

1. **CATECHISM CLASS:** There will be **NO** Catechism class this morning.
2. There WILL be 5:00 PM Sunday Vespers and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament this afternoon.
3. Tomorrow, October 15, 2007, is the Feast of Saint Teresa of Avila.
4. Wednesday, October 17, 2007, is the feast of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque.
5. Thursday, October 18, 2007, is the Feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist.
6. **N.B.:** Please return your Holy Souls envelopes **before** November 1, 2007.
7. Please join us in praying the Rosary in the Abbey Church each evening during the month of October at 7:10 PM. If you can not be present, at least join us in spirit in your Home Chapels.
8. 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.
9. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY:	For the people of our Chapels
MONDAY:	For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
TUESDAY:	Special intention of Gloria Aldaz
WEDNESDAY:	Welfare of the Scott Potter Family
THURSDAY:	Deceased Father John O'Connor
FRIDAY:	Special intention of Ron and Mishale Roberts
SATURDAY:	Welfare of Gerry Russnak

CONQUERING SELF-WILL

Some think that the whole difficulty of the existence of a monk or a nun lies in the practice of the external austerities, which the religious life by its very nature normally places upon monks and nuns. Others look upon the difficulty as that which exists in some places where religious superiors force unreasonable and uncalled for austerities upon those who live under their authority. For one who is intent on persevering in the religious life, even punctilious observation of monastic discipline is not really a difficulty, and might even become rather routine. Unfortunately, such a regimen, which is not in keeping with the proper and fundamental purpose of religious life, can be found in many places. In such places where such discipline is found, the elements of the baneful heresy of Jansenism predominate. Even so, the sincere candidate, having become accustomed to the discipline imposed by the superior, can only live out the life permitted in such surroundings as best he or she can.

These are difficulties to be sure, but they are not the real difficulty for one in religious life – the real difficulty of each child of God. The real difficulty in the life of a monk or nun is to be found in the personal, cruel, unremitting, and relentless war against SELF. This never becomes easy, nor does anyone ever become accustomed to it. Only the individual knows the suffering involved. Even though the individual seeks the assistance of a spiritual director, only the one who is personally committed to endure it knows the extent of the pain. This pain is private. It is personal, it is interior, and it is heroic. It is in this interior and most bitter of struggles that the soul with the proper disposition little by little forges out, with the help of God's grace, its own sanctification. Puppet-like observance of mere externalisms will fall short in the process of sanctification. In any event, whatever profit or lack of profit found in the sheep will eventually and inevitably be laid at the feet of the shepherd. A grave responsibility, indeed!

Pope St. Gregory the Great had this to say: **“TO LEAVE ONE’S POSSESSIONS IS PERHAPS NOT DIFFICULT. TO LEAVE ONE’S SELF, THAT IS THE GREAT TEST. TO ABANDON WHAT ONE IS DEMANDS THE HIGHEST HEROISM.”**

A Thought To Remember ...

Fear not Children of God – there has never yet been a persecution that could drive out the true worship of God from the hearts and minds and souls of those who really love Him.