

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

November 29th / November 30th: First Sunday of Advent



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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.

NOTICE ON CHECKS: Please make out all checks to Blessed Sacrament or Blessed Sacrament Church.

IN MEMORIAM: For Lois Pruitt, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from November 30th to December 6th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of John & Matilda Katona from December 7th until December 13th.

ADVENT ANGEL TREE: We have an Advent Angel Tree this year that will benefit a number of truly needy families in our local community. If you take a tag from the Angel Tree, please bring the wrapped gift items back with the angel tag attached on the outside by Sunday, December 21st.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday English Mass on December 5th 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: Instead of our normal First Saturday activities, we will have a Rorate Low Latin Mass this Saturday, December 6th at 6:00 a.m.

FIRST SUNDAY: Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. Instead of coffee and donuts there will be a potluck brunch following the 9:00 Mass.

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Deacon John Paul Stepnowski, Deacon Andrew Vickery, John Gardiner, Collins Hess, Hunter Limbaugh, Francisco Rodriguez, Justin Brouillette, Cameron Huhlein, Patrick Letterle, Wilson Moin, Joshua Callahan, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Nick Smith, Benjamin Caruna, Matthew Pickard, Maximilian Waldron, Fernando Casillas, Jack Lyons, Jorge Martinez, Jonathan Ruscoe, Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, Friar Apollo, and Owen Sederstrand.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: You should have received a Pledge Card in the mail, if not you also can enter your annual pledge or recurring gift any time at catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our pledge goal for this year is \$29,000. As of November 28th, we have \$21,575 pledged.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$5430 and \$1260 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS: There remains an 8½ month backlog on Mass Intentions. Therefore, until further notice, Mass Intentions will only be accepted on a one Mass per family per week basis. Period. No exceptions.

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

Sat, Nov 29:	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for the Wesley Hill Family (by the DiPiazza Family)
Sun, Nov 30:	7:30 a.m.	† Mike Smith (by the Donellan Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Zelf Williamson (by the Donellan Family)
Mon, Dec 1	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Angie Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
Tues, Dec 2:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Sandy Sublett (by the Donellan Family)
Wed, Dec 3:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Elijah Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
Thur, Dec 4:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for the Zaucha Family (by the Donellan Family)
Fri, Dec 5:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Lena Cook (by the Donellan Family)
	6:30 p.m.	Special intention for the Machado Family (by the Donellan Family)
Sat, Dec 6:	6:00 a.m.	Special intention for the Hill Family (by the Donellan Family)
	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Jeff & Catherine Hahn (by the Donellan Family)
Sun, Dec 7:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Johnny Robert Maziarz (by Brandon Maziarz)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Andrew & Abby Rumore (by Jacob & Gabi Gagnon)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially for Daniel Flemming, Fr Timothy Gahan, George Sampredo, Jesse Hernandez, Jose Mariano Hernández Avila, 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, Kay Dorion, Krissy Chism, Lamar Smith, Wayne Little, 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. Second Sunday of Advent	Isa 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12
7:30 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent	Rom 15:4-13, Mt 11:2-10
9:00 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent	Isa 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12
10:45 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent	Rom 15:4-13, Mt 11:2-10

Like It or Not, It Will All Come to an End

Everyone has their own way of dealing with a crisis, some even love to be in a crisis mode, not knowing what to do when there is no crisis in their lives. They thrive on the drama of real crises, crises of their own making, and crises that are imagined. Most people, however, are crisis averse. We do not look for calamities, we do not relish a crisis, yet we cope with the various tragedies that happen to find us. How we cope with crises says much about us, often revealing how we see the world. This is especially true when we are faced with a calamity we have no power to prevent.

When we have to deal with a crisis, we generally do so with varying degrees of grace. Those addicted to drama will make the crisis more than it is, but most people will do what is necessary and move on. A friend was telling me about a plumbing crisis he faced. On the advice of a plumber he went to a hardware store to get a better plunger. Coming up to the checkout clerk with nothing but a plunger, the clerk nodded sympathetically. My friend replied jokingly, saying ‘It went everywhere.’ He dealt with the crisis with poise and humor. His plumbing issue was not the end of the world and his humor kept the situation in perspective. Faced with a more serious crisis – a serious car wreck – he did not respond with humor. Given that all occupants were largely unhurt even though both cars were utterly totaled, he responded with thanksgiving.

In many respects this car wreck could have been the end of the world for those involved. To lose a spouse, a child, or other close relative so suddenly and unexpectedly could seem like the end of the world. We hope that such things do not happen, but if they do happen we can’t possibly be fully prepared. We can merely hope before the tragedy and cope with it after it happens.

However, there is one profound calamity that we can certainly be prepared for. This calamity is the Second Coming of Jesus at the end of the world as we know it. Even though we do not know when it will occur, we are certain that it will happen at some point in the future. Jesus never says “*if the end will come*” but He does say “*when the end will come.*” And He challenges us to be prepared, to be awake and not asleep.

Many people, if they found out that the end was coming on a particular day in the near future would throw inhibition to the wind and let the desires of the flesh reign. They would turn to “*orgies and drunkenness,... promiscuity and lust,... and rivalry and jealousy*” (Rom 13:13). Many people today have already turned to such sins without any specific knowledge of when the world will end because they see the world in terms of the flesh alone. They are much like the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, much like the people in the time of Noah. They choose escapism by living in wickedness – living gluttonous, promiscuous, and vengeful lives – thereby refusing to acknowledge the reality and eventuality of the end of the world or the end of their own lives. They feel cheated if they miss out on pleasure or vengeance against their foes. In other words, sin is their way of coping whether it is in the face of the immanent end or an end that lies at some vague point in the future. We must remember that sin is no way of living for the disciple of Christ. Sin is hardly a lifestyle, as is often claimed by the worldly, but rather it is a death style. As St Paul teaches, “*it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep*” (Rom 13:11) if we are living any aspect of a worldly death-style. He urges us to “*throw off the works of darkness and ... to put on the Lord Jesus Christ*” (Rom 13:12,14).

This is how we prepare for the end of the world and for the end of our personal participation in this world should we die before Jesus returns. We “*throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day.*” After all, we are called to reflect the Light of Christ. If we do this, if we truly live knowing that we will have to make an account of our lives before God, then we will have nothing to fear about the end of the world and the end of our lives.

If we take the opportunity in this life to repent, to confess our sins, to place our faith in Jesus, to trust His promise of forgiveness and eternal life, and to love as He loves then we have nothing at all to fear. Nothing. Indeed, if we are prepared, if we are living as we ought to live, and if we are spiritually awake the end of the world or the end of our lives will be much easier to face.

- Fr Booth