

# Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

Cullman, Alabama

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

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

## Saint Pius V Chapel

Birmingham, Alabama

9:30 AM

Every Sunday except  
first Sunday of each month

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2008 – Purple

Mass of Sunday no Gl; Cr; Pref. Holy Trinity

Weekly Bulletin #1071

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

# THE HOLY SEASON OF ADVENT

## The Second Sunday of Advent

*I am*

### *The Immaculate Conception*

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the perfect model for the Catholic Christian! How seriously she stands up against our immodesty, our immorality, our sensuality, our greed, our luxurious way of life! What a rebuke she is to our false notions of Catholic Christianity. Yet, her silent admonition against every false standard of Catholic behavior is filled with eloquence. She had the best endowed mind that ever lived on this earth; she was enlightened as no prophet ever had been enlightened before her; she has a power of intercession of which no one can determine the limit; she had a zeal for her Son's glory and for her Son's work that burned more fiercely than the zeal of all the great Saints that have ever pillared the Holy Church of her Son; she suffered a martyrdom that defies description.

Yet – what was her life?

IT WAS ORDINARY – IT WAS OBSCURE – IT WAS INCONSPICUOUS – IT WAS UNPERCEIVED – IT WAS SIMPLE – IT WAS HOLY – IT WAS FULL OF THE ORDINARY LABORS OF EACH NEW DAY!

Except for one time – at the wedding feast – she never appeared noticeably in her Son's public life. Unnoticed and undiscovered, she was lost in the crowd. And thus she remained. Though she was the most enlightened and zealous member of the Holy Church of her Son, since the day of Pentecost she has been invisible to our eyes.

Stronger than the strongest of the Apostles, the Gospels have made no record of her strength, and the silence of the Gospels speaks loudly.

She gives but one message to all men in the words of her MAGNIFICAT, yet her lifelong sermon was preached in obscurity and silence. The unbelievably magnificent meeting she certainly had with her risen Son remains, to all men and for all time, silent and unknown. Even though a Queen – a Queen above every queen ever known – more importantly, she remains a Mother – our Mother – a Mother more beautiful and loving than any mother that has ever been.

There would be much more holiness, as there would also be much more happiness and peace, if Mary's Christian and Catholic sons, and Mary's Christian and Catholic daughters were to comprehend and strive to follow and to live by her simple yet profound example!

