

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 with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament this afternoon.
3. Friday, February 1, 2008, is the First Friday of February, with Masses in the Abbey Church at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM; and all-day Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM.
4. Saturday, February 2, 2008, is the First Saturday of February, with Masses in the Abbey Church at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM.
5. This Saturday is also the Feast of the Purification of Our Lady (Candlemas Day), and candles will be blessed after the 6:00 AM Mass.
6. Next Sunday, February 3, 2008, is the first Sunday of February. Therefore, **there will be no Mass at Saint Pius V Chapel in Birmingham next Sunday.**
7. Next Sunday is also the Feast of Saint Blaise, with the Blessing of Throats being given after all Masses that day in Cullman and in Montgomery. *The Blessing of Throats will be given at Saint Pius V Chapel in Birmingham the following Sunday (February 10, 2008 – the second Sunday of February).*
8. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. LET US ALSO PRAY FOR EVERYONE.
9. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels
MONDAY:	Welfare of Sister Maria Consuela
TUESDAY:	Forgotten Souls of Priests
WEDNESDAY:	Special intention of Margaret Rosenberg
THURSDAY:	Welfare of Barbara Hopkins
FRIDAY:	For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
SATURDAY:	Special intention Paul Roy Family

Even though it is now already Septuagesima Season (this year it came as early as it possibly can – the last time this happened was in 1913), and the following instruction deals with the atmosphere of the Nativity, it does not seem inappropriate to present it nevertheless.

When the Magi arrived at the place where the Child was to be found, they entered in. Upon entering in, we are especially told that they found the Child “with Mary His Mother.” It was by way of Mary that our Blessed Lord came to us. And as we page through the Holy Bible we find the Son and the Mother side by side – from the stable all the way to the cross. In the Catholic Church, only rarely and for special reasons, are they separated.

Poor, indeed, was He, but His Mother was the dearest treasure our Lord had in this world. How wonderful that He had this treasure all the way to the very end of His Life, and after His glorious resurrection, can anyone doubt that she was the very first person that He appeared to? This visit most certainly had to be so wonderful, so divine, that even Sacred Scripture made no attempt to speak of it. It was totally private and for no one ever to know what took place or what was said.

How glad we ought to be that when He came to this cold and sinful world, where there was no room for Him except in a small shack of a stable, He had her arms to hold Him and keep Him warm, and He had her immaculate and pure heart on which to rest His sacred head! As He lay in her lap, we can imagine the thoughts that surely ran through the minds of the Magi as they knelt before Him. The expressions on their faces betrayed their thoughts, and Mary most surely gave answer to them. No doubt she told them that He Who had sent His star to fetch them was a real, human baby, but He was also the God of heaven and of earth, and that they must worship Him, which they in all humility and belief gladly did. They adored Him and they kissed His tiny feet, and can we not in our own mind's eye see Mary take the tiny Hand of the Baby Jesus and hold it for them to kiss? And can we not in our mind's eye see Mary take the tiny hand of the Baby Jesus and bless the Magi as they prepared to leave?

And so it must surely be with us even now. Can there be any doubt that Mary does not at every hour of the day and night hold His tiny little hand and with it bless us and give us His protection? Let us not fail to kiss it, and let us not fail to hold on to it with every ounce of strength within us. For then alone can we be safe.

Whenever we see the affairs of heaven unfold themselves before us, do we not in every instance find peace, quiet, **truth**, humility, obedience, and serenity of mind? It never fails! We need not ever be afraid. ☐

### *A Thought To Remember ...*

**HONEST CATHOLICS – WAKE UP!** We hear of a “return” to Catholic and “extraordinary” tradition, with vestments, chant, LATIN, “bells and smells,” the priest with his back to the people, etc.. **ALL EMPTY THEATRICALS!** But of formation in the true faith of our saints and martyrs – **NOTHING** is said! It is time for us to make a clear-cut decision: (1) True Traditional Roman Catholicism, (2) Compromised Traditionalism – **EMPTY THEATRICALS**, or, (3) Ecumenically – politically – correct “Catholicism.”