

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(Formerly St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

www.ChristTheKingAbbey.org

Cullman, Alabama

Every Sunday: 6:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Daily: 6:00 AM

Holy Days of Obligation:

6:00 AM - 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel

Montgomery, Alabama

10:45 AM

Only on first Sunday
of each month

St Pius V Chapel

Birmingham, Alabama

9:30 AM

Every Sunday except
first Sunday of each month

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #1007

September 23, 2007 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Holy Trinity; comm. St Linus and St Thecla

FOR GOD ALONE

Our God is a living God, and His creative power and omnipotence are continually renewed in our behalf simply by His preservation of us and by all that He does for us at every moment of time. Lest we forget, do we not therefore owe Him our best prayers in gratitude and in recognition of all His infinite goodness? Every man, indeed, every creature is dependent on the boundless goodness and love of God!

Prayer, being the practice of Divine worship and religion, is not only a means by which to obtain, favors from the Supreme Being – God – but an end, the immediate end, of human life. We have been created by God, and the only reason that we can at all give for being here is that we were placed here to give some form of service to Him. But what is this service? It is certain that He does not need us to help Him. It is certain that He does not need us to help Him each evening to hang the moon. It is certain that He does not need us to place the stars in the firmament as each evening one by countless one they all come into view. It is certain that He needs no help when He causes the tiny seed to move and finally become a mighty tree. Why, then, was this world of ours made? There has to be an intelligent reason. It did not come into being simply by accident or haphazardly. The only reasonable conclusion that we can arrive at is that we are here to give the Creator homage and pleasure. He made us in His own image and likeness, and for the purpose of giving Him pleasure when He sees Himself in us reflected back to him. We therefore are here for His pleasure, perpetually working at giving Him His due. We are here to praise Him, to adore Him and to trust Him, at every moment directing our every intention toward Him and Him alone. From this point of view, we cannot pray enough, as prayer contains praise, adoration, and trust. By prayer we attain our aim and end, so far as we can attain it here below. It is this one thought that always called the contemplative orders of men and women into being. It is this one thought that is the foundation stone of our Abbey of Christ the King and our Convent of St. Joseph. It is this one thought that we hope is in the minds of all who come to us for spiritual nourishment.

THE WORLD WAS MADE FOR PRAYER! Even in heaven there is prayer – eternal prayer. Whatever there is either on the earth or under the earth that gives glory to God, THAT IS PRAYER. Even the wind and the lightening and the thunder and the roaring of the sea and the song of tiny birds and the busy work of all creatures both big and small, the mountains and hills and clouds and stars, all things that are, sing out the glory of God. Even in his most foul seductions and evil pursuits must a jealous Satan proclaim the majesty and magnificence and omnipotence and amplitude of God!

Sadly do we turn to our unfortunate world, especially as we view it in its present condition. Confusion of thought and principle, especially where human purpose is concerned, where religious duty is concerned, have robbed the human race of all notion of responsibility to Him Who, because of love, has made everything we witness of His creation. This robbery has been continual and gradual throughout the ages. So gradual has this process been that man has unknowingly lost all interest in the duty that was placed in him by Him Who gave him his very existence. Man has lost the vision of Him Who is responsible for all things good that man lays eyes upon. We have now reached the summit of that loss. It has now reached the point where all notion of devotion has vanished, even in the life of religious worship. All concern about the “things that are God’s” has withered away. Unfortunately, the process of withering away can be found even amongst the very ones whose business it is to keep the Vision of God alive! If Christ were here amongst us as once before, with what force do you suppose He would cry out: “BLIND GUIDES!” In whole districts the Holy and true Sacrifice of the Mass has vanished, and even the vast majority of clerical persons have no notion as to how to enact it. It is described as “extraordinary” and it appears that it will always remain “extraordinary” – out-of-the-ordinary! How on earth can the offering of the Holy Sacrifice of the true Mass, which was authenticated by Jesus Christ Himself, be no more than an **out-of-the-ordinary** way to give Him worship? *(Continued on page two)*