# *Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church*

***November 21st/November 22nd 2026: Christ the King (English)***
***24th Sunday after Pentecost (Latin)***




**1460 Pearson Avenue SW**
**Birmingham, Alabama 35211**
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**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 Masse**s: 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 Audra & Reid Wilson, the sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of their souls from November 22nd to November 28th. The sanctuary lamp will burn for the repose of Lois P. Pruitt from November 29th until December 5th.

**OCIA CLASSES:** Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) classes will continue on Tuesday, November 24th at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory chapel. There will not be an OCIA class on Tuesday, December 1st.

**HOLY HOUR:** All are invited to an Advent Holy Hour at the Cathedral of St Paul on Tuesday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m. There will be Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament as well as Confessions. Adoration will be accompanied by Gregorian Chant and will feature a chanted rosary. The celebrant will be Fr Jose Viola, rector of Christ the King Chapel in Cullman. This event is brought to you by Knights of Columbus Council 9862.

**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.

**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, Jorge Martinez, Jonathan Ruscoe, Nathan Mitchell, Nicholas Shovel, Axel Lopez, Fox Garon, 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.

**THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL:** You can mail your pledge card to the diocese or enter your annual pledge or recurring gift any time at catholiccharitiesbhm.org. Our pledge goal for this year is $30,885. As of November 20th, $24,100 have been pledged.

**PARISH SUPPORT:** The collection last week was $4484 and $940 was given for the Preservation Fund. As always, many thanks for your generosity.

**NOTE ON MASS INTENTIONS:** The backlog of Mass Intentions has been greatly reduced. Multiple Mass Intention requests per week will again be accepted. The Mass Intentions for this week date from August 30th.

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

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| Sat, Nov 21: | 9:15 a.m. | Private Intention |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Special intention for Becket Fulton Zaucha (by the Penney Family) |
| Sun, Nov 22: | 7:30 a.m. | † David Roberts (by Richard & Barbara Juneau) |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Pro Populo |
| | 10:45 a.m. | † David Roberts (by the Hahns) |
| Mon, Nov 23: | *8:30 a.m. | Special intention for Anastasia Rose Maziarz (by the Penney Family) |
| Tues, Nov 24: | *8:30 a.m. | Special intention for Fr Den Irwin (by Scott & Lori Donellan) |
| Wed, Nov 25: | *8:30 a.m. | † Yvonne McKeithen (by the Hahn Family) |
| Thur, Nov 26: | *8:30 a.m. | Special intention for Michele Chandler (by Amanda Lang) |
| Fri, Nov 27: | *8:30 a.m. | † Maureen P. Donohue (by the Hahn Family) |
| Sat, Nov 28: | 4:00 p.m. | † Juan Ossorio (by the Ossorio Family) |
| Sun, Nov 29: | 7:30 a.m. | † Juan Ossorio (by the Ossorio Family) |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Pro Populo |
| | 10:45 a.m. | † David Roberts (by Alan & Pam Olson) |

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND** especially for Austin Thomas, Shannon Dunaway, 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**

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| 4:00 p.m. 1st Sunday of Advent | Isa 63:16-17,19,64:2-7, 1Cor 1:3-9, Mk 13:33-37 |
| 7:30 a.m. 1st Sunday of Advent | Rom 13:11-14, Lk 21:25-33 |
| 9:00 a.m. 1st Sunday of Advent | Isa 63:16-17,19,64:2-7, 1Cor 1:3-9, Mk 13:33-37 |
| 10:45 a.m. 1st Sunday of Advent | Rom 13:11-14, Lk 21:25-33 |

# *Abomination of Desolation*

The books of Daniel, Matthew, and Mark speak of the abomination of desolation (Dan 9:27, Dan 11:31, Dan 12:11, Mt 24:15, and Mk 13:14). This term may confuse us, but it is best understood through Daniel's testimony that a pagan ruler will come and "*shall confirm the covenant with many... The victim and the sacrifice shall fall: and there shall be in the temple the abomination of desolation: and the desolation shall continue even to the consummation, and to the end*" (9:27). The abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel turned out to be a pagan idol of Zeus erected on the altar in the Temple in Jerusalem. This happened in the time of the Maccabees when Antiochus IV conquered the Holy Land in 167 B.C. and did his best to stomp out the Jewish religion and culture. His goal was to consolidate all religions and all cultures into one. One religion, one culture, one people.

For the pagans, this was not that big a deal. They believed in a host of gods anyway, so adding their gods to the Greek gods or identifying their gods with the corresponding Greek gods was hardly seen as apostasy. Or if they chose to see their gods as distinct from the Greek gods, it made sense to adopt their gods since the Greeks had conquered them. The Greek gods must be more powerful than ours if they defeated us.

For the Jews, no such accommodation was possible without betraying the one true God. They could not add the one true God to a pantheon of false gods. In choosing Zeus as the idol erected in the Temple, Antiochus thought the Jews would accept Zeus, the king of their gods, as a substitute for the one true God. For many Jews, this ploy worked. They chose to worship Zeus as if he could be substituted for the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They rejected their culture and traditions. They abandoned their unique identification as the Chosen People in preference to become like the rest of the peoples in the world. To their way of thinking, these apostates had reached parity, they had arrived.

The same thing still happens today. Many Catholics no longer feel constrained by Church doctrine. They don't want to feel like second class citizens because they are Catholics. They feel perfectly justified calling themselves Catholics in good standing even though they rarely go to Mass, they accept false ideas about marriage, they practice artificial birth control, they are pro-abortion, and so on. They have been assimilated into the false religions of secularism, modernism, and moral relativism. They have traded the one true God for the false god of worldly power, the false god of licentiousness, the false god of social acceptance. They bask in the world's accolades and they join in the derision of those who have not sold out to the abomination of desolation that is modern secular society.

We who hold to the truth, we who hold to the one true faith in the one true God, we who accept no compromise with falsehood are called knuckle-dragging, mouth-breathing, moronic neanderthals. Whatever. Yet we have not bowed down to the abomination of desolation that our society promotes. It is an abomination because it is based on total lies. It causes desolation – the separation from God's good graces – for those who bow down.

Many have been deceived by the false gods and idols of modern society, many have abandoned their faith by embracing foreign and false ideas. And what makes this apostasy so dangerous is that those who practice it have no idea that the abominations they embrace have caused a divine desolation in their lives.

Indeed, they are worse off than those who are struggling with their sinfulness. Sinners at least know that they need forgiveness and they know they need to turn to Jesus for absolution. The one who has mixed worldly doctrines with the truth, if they ever do feel the need to be reconciled, will more than likely turn to modern society for absolution. Sadly, those who bask in the darkness of desolation are more then happy to reconcile one of their own, affirming and confirming them in the abominable desolation that comes with being accepted by the world by rejecting all that is good, holy, and true.

So let us not fall for the lies of the world, let us not compromise the truth with lies, let us not settle for the praise of the world. There is only One we need to please and He is pleased to bless us in this world and in the world to come.

- Fr Booth