

Let us take this opportunity to look at ourselves, each one individually, as Magdalen looked at herself. For a moment let us study the lifestyle she was stepping out of and the entanglements and entrenchments which dominated her life. Study the lack of mental deceitfulness in her as she evaluated each and every fruitless and painful experience which shredded the fabric of her honor as a woman. Study her humility of soul and the sorrow that brought her to the moment of her turning. As we look back upon ourselves, there are many things that took place which should never have taken place. But they did! In the same spirit as Magdalen's let us take our past life with all of its failures and sins and dash them at the feet of Jesus, just exactly as Mary Magdalen did. In so doing, and with the same determination of turning, we can be sure of the mercy and forgiveness of God. There will be forgiveness! And the peace and joy and serenity which were extended to her, and the nobility of person which she now possessed, will in like manner be ours as well. She trusted. We must trust. She shed tears of true sorrow for her sins. We must shed true tears of sorrow for our sins. She turned her eyes toward God. We must turn our eyes toward God. She made a firm determination never to sin again. So must we. She was forgiven. So will we be.

(N.B.: This is not to be understood that after her CONVERSIO Mary Magdalen was never tempted again. Her temptations in all probability were stronger than ever before. This is the case with every soul committed to sanctity.) □

1. **CATECHISM CLASS:** Due to the distribution of Blessed Ashes, there is **NO** Catechism class this morning.
2. There **WILL** be 5:00 PM Sunday Vespers with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament this afternoon.
3. *Ashes will be distributed at all Masses today. The usual little packets of Blessed Ashes are available, and are to be taken home and used as sacramentals.*
4. Tomorrow is the transferred Feast of Saint Scholastica, the sister of our holy Father Saint Benedict. Saint Scholastica was the original Mother of all Benedictine Sisters. And our own Mother Mary Monica, OSB, is the Foundress of our Saint Joseph's Convent of Benedictine Nuns. With special effort and earnestness we ask for the prayers of all who are truly interested in our Convent to pray for its continued progress and formation. Our Sisters have dedicated themselves to honest contemplation, prayer, mortification, and obedience. May the prayer of us all be that God will bless our Sisters and that He will never let any harm come upon them.
5. Tomorrow is also the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes (Roman calendar).
6. Thursday, February 14, 2008, is the Feast of Saint Valentine. Happy Valentine's Day!
7. Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday of this week are the **Lenten Ember Days**, and are days of special prayer. They are also days of fast and abstinence. The abstinence is partial for Wednesday and Saturday – meat may be eaten **once** (at the main meal) on Wednesday and Saturday.
8. **Stations of the Cross** each Friday evening in the Abbey Church during Lent starting at 7:00 PM, followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.
9. **N.B.:** Let us all remember to make our **Easter Duty** this year: "All the faithful who have reached the age of their reason must sincerely confess their sins at least once a year. This confession need not be made during the Easter time, but because of the prescribed Easter Communion it is practical to make it at this time... All the faithful who have attained the use of their reason must receive Holy Communion at least once during the Easter season... The Easter season within which one must receive Holy Communion usually extends in the United States from the First Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday." (*Moral Theology*, Fr. Heribert Jone, 1961)
10. 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.
11. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 

<b>SUNDAY:</b>	For the People of our Chapels
<b>MONDAY:</b>	<b>Welfare of Saint Joseph's Convent and our Sisters</b>
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	Deceased Martha Evans
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	For the Seich and Vagojinski Families
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	Special intention of Father Denis McMahon
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	Deceased Isaac Soileau

### A Thought To Remember

**The Sacramental Presence of Christ in the world  
depends entirely on a valid and a spiritually formed  
PRIESTHOOD.**