

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

Cullman, Alabama

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

SIXTH AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2009 – Green

Mass of Sunday G1; Cr; Preface of Holy Trinity

Weekly Bulletin #1103

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

THE POWER OF PRAYER

By

RICHARD GRÄF, C.S.Sp.

1957

As has been already indicated to you, we now begin the long program of reproducing this wonderful book for your instruction and edification. This book, is no longer available, or so it seems. So, we must reproduce it and each week distribute parts to you in our bulletins. When special feasts or certain occasions occur the series will be temporarily interrupted, please understand.

We ask your prayers that this effort will be successful and fruitful to all who with honesty and commitment of conscience follow along each week. We desire to go on record with our complaint that so very few pulpits fail to spend time on the important subject of prayer. We sincerely recommend that the subject of prayer be given more time.

We suggest that each family keep the weekly presentations and when the series is finally completed each family possibly bind their pages into the form of a book — so that future generations be given the benefit of it. It is vitally important.

“That in all things God will be glorified.”

U.I.O.G.D.

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

Prayer is a mighty power. The man who prays is a truly creative artist, for what he produces is of eternal, not fleeting, worth. By means of prayer he goes out of self, leaving behind him the limitations of his being, to enter into immediate contact with the Eternal, the Thrice-Holy God. He breaks the fetters of time and space.

Prayer is in fact *the* power. Through it we exert power over God himself. “If you, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, *how much more* will your Father from heaven give the good Spirit to them that ask him?” (Luke 11, 13). “All things whatsoever you ask when ye pray, believe that you shall receive and they shall come unto you” (Mark 11, 24).

For some, prayer is the only bridge by which they can reach heaven. All those outside the Church who know nothing of the sacraments can save their souls only through prayer by which they voice their yearning for God. Such prayer works within them a momentous change whereby they are sanctified and transformed. They experience a new birth (John 3, 3), a new creation (2 Cor. 5, 17); from children of wrath (Eph. 2, 3) they are made children of God (1 John 3, 1).

For many, prayer is the last means of reaching God. Priests may be taken from us, but not prayer. Hence no soul should despair: by means of perfect contrition even the most inveterate sinner can secure his soul from the grip of the second death (Apoc. 2, 11) and reach eternal life.

If only we could pray again our losses would be made good, no limit would be set to our hopes. Prayer can transform man, can transform the world. May these pages contribute even a little to deepen that conviction.

Richard Gräf, C.S.Sp,