Lord in the Eucharist. They have had 24/7/365 Eucharistic Adoration for over 30 years. If you are interested in adoring Jesus in the Eucharist, please contact Bo Lovell at (205) 965-3041.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$7541 and \$115 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There is about an 8-month backlog on Mass Intentions. Thus, requested Mass dates cannot always be honored.

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

Sat, Feb 8: 4:00 p.m. † Normand Gagnon (by the Lang Family)
Sun, Feb 9: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for Gina McGinn (by the Lang Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Normand Gagnon (by Alan & Pam Olson)
Mon, Feb 10 *8:30 a.m. † Donald Armstrong (by Alan & Pam Olson)
Tue, Feb 11: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for the Ryan Penney Family (by Diane Penney)
Wed, Feb 12: *8:30 a.m. † Jeff Buck (by Diane Penney)
Thur, Feb 13: *8:30 a.m. † Catherine Lester Kelly (by Kevin Kelly)
Fri, Feb 14: *8:30 a.m. † Normand Conrad Gagnon (by Luverne & Frank Gibson)
Sat, Feb 15: 9:15 a.m. Special intention for the Ed & Susan Fey Family (by the Hall Family)
4:00 p.m. † Eugene Mason (by Mary & Betty Mason)
Sun, Feb 16: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for the Martire Family (by the Hahn Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. † Clay Wingard (by the Hahn Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Grace Hill, Stan Hartdegen, Kent Graeve, Phillip McCarty, 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, Danny Rohling, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, 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. 6 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Jer 17:5-8, 1Cor 15:12,16-20, Lk 6:17,20-26
7:30 a.m. Septuagesima Sunday	1Cor 9:24-10-5, Mt 13:24-30
9:00 a.m. 6 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Jer 17:5-8, 1Cor 15:12,16-20, Lk 6:17,20-26
10:45 a.m. Septuagesima Sunday	1Cor 9:24-10-5, Mt 13:24-30

It All Comes Into the Light

Watching what has been going on of recent in Washington has been both enlightening and instructive. In many respects the revelation of where taxpayer money ends up going is maddening, hilarious, and scandalous at the same time. For example, it is utterly unclear why the people of Iraq need to have the United States fund an Iraqi version of Sesame Street. How well do Big Bird, Snuffleupagus, Oscar, the Count, the Cookie Monster, and Kermit the Frog translate at all into a Middle Eastern culture? Does Oscar become Omar the Grouch? Does the Count become the Sheik? Does the Cookie Monster become the Baklava Monster? Surely Miss Piggy has no place in such a production. Even better, do the kids in Iraq really need something like Sesame Street at all? If so, why not let them develop their own children's programming?

In any case, there has always been massive waste, fraud, and abuse at the federal level. For example, in 1975 federal money was granted to study how alcohol affects the behavior of sunfish, asking whether or not booze made them more aggressive and whether or not the fish responded differently to gin or tequila. One wonders if they had already tested the sunfish with vodka, brandy, rum, and bourbon, or were these liquors to be tested in future government funded studies. Either way, what is different now as opposed to 50 years ago is that politicians have become more clever in hiding such egregious spending.

What is also different now is the unapologetic reticence of some for such waste, fraud, and abuse to come to light. Yes, studying the sober versus drunk behavior of fish is embarrassing, but one gets the impression that having millions, probably billions, of dollars spent stupidly and frivolously is now somehow normal and justifiable. In 1975 one gets the impression that such stupidity resulted in 'Why in the world would we spend money on this' from members of congress while today the response from all too many congressmen is more along the lines of 'How dare you expose what we are doing!' The transgressors are morally outraged at those who expose their dark behavior.

Indeed, we must remember that what is done in darkness will come to light. Jesus insists that *"there is nothing hidden that will not become visible, and nothing secret that will not be known and come to light"* (Lk 8:17) and *"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"* (Lk 12:2-3). In other words, what is done and said in the dark will eventually come to light, whether now or when God judges what we have done. Nevertheless, despite the fact that all darkness will come to light one way or another, this hardly stops people from clinging to the darkness even though *"this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed"* (Jn 3:19-20).

The love of darkness is not isolated to Washington or any state capital. It is not peculiar to politicians and other people who have power and influence. We are all prone to prefer the darkness to the light to one degree or another. Yes, we might walk in the light today, but it is likely that we have walked in the darkness at some point in our lives. Or we might walk more in the light than in the dark, but there are dark areas of our lives that we would hate to come to light. In fact we might be more blind, or even indifferent, to the darkness of our lives than we suspect. We might even justify the darkness that we embrace, we might rationalize the darkness away. We might think that so long as our lives are 51% light and 49% dark that we are moral people. Indeed, how could we think that observing five or six of the Ten Commandments translates into moral righteousness? Some seem willing to overlook their own bad behavior thinking that at least they are not transgressing the 5th and the 6th Commandments. The truth is that the Light makes no such distinctions or accepts no such rationalizations. All we think, say, and do ought to be done in the Light of Christ. -Fr Booth