

# **Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

**February 28<sup>th</sup> / March 1<sup>st</sup>: 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:** For Robert Bryant, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of his soul from March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 7<sup>th</sup>. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Benjamin and Lydia Blaylock from March 8<sup>th</sup> until March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**FIRST SUNDAY:** This Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. There will be coffee and donuts following the 9:00 Mass.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> it will be at 2:30 p.m.).

**FIRST FRIDAY:** We will have our First Friday English Mass on March 6<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 March 7<sup>th</sup>. Altar server training will follow Mass.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** We have scheduled our First Communion on March 15<sup>th</sup>, Gaudete Sunday, at the 10:45 Mass. Opportunities for first confession will be offered on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> after the 10:45 Mass, Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> after the 10:45 Mass, and after First Communion Rehearsal. Rehearsal for First Communion will be on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:00 a.m.

**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](http://catholiccharitiesbhm.org). Our pledge goal for this year is \$29,000. As of February 27<sup>th</sup>, we have \$25,175 pledged.

**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.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was \$8549, \$135 was given for the Preservation Fund, and \$1015 was collected for the Black & Indian Missions. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

**NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS:** There is large backlog on Mass Intentions. Therefore, until further notice, Mass Intentions will only be accepted on a one Mass per family per week basis. No exceptions. The Mass Intentions for this week date from May 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

Sat, Feb 28:	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Joseph Ducote (by the Duvall Family)
Sun, Mar 1:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Emmett Robert Connors (by Kevin Kelly)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for John Luke Brueggen (by the Duvall Family)
Mon, Mar 2:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Susan Muck (by the Duvall Family)
Tues, Mar 3:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Shane & Sophie Henderson (by the Duvall Family)
Wed, Mar 4:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Michael Renna (by the Duvall Family)
Thur, Mar 5:	*8:30 a.m.	† Clement Muck, Jr. (by the Duvall Family)
Fri, Mar 6:	*8:30 a.m.	† Janice Carol Genereux (by the Hahn Family)
	6:30 p.m.	Special intention for Charles Rumore & Family (by the Hahn Family)
Sat, Mar 7:	8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Andrew Rumore (by the Hahn Family)
	4:00 p.m.	Special intention for Dr. Delbert Hahn (by the Hahn Family)
Sun, Mar 8:	7:30 a.m.	Private intention
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Maribeth Guerrero (by Charlotte & Terry Rumore)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially for Kathy Newman, Daniel Flemming, Fr Timothy Gahan, George Sampedro, Jesse Hernandez, Jose Mariano Hernández Avila, Stan Hartdegen, Kent Graeve, Justin Meadows, Rachel Maxwell, John Minjares, Sr., Virginia Elmer, 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, 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.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	Exo 17:3-7, Rom 5:1-2,5-8, Jn 4:5-42
7:30 a.m.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	Eph 5:1-9, Lk 11:14-28
9:00 a.m.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	Exo 17:3-7, Rom 5:1-2,5-8, Jn 4:5-42
10:45 a.m.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	Eph 5:1-9, Lk 11:14-28

## ***Do Not Be Afraid***

After the Transfiguration, “*Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Rise, and do not be afraid’*” (Mt 17:7). Peter, James and John are perplexed by this event. What could all of this mean? Much has to do with what Jesus had just revealed to them a few days prior. After telling them that He would build His Church upon Peter, Jesus reveals that the Church will be born through His Passion: “*From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised*” (Mt 16:21).

The Apostles certainly hear the part about suffering and death. Peter had just confessed “*You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God*” (Mt 16:16) and Jesus affirms this confession, but it is inconceivable that the Messiah should suffer let alone be killed. Yet the meaning of suffering greatly and being killed was clear enough. No doubt the Apostles were disheartened at the idea of losing their Leader, of seeing Him suffer, and having to bear His death. What would this mean for them? They had left everything behind to follow Jesus. Would they have to start over from scratch, going back to fishing, tax collecting, and whatnot? Would the Apostles suffer the same fate as Jesus?

The Transfiguration, happening not long after Jesus’ first prediction of the Passion, answers many of these questions. “*From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples*” that He had to undergo the Passion. Opposition, betrayal, suffering, and death are all things that the Apostles did not need any lessons to understand. They are all sad parts of life that are impossible to avoid. But “*From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem ... be killed and on the third day be raised.*” What does it mean to be raised? Well, Peter, James, and John were the only witnesses among the disciples who saw Jesus raise the 12-year-old daughter of Jairus from the dead. Surely, this is what Jesus means by being raised. But it was Jesus who raised the girl from the dead. The disciples must have been asking, Who will raise Jesus from the dead? ‘Peter, do you know how to raise someone from the dead? Did Jesus give you this power?’ ‘No, He gave me the keys of the kingdom, the authority to bind and loose, but He never said anything about power over death.’

The Transfiguration answers the question of who will raise Jesus from the dead. The Voice from the cloud Who said “*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.*” With the transfigured and glorified Jesus, a Jesus talking with two holy but long-dead patriarchs, and the Heavenly Voice, Peter, James, and John now have been given insight into what Jesus’ Passion, Death, and Resurrection mean. In the Transfiguration, Jesus gives the Apostles a preview of what is to come, a preview intended to soothe their weary and troubled hearts. Jesus needs to soothe their hearts because the thought of the Passion and death of Jesus was too much for the Apostles to bear. This is why He provides this experience to Peter, James, and John and why He says to them, “*Rise, and do not be afraid.*”

This is also why we consider this glorious episode in the life of Jesus during Lent. During our observance of Lent, we are called to consider the meaning of the Passion of Jesus, what Jesus has done for us. The bottom line is that it is our sins that bring Jesus to be arrested, beaten, scourged, crowned with thorns, and crucified. This becomes more tangible in the liturgies of Palm Sunday and Good Friday, where the people respond “*Let him be crucified!*” or “*Crucify him, crucify Him!*” In saying these phrases, we should come to understand that our sins have more to do with the suffering and death of Jesus than the treachery of Judas, the cowardice of Pilate, and the pettiness of the Temple officials.

Dwelling on the reality of our sinfulness and what this has done to Jesus can be as overwhelming to us as the announcement of the Passion was to the Apostles. When we only ponder the Crucifixion, we only see half of the reality. When we focus only on the Resurrection, again our sight is impoverished. We must always keep the Crucifixion and the Resurrection together or we will never understand what Jesus has done for us. St Paul urges us to “*believe in the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our transgressions and was raised for our justification*” (Rom 4:24-25). Keeping His passion and resurrection together helps us to not be overwhelmed with grief over our sins so that Jesus might touch us and say “*Rise, and do not be afraid.*”

-Fr Booth