

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 7, 2008 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity

Weekly Bulletin #1058

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

• *CONFESSION*

By Fr. Dominic Mondrone, S.J.

(Part 2)

“Your enemy is sin. You know what sin is: on one side is God with His law; on the other, the devil who tempts you to break it. If you listen to the devil instead of God, you commit sin. What terrible ingratitude toward the Lord Who gave you life and preserves it! What an outrage to Jesus, Who died for you! Jesus said that we need to be afraid of just one thing in this world – sin. And instead of fearing it, you have embraced it. Have you ever thought of the harm just one sin can do to you? It is like a knife in the heart. In fact, it is even worse, because a stab in the heart can only kill your body and take away your worldly goods, while sin murders your soul and robs you of eternal happiness. It robs you of God. In Baptism and Confession you received the love of God, while sin is the kiss of Satan, the mark of hell. How can you be carefree and happy if the sentence of eternal damnation is hanging over you? Since God has not punished you for your first sins, you have become bold enough to multiply your offenses, perhaps over a period of many years. But do not forget that the more patiently God waits, the more severely He punishes. You must abandon sin or God will abandon you. Your time may be almost up now. One more sin may mean the end. God is giving you His invitation now ... do not turn it down. This may be the last warning of His mercy, and if you do not listen, there will be nothing left for you but terrifying justice!

“I am sorry, my God, that I have taken advantage of your patience and kindness. But if my sins are great, Your mercy is greater still. O Jesus, by the merits of your death, raise me up to Your grace. Teach me to make a new start, teach me to love You with all my heart.”

“JESUS SAID: ‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. But I will show you whom you shall be afraid of; be afraid of him who, after he has killed, has power to cast into hell. Yes, I say to you, be afraid of him... And I say to you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, him will the Son of Man also acknowledge before the angels of God. But whoever disowns me before men will be disowned before the angels of God.’

“Do you know why you can commit so many sins and still not worry about them? Because you do not realize that at any minute death may surprise you. All of a sudden this world disappears and you are before the awful tribunal of God. In an instant you are judged: heaven or hell! Your eternal sentence depends on your condition when death takes you. You die only once, and if you make a mistake, it is a mistake which lasts forever and can never be corrected. The very thought is enough to make you tremble. Jesus warned us to watch, to be prepared. And why do you not think of His warning? You say, ‘Tomorrow.’ But how can you be sure that tomorrow will come? Many persons now in hell once argued that way, and tomorrow never came for them. Do you want the same thing to happen to you? The answer ‘tomorrow’ means that today you love sin, that you are stubborn in sin; and the stubborn move God not to pity, but to anger. You place your hope in some future time, but God can punish you by taking away that time. Do you think it is easy to set everything straight at the moment of death? You are deceiving yourself, my friend. The man who leads an evil life usually comes to a bad end. To hope for a happy death while leading a life of sin is presumption. God promises pardon, but not the time to abuse His mercy. If you waste the time given to you now, you will not find it at death. Remember that you are endangering your eternal happiness, and if you lose it, you will not have a second chance. Do you realize what eternity is? It is forever, without any hope of change or end.

“O my God, in what terrible danger I have put myself! With death hanging over my head at every moment, I have piled up sin upon sin. How can I thank you enough for having spared me? I do not want to disregard Your warnings any longer. Help me to pay attention to them now, without wasting another moment.”

“JESUS SAID: ‘the land of a certain rich man brought forth abundant crops. And he began to take thought within himself, saying, “What shall I do, for I have no room to store my crops?” And he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store up all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul. Soul, thou hast many good things laid up for many years; take thy ease, eat, drink, and be merry.” But God said to him, “Thou fool, this night do they demand thy soul of thee; and the things that thou hast provided, whose will they be?” So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich as regards God.’” *(To be continued)*