

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(Formerly St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 31, 2008 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity

Weekly Bulletin #1057

*O Lord, uphold us and
our absent brethren.*

CONFESSIO

By Fr. Dominic Mondrone, S.J.

(Part 1)

“My friend, there is a voice which has been calling to you for many years. It is the voice of your God, and He has something important to tell you. But your heart has been closed to His voice. Perhaps you have been so accustomed to sin that between God Who calls you with His grace and the devil who hypnotizes you with his lies, you usually listen to the devil. For years you have been asleep in sin – but do you realize where you have fallen asleep? On the brink of an abyss! Until now you have been hanging over this yawning pit by the frail thread of life which God holds in His hand, while death is coming closer every day to cut it. If God had let this thread be broken before, do you know where you would have awakened? In hell, with other lost souls. Now can you see the danger which threatens you? What is there that you have not done to make God abandon you? He preserves your life so that you may come back to Him, and you use it to offend Him. Yet, in spite of this, His voice is still calling you, and He is still waiting for you. His voice is the voice of a father who knows no peace as long as you are separated from Him. Today He is your father, but tomorrow He may be your judge. Do not waste any more time. Tomorrow may be too late. How many souls have been lost by putting repentance off till tomorrow! Counting on tomorrow was a fatal mistake for them.

“O my God, You treat me so much better than I deserve! I run away from You and You come after me; I make You angry and You are always ready to forgive me. And now, my Jesus, I want to surrender to You at last – have mercy on me!” *Say the Act of Contrition.*

“JESUS SAID: ‘If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For he who would save his life, will lose it; but he who loses his life for My sake and for the gospel’s sake will save it. For what does it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, but suffer the loss of his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when He comes with the holy angels in the glory of His Father.’”

“Save your soul! That is the thought which should be uppermost in your mind. That is why God gave you life. And instead you use it to destroy yourself. God has given you an immortal soul, created in His image, made for heaven, and you have dragged it in the mud, exposed it to the danger of hell. Jesus Christ bought it back at a great price, the cost of His Blood, and you sell it for cheap pleasure. Remember that if you save your soul, you save everything, and if you lose it, you lose everything. Jesus said, ‘What does it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, but suffer the loss of his own soul?’ How many martyrs, how many saints these words have inspired! What good is a brief life, no matter how full of honors, pleasures, and riches, if you lose your soul for eternity, which will never end? How much more happy is the man who after a life of suffering and labor, saves his soul! Dives, the rich man, passed his life in gluttony and other pleasures, and was condemned to suffer in hell. Lazarus, the beggar, lived a life of suffering, and saved his soul. Men envy the easy life of Dives, but in the eyes of God, it is the life of Lazarus which is to be envied. How different things appear when we look at them in the light of eternity! If you only knew what you will lose if you lose your soul! Jesus knows, and because He does, He sacrificed Himself on the Cross and gave His Blood to the last drop to save it. So do your part, and go to confession. You have only one soul; if you lose it, what will become of you? If you had to die right now, what would happen to you? How does your conscience answer this question? Your conscience is the voice of God.

“My God, how I have wasted my life! I have worried about everything but saving my soul. How many times I have given it up to the devil by sin! Now I realize what I have done, and I am sorry with all my heart. Make me a new man, O good Jesus, make me Yours. Forgive me!”

“JESUS SAID: ‘No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will stand by the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (the god of wealth)... Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where rust and moth consume, and where thieves break in and steal.’” *(To be continued)*