

# Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(Formerly St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

[www.ChristTheKingAbbey.org](http://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

FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY FAMILY

Weekly Bulletin #1024

(Formerly, Sunday within the Octave of Epiphany)

January 13, 2008 – White

Mass of Feast; Gl; Cr; Pref. Epiphany; comm. First Sunday after Epiphany; comm. Baptism of Our Lord

## THE FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY FAMILY

### LEST WE FORGET!

It goes without saying that the lives of Joseph and Mary were not like the lives of anybody before them or after them. In externals, absolutely nothing about the way they lived focused the attention of others upon themselves. Their lives were lived as the poor, the working class, the everyday people of that time.

That which took place in the privacy of their souls was another matter altogether. That which took place in the privacy of their souls was only for the Heavenly Father alone to see. These two souls, each in their own way, were designed according to the will of God, and each of them acted only according to that will. Each of them was asked to do things above and beyond the abilities of any other man or woman whose feet touched the face of this earth. Each of them believed, and each of them was ready to obey immediately without question.

From their first moment alone together they knew perfect companionship. Theirs was a marriage based on the yearning of soul for soul. Theirs was a marriage unbound to the earth. They were profoundly in love. Theirs was a love so profound that they felt closer to each other than any union possible to mere bodies. The two of them knew a richness of delight that went far beyond the reach of flesh. Theirs was a union that was arraigned in heaven.

As the hand of God began to unfold that which was in the mind of the Eternal Father: the marvelous moment of the Annunciation, the angelic assurances given to Joseph in his great moment of doubt; the birth of the Christ Child in utter poverty; the visit of the shepherds; the awesome visit of the Magi; the reaction of Simeon in the Temple; the powerful words of Anna, the old prophetess; the finding of the Boy Jesus after three days of agonizing search; His humble submission to His parents for thirty years – all things revealed the work of God. They looked, they listened, they pondered, they believed, and they kept the strictest silence about all things. Theirs was a secret known only to them and to God.

In Nazareth, how happy were Mary and Joseph. How magnificent was their joy as they sat down to their simple meals with the little Boy Jesus between them. Joseph, of course, being the head of the Family, sat at the head of the table, and it was he that blessed the food that was to be eaten. Jesus, Who was God, sat in the second place and kept His silence! Does not one have to wonder at the feelings and emotions and thoughts that surely stirred in the mind and heart of Joseph each time he raised his voice in blessing? He knew Who it was that was sitting at his side at the table. When morning and evening came, as Mary and Joseph knelt beside Jesus, they knew very well, indeed, that He whose prayer went up with theirs was Himself the God to Whom they all three prayed. Has there ever on this earth been such a scene more wondrous, more indescribable than this? How absolutely beautiful, how excellent, how mysterious were morning and night prayers in the House of Nazareth! (Continued on page two)

