

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

May 30th/May 31st 2026: Holy Trinity



**1460 Pearson Avenue SW
Birmingham, Alabama 35211
Phone: (205) 785-9840**

**E-mail: church@myblessedsacrament.org
Website: www.myblessedsacrament.org**

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.”

IN MEMORIAM: For Ida Olson, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from May 31st to June 6th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Julia V. Bryant from June 7th until June 13th.

CORPUS CHRISTI: For the Latin Mass, the Feast of Corpus Christi occurs on Thursday, June 4th. For English, it occurs on Sunday, June 7th. Since the English Mass has been transferred to the following Sunday, Corpus Christi is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Nevertheless, we will have a Latin High Mass on Thursday, June 4th at 6:30 p.m.

FIRST FRIDAY: We will have our First Friday English Mass on June 5th at 8:30 a.m. in the Rectory followed with Adoration and Benediction and a Latin Low Mass at 6:30 p.m.

FIRST SATURDAY: First Saturday Mass will be offered in Latin at 8:30 a.m. on June 6th. Altar server training will follow Mass.

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

SACRED HEART: The American bishops will consecrate the nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in honor of our nation’s 250th anniversary. Bishop Raica has chosen to transfer the liturgical celebration of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart from Friday, June 12th to Sunday June 14th. This applies only for this year and is intended to broaden the participation in this feast and the nation’s consecration. All Masses on June 13th and 14th, both Latin and English, will be for the Sacred Heart while liturgy on Friday, June 12th, will be for Friday of the 10th week of Ordinary Time.

CONTINUATION OF FOOD DRIVE: The food drive begun in Lent benefitting the Franciscan Poor of Jesus Christ, who have a ministry to the homeless, and a local food bank will continue on an ongoing basis. If you have further questions, please contact Shannon Dunaway (ssullivan7606@gmail.com) or Steve and Brandy Katona (Katonafamily@yahoo.com).

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: 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, Deacon Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, Friar Apollo, and Owen Sederstrand.

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN RELIGIOUS LIFE: Please pray for Sister María Josefa of the Divine Providence and Jessica Saville.

PARISH SUPPORT: The collection last week was \$4743 and \$410 was given for the Preservation Fund. 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 July 20th.

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

- Sat, May 30: 4:00 p.m. Special intention for Mike & Wendy Donellan (by the Donellan Family)
- Sun, May 31: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for Dan & Stephanie Burke (by the Donellan Family)
- 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:45 a.m. Special intention for Sterling & Jill Caudle (by the Donellan Family)
- Mon, June 1: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Charlie & Allison Rumore (by the Donellan Family)
- Tues, June 2: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Jackson Mackin (by the Donellan Family)
- Wed, June 3: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Rachel Aragon (by Amanda Lang)
- Thur, June 4: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Faith Ford (by Amanda Lang)
- 6:30 p.m. Special intention for Sunny Jones (by Amanda Lang)
- Fri, June 5: *8:30 a.m. Special intention for Jodie Smith (by Amanda Lang)
- 6:30 p.m. Special intention for Janet Youell (by Amanda Lang)
- Sat, June 6: 8:30 a.m. Special intention for Cindy Durham (by Amanda Lang)
- 4:00 p.m. † Julie Wang Kelly (by Kevin Kelly)
- Sun, June 7: 7:30 a.m. Special intention for Cheryl Spitzer (by Amanda Lang)
- 9:00 a.m. Pro Populo
- 10:45 a.m. Special intention for Kent Graves (by Amanda Lang)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially for Suzanne Vickery, Casey Daniel, Kathy Newman, Daniel Flemming, George Sampetro, 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. Corpus Christi Dt 8:2-3,14-16, 1Cor 10:16-17, Jn 6:51-58
- 7:30 a.m. 2nd Sunday After Pentecost 1Jn 3:13-18, Lk 14:16-24
- 9:00 a.m. Corpus Christi Dt 8:2-3,14-16, 1Cor 10:16-17, Jn 6:51-58
- 10:45 a.m. 2nd Sunday After Pentecost 1Jn 3:13-18, Lk 14:16-24

One True God in Three Persons

There are three monotheistic faiths – Judaism, Christianity, and Islam – that all insist there is but one God and only one God. Both Judaism and Islam would object to the claim that we Christians are monotheistic. Our doctrine on the nature of God deeply offends their sensibilities. At the root of this offense is the fact that God is a Trinity of divine Persons. They would claim that it is impossible for God to be one in three divine Persons. Why? Why is that impossible? They would say that God must be just one Person, that the Trinity amounts to having not one but three Gods. It would be hard to convince them otherwise. Our best evidence would of course be the New Testament, but neither a Jew nor a Muslim will accept the Gospels or the other books of the New Testament as authoritative.

In a certain way, they are making the mistake of insisting that God must be an image of man, whose personhood is totally individual, instead of letting God be God. To say that God cannot be a Trinity of divine Persons is projecting ourselves and our earthly experiences upon the nature of God. We have no reason or right to insist that God be like us. After all, we are not omniscient. But God is. We are not omnipresent. But God is. We are not omnipotent. But God is. We are not uncreated. But God is. We are not utterly eternal, having no beginning and no end. But God is. We are not infallible. But God is. We are not immutable or unchanging. But God is. We are not all just and all holy. But God is. We are not truth itself or beauty itself. But God is. In other words, to insist that God be like us in terms of Personhood seems more than a stretch. It is a matter of human hubris to insist that God must have only one Person because humans are individually one person.

Yes, we are made in the image and likeness of God, but that absolutely positively does not mean God is made in our image. Being made in God's image means that we are persons, that we uniquely share in His nature among the physical creatures by virtue of having an intellect to know and a will to choose. We have an intellect primarily to know the good and we have a will primarily to choose the good. Ultimately we have an intellect to know God, the ultimate Good, and to freely choose Him.

The closest we come to reflecting the nature of God is not in considering man as an individual but taking man as being in relationship. A man can simultaneously be a son, a brother, and a father. He is one person in multiple relationships. This is a weak analogy for the nature of the Trinity, but it does illustrate that the key to understanding the Trinity lies in relationships. We could say that the inner nature of God mirrors the human family. Sort of. It is critical to notice that God has revealed Himself in terms of relationships we understand – Father and Son – and in one relationship we really don't understand – the Holy Spirit. He deliberately chose these relationships so that we might understand, in a weak way in accordance with our feeble intellect, His inner nature.

It is also telling that He did not invoke any feminine relationships. Why? It is not as if God – except in the incarnation of the Son – truly has a gender. It is not as if God is disparaging femininity. After all, being made in the image and likeness of God is most fully expressed as husband and wife: *“God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them”* (Gen 1:27). Jesus affirms this, saying *“Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh”* (Mt 19:4-6). Man and wife are two persons physically but one flesh spiritually. In any case, it is entirely possible that God revealed Himself in masculine relationships to clarify that the divine Persons do not procreate. This would have been important because both the Greeks and Romans had so-called gods that were all too human, down to the point of spawning offspring.

No, procreation is a part of this world, not of heaven and certainly not with regard to divine Persons. But relationships pertain to both heaven and earth. And it should not surprise us that divine Persons are in relationships with one another. Why? Because the more fundamental aspect of God, the essential nature of God is that He is love, and love can only exist in relationships.

- Fr Booth