

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

March 15th/March 16th 2025: Second Sunday of Lent



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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: Bessie K. Lawrence, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from March 16th to March 22nd. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Robert Broussard from March 23rd until March 29th.

REST IN PEACE: Phillip McCarty, husband of Melanie McCarty, passed away on March 9th and was laid to rest on March 14th. 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.

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.

FEAST OF ST JOSEPH: The Feast of St Joseph is on Wednesday, March 19th. There will be an English Mass at 8:30 a.m. in the Church and a High Latin Mass at 6:30 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: We will have Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m. during the Fridays of Lent (Stations on Good Friday, April 18th it will be at 2:30 p.m.).

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS. for 2024 have been mailed out. If you have not received your statement, let Fr Booth know.

FIRST COMMUNION: First Communion will be on March 30th, Gaudete Sunday, at the 10:45 Mass. Opportunities for first confession will be offered on Sunday, March 16th after the 10:45 Mass, Sunday, March 23rd after the 10:45 Mass, and after First Communion Rehearsal. Rehearsal for First Communion will be on Saturday, March 29th at 9:00 a.m.

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, Ross Gilliland, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Nick Smith, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, and Friar Apollo.

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 \$28,885 and thus exceeding our goal.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$5493, \$500 was given for the Preservation Fund, and \$990 was donated for the Black and Indian Missions. 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, Mar 15: 4:00 p.m. † Rick Phillips (by Mary & Betty Mason)
Sun, Mar 16: 7:30 a.m. † Yi Sun Hui (by the Duvall Family)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special intention for Abby & Andrew Rumore (by the DiPiazza Family)
Mon, Mar 17 *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Evan Dudenhefer (by the Schwager Family)
Tues, Mar 18: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Evan Dudenhefer (by the Schwager Family)
Wed, Mar 19: 8:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Evan Dudenhefer (by the Schwager Family)
6:30 p.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Evan Dudenhefer (by the Schwager Family)
Thur, Mar 20: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Mr. & Mrs. Evan Dudenhefer (by the Schwager Family)
Fri, Mar 21: *8:30 a.m. † Genevieve Burke (by Helen Brandley)
Sat, Mar 22: 4:00 p.m. Special intention for Kay & Jesse Dorian (by Helen Brandley)
Sun, Mar 23: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for Steven Mezrano (by Greyson Tyler)
9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
10:45 a.m. Special intention for Jeff Hahn (by Caden Tyler)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially Jose Mariano Hernández Avila, Grace Hill, Stan Hartdegen, Kent Graeve, 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. Third Sunday of Lent	Exo 3:1-8,13-15, 1Cor 10:1-6,10-12, Lk 13:1-9
7:30 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Eph 5:1-9, Lk 11:14-28
9:00 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Exo 3:1-8,13-15, 1Cor 10:1-6,10-12, Lk 13:1-9
10:45 a.m. Third Sunday of Lent	Eph 5:1-9, Lk 11:14-28

They Didn't Hear, They Slept

We saw a very human Jesus in last week's Gospel. We saw a hungry Jesus subject to temptation. In the Transfiguration, we see the divine nature of Jesus, a glorified heavenly Jesus. We also see a manifestation of the Trinity: the transfigured Jesus, the Holy Spirit represented by the cloud, and the Father manifested through the voice. God the Father testifies saying "*This is my chosen Son; listen to him.*" Just like at Jesus' baptism, we see a revelation of the Trinity and God the Father testifying to the identity of His only-begotten Son. After the Father gives His testimony regarding Jesus, Moses and Elijah are gone, the cloud is gone, and Jesus returns to normal.

That Jesus is standing there all alone after the Father speaks leaves no ambiguity for Peter, James, and John. Yes, Moses was the chosen leader of God's people, yes Elijah was a chosen prophet of God, but neither of these two men are God's own Son. That honor belongs solely to Jesus. Likewise, the Father's words were not meant for Jesus, Moses, or Elijah. Both Moses and Elijah knew exactly Who Jesus is. Thus, the Father was speaking directly to Peter, James, and John.

In saying "*This is my chosen Son; listen to him*" God is saying that Jesus is more than Moses and Elijah. He is also saying that what Jesus says is more important than what Moses said and more important than what was said by the greatest prophet, Elijah. Moses and Elijah and the other prophets had their credentials, that their words and acts were contained in the inspired Scriptures of the Old Testament. But now Jesus has an even greater endorsement from the Father: "*This is my chosen Son.*"

If these Apostles listened to Moses and the prophets, they are to listen more intently to Jesus, which they were not doing well. They listened to Jesus as a Teacher, but not as God speaking in the flesh. As His students, the Apostles sometimes tuned Him out, they heard what they wanted to hear, and they even fell asleep. How could they be sleeping with all that was happening? How were they not hanging on every word of what Jesus, Moses, and Elijah said? It is not as if they were making small talk. No, they were talking of the "*exodus that [Jesus] was going to accomplish in Jerusalem.*"

About a week before, Jesus told the disciples of His exodus: "*The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.*" The disciples heard this, but they did not fully understand. They understood the aspects of Jesus' exodus that involved suffering, rejection, and dying. But the disciples were dejected by Jesus' prediction of His Passion because they heard the bad news but they did not listen to the good news. They did not hear and understand that part about being raised on the third day. True to form, they did not listen to Jesus, Moses, and Elijah at the Transfiguration because they were overcome with grief. They slept through the very lesson Jesus was trying to present to them about what it meant to be raised from the dead. So the Father has to say "*This is my chosen Son; listen to him.*"

This is not a mere recommendation or a polite suggestion. No, this is both a commandment and a rebuke. The whole Transfiguration was for the benefit of Peter, James, and John, and yet they slept. Peter even realizes that they have missed out on something important and offers to erect tents for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah so as to prolong the heavenly vision. They don't get a second chance to experience the Transfiguration. They missed out on a miraculous opportunity created just for them, created to help them cope with the Passion of Jesus. In almost all respects, the Apostles were unprepared for what happens on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and especially Easter.

Are we missing our opportunities to be prepared for the upcoming feasts of Holy Week? Will we be ready to acknowledge our role in Jesus' crucifixion and death on Good Friday? Will we have purged our minds, bodies, and souls of all evils to properly experience the unfathomable joy of Easter? Are we wide awake and listening to our Lord and Savior?

The Apostles did not get a second chance to be better prepared for what lay ahead. So let us not squander the opportunities offered in this season to prepare ourselves for the greatest event in all of history: Jesus overcoming human sinfulness, frailty, and mortality by rising from the dead. - Fr Booth