

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

October 3rd/October 4th 2026: 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time (English)

19th Sunday After Pentecost (Latin)



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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.

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 the Sylvia McCarrick, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of her soul from October 4th to October 10th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Jeremy Noblitt from October 11th until October 17th.

MEN'S ROOM: The former Men's room in the Parish Hall is complete. It is now the Ladies room and the former Ladies room is now the Men's room. The former Ladies room, now the Men's room, is in the process of renovation.

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

SEMINARY LIVE-IN WEEKEND: The Office of Vocations will host a Seminary Live-In at St Meinrad Seminary November 12th to 15th. This event is for men 18-35 years of age. The weekend is an opportunity for men to experience daily life in the seminary, attend classes, and meet current seminarians. There is no fee to attend, but registration is required.

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS: Blessed Sacrament will begin accepting electronic contributions in the upcoming months. It will be an on-line based system that will accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, and ACH transfers.

OCIA CLASSES: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) classes will continue on Tuesday, October 6th at 6:00 pm in the rectory chapel. Those interested in becoming Catholic at Blessed Sacrament need to attend these classes with the goal of being incorporated into the Church at Easter.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL: You should receive a Pledge Card from the diocese in the mail soon, but you also can enter your annual pledge or recurring gift any time at catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our pledge goal for this year is \$30,885. As of October 2nd, \$9500 have been pledged thus far.

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS: Please pray for our seminarians: Hunter Limbaugh, Francisco Rodriguez, Justin Brouillette, Cameron Huhlein, Patrick Letterle, Wilson Moin, Joshua Callahan, Franz Mercado, Thomas Rogers, Benjamin Caruna, Maximilian Waldron, Fernando Casillas, Jack Lyons, Jorge Martinez, Jonathan Ruscoe, Nathan Mitchell, Nicholas Shovel, Axel Lopez, Fox Garon, Deacon Dominic Rumore, Matthew Gagnon, Friar Apollo, and Owen Sederstrand.

HER CHOICE FUNDRAISING BANQUET: The annual Her Choice Banquet will be held on Thurs, Nov 5th at 7:00 p.m. at The Club (1 Robert S. Smith Drive). The keynote speaker will be Dr. George Delgado, a pioneer in abortion pill reversal. Make your reservation, consider hosting a table of eight, or make a life saving donation. Her Choice Birmingham Women's Center exists to help women facing a crisis pregnancy to choose life, and to help support them with that decision. Her Choice also offers post abortion recovery services. To confirm your participation, 205-447-8796 or hcbanquet@herchoicebirmingham.org

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 \$7144 and \$70 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 March 22nd.

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

Sat, Oct 3:	8:30 a.m.	Private Intention
	4:00 p.m.	† Peter Ransom (by Ginny Daniel & Ann Noblitt)
Sun, Oct 4:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Cindy Bull (by Richard & Barbara Juneau)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	Special intention for Theresa Craig (by Tiffany Craig)
Mon, Oct 5:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Gabrielle Curfman (by the Ferino Family)
Tues, Oct 6:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Memphis Stephens (by the Ferino Family)
Wed, Oct 7:	*8:30 a.m.	Special intention for Memphis Stephens (by the Ferino Family)
Thur, Oct 8:	*8:30 a.m.	† Peter Ransom (by Carolyn Mickel)
Fri, Oct 9:	*8:30 a.m.	† Nolan Boudreaux (by the Mathews Family)
Sat, Oct 10:	4:00 p.m.	† Peter Ransom (by the Bryant Family)
Sun, Oct 11:	7:30 a.m.	Special intention for Dr. Amy Henderson (by the Hahn Family)
	9:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	10:45 a.m.	† Rita Young (by the Ferino Family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND especially for James Cover, Dennis Taubitz, Suzanne Vickery, Casey Daniel, Kathy Newman, Daniel Flemming, 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, 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, Christine Cover, Thatcher Kerzie, Malcolm Perry, Koslyn Chism, Kathleen Strawmeyer, and Stephanie Perry.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS READINGS

4:00 p.m.	28 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14, 19-20, Mt 22:1-14
7:30 a.m.	20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Eph 5:15-21, Jn 4:46-53
9:00 a.m.	28 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Isa 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14, 19-20, Mt 22:1-14
10:45 a.m.	20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Eph 5:15-21, Jn 4:46-53

Justice & Truth

Injustice is inescapable. There is always someone doing injustice to another. Or someone might perceive that injustice is being done to them. More and more, people think that another group of people has wronged them, that they would not have problems if it were not for 'them.' Yes, groups have perpetrated any number of small and not so small injustices on others. But how many of my problems are of my own making or simply bad luck? It kind of feels good to blame 'big food' or 'big agriculture' or 'big pharma' for my woes instead of taking responsibility for my own poor decisions. As a friend of mine was fond of saying, 'I did not get this fat by watching other people eat.'

We are in control of much of our lives but not everything. Others inflict injustices upon us, but life is often more cruel than those who have chosen to hate us. We used to understand this better than we do today. 'It was not in the cards.' 'That happened out of the blue.' 'We did not bargain for this.' We have agency, but our ability to control how things turn out is limited. There are some who deny human agency, claiming that all is predetermined. We only seem to have agency and life only seems to be random. That I got stung by a wasp on Christmas Eve would have been predetermined billions of years ago they would say. Everything leading up to that sting – the creation of wasps, that wasp's instincts, his being on the faucet, my not seeing the wasp, my grabbing the handle – was just a predestined series of events that were unavoidable. Some would blame impersonal forces of nature infallibly and inevitably leading to that sting while others might say that a divine being or beings orchestrates all that happens. I'm prone to recognize that unfortunate things just happen that are hardly part of the grand orchestration of nature or of God Himself.

Our justice system recognizes that we have agency but are not in total control of our lives. We understand that a tire may suffer a blowout that was unforeseeable and unpreventable. We also understand that if a particular tire from a particular manufacturer undergoes an inordinate number of blowouts, it becomes a matter of product liability. It might have been a bad design, it might have been defective production processes, or it might have been a known problem that was not disclosed, corrected, or addressed for the sake of profits or corporate reputation. Bad luck turns into injustice when responsible parties choose not to act in a just manner.

Increasingly, however, our culture judges justice less on objective fact than on emotion. When a tire blows out causing a fatal crash, justice is demanded. It might have been that a perfectly good tire that was well designed and properly manufactured blows out because it hit too many potholes over its lifetime or should have been replaced 20,000 miles ago, emotion still wants to blame the maker of the tire while not taking into account the city or state's responsibility for maintaining the roads or the car owner's responsibility for replacing worn tires. Seeking justice absent truth won't result in justice.

When emotion trumps truth, justice is in jeopardy. In a recent murder case, a mistrial was declared because one juror refused to side with the other eleven jurors. Was this juror wrong? We were not in that courtroom, so we really can't say for certain. Some people, however, are absolutely certain that the accused is not guilty while many would insist that the defendant must certainly be guilty. The more emotion is involved, however, the more that justice will not be served.

Human juries err based on any number of factors, such as withheld evidence, poor legal representation, poor prosecution, prejudice, and so forth. Our system is well designed and prone to produce justice as long as all parties are acting justly: the prosecution is honest, the defense actively seeks to protect the rights of the accused, and the jury weighs the facts in evidence impartially and dispassionately. If any of the parties do not do their part, the probability of the innocent being declared guilty and the guilty declared innocent abounds.

We can lament this, but we must always remember that God is the ultimate judge and the He cannot be misled or bamboozled. We fallible humans make mistakes and are prone to any number of biases. But God is just beyond measure. Thankfully He is also merciful beyond measure. - Fr Booth