

The True and Holy Sacrifice of the Mass – “the most beautiful thing this side of heaven” – is the central pillar of strength which holds up the entire system of Catholic prayer. It makes for a way of life. It is a way of life. It is not a dramatic production, a production that can be learned in a few weeks under high-pressure instruction. Added to valid ordination in the first place, preparation for the offering of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass calls for an appropriate spiritual **formation of the soul**, not a brief instruction for the mind. The much needed examples which once existed in the older generations of holy priests – the priests who truly traveled up the steps unto the altar of God – are now very few and far between. No longer are these holy men of God available to teach and inspire oncoming holy men of God.

How numberless and how still and how quiet are now those cloisters once filled with most beautiful and dedicated monks and nuns, monks and nuns whose dedication and song and prayer and humility and obedience gave comfort to the wounded Heart of our Blessed Lord? Where did these good souls disappear to? WHY? HOW DID THIS ALL HAPPEN?

How much energy or time does the average Catholic – priest or monk or nun or layman – spend each day or each week or each year or each lifetime in the doing of the work that God has clearly ordained to be done? So much has the concern for God and the things that pertain to God deteriorated that countless churches have shut down and have become silent monuments of better days when they were literally bursting with life and people and prayer. What has happened to us that we have let this happen to us? What kind of religious foundation, what kind of religious instinct, what kind of religious obligation are we now able to instill in the hearts and minds of our precious children? □

By the wonderful grace of God, Miss Britney Ann Twilley was Baptized and received into the Catholic Church on Sunday, September 9, 2007.

Please thank God for this great grace and keep her in your prayers.

Miss Twilley will receive her First Holy Communion at the 10:00 AM Mass in the Abbey Church this morning. Please allow her to receive first.

1. **CATECHISM CLASS:** Children 6 to 14 please meet Father Joseph in the vestibule right after the 10:00 Mass.
2. There WILL be 5:00 PM Sunday Vespers and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament this afternoon.
3. Saturday, September 29, 2007, is the Feast of the Dedication of Saint Michael the Archangel, and is the Name day of our Father Michael, OSB. Please keep Frater Michael in your special prayers on this day.
4. **EARLY NOTICE:** On the Second Sunday of October (October 14, 2007), Miss Ashley Sawyer will enter the Novitiate of Saint Joseph's Convent during the 10:00 AM Mass at the Abbey Church.
5. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. **LET US ALSO PRAY FOR EVERYONE.** Let us pray for ALL the priests and religious men and women of the world. **NO MAN, WOMAN, OR CHILD SHOULD BE LEFT OUT OF OUR PRAYER.** God made all men to be with Him in heaven for all eternity, and this includes every human being on earth, regardless of station or condition or place. While Our Blessed Lord was hanging on the Cross He did not look around and pick and choose those for whom He was dying. He did not exclude a single member of the Human Race – even His enemies – from the wounded Love that came forth from Him during those momentous moments. Weak human nature and erroneous persuasions will prevent some from achieving the purpose intended for them by God, but that matter remains entirely between all such and God. Our only duty is to pray for **souls**. We make **no** judgments concerning such matters. If there is any sifting to be done, it is to be done by God, Himself alone. **We are NOT** the ones to do the sifting.
6. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: For the people of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: For Louis and Maryanne Glentz
 - TUESDAY: For Mrs. Li Chhun Hau
 - WEDNESDAY: For the Dan Dumbacher Family
 - THURSDAY: For Sister Laurene, OP
 - FRIDAY: Special intention Mary Anne Evans
 - SATURDAY: For Father Michael, OSB (*Name day*)

A Thought To Remember ...

**Only Divine Love can make apostles out of apostates,
immaculate lilies out of soiled ones,
and trophies of mercy out of revolting and vicious sinners.**