

THE POWER OF PRAYER

By

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To escape the dulling effect of routine we must try to grasp things from within; and this is truer of the supernatural than of the natural order. Fresh additions to knowledge and keener appreciation of things help only for a time; but it is by interior prayer and meditation alone that we can penetrate into the deep reaches of the supernatural world. If we foster such prayer as that we will never regard the Holy Eucharist as commonplace; each succeeding day it will be for us a more beautiful, wondrous and blessed thing. "Come, taste and see how the Lord is sweet"! The entire natural creation is but a portion of the hem of God's mantle. And yet man's observation here is frequently superficial. What then of the mystery of the sacred Host? Does he expect to explore it to its depths in a few days? Here are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col. 2, 3); here dwells the fullness of the Godhead corporally (Col. 2, 9). An effective Eucharistic movement can be built only on a prayer movement. Else there is danger that with the impressive rise in the number of Holy Communions no corresponding growth in the religious life of the communicants is registered.

With the exception of holy orders and matrimony all the sacraments necessary to the salvation of the individual can be substituted for by prayer in case they cannot be actually received; substituted, too, practically with complete effect. The two sacraments mentioned have to be actually received; but, as they are sacraments that pertain to a state in life, they are obviously not necessary for the sanctification of the individual. For prayer, however, there is no substitute. Over the bridge of prayer all men from all directions can come to God. On this bridge, too, God can meet man most easily. Almost all prayers are consciously or unconsciously directed to God, the common Father of us all (Eph. 4, 6). As Ananias was sent to seek out Saul of Tarsus: "For behold he prayeth" (Acts 9, 11), so messengers visible and perhaps invisible are frequently dispatched to those who pray.

1. There will be Catechism class after 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. Monday, August 10, 2009, is the Feast of Saint Lawrence, Deacon, Martyr.
3. Tuesday is the Feast of Saint Philomena VM (Roman calendar), and is the Name day of our Sister Mary Philomena, OSB. Please remember Sister Philomena in a special way in your prayers.
4. Wednesday is the Feast of Saint Clare of Assisi
5. Saturday, August 15, 2009, is the Feast of the Assumption; Masses will be at 6:00 AM, 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM
6. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels.
7. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels
MONDAY:	Dec. Phillip Weissend
TUESDAY:	For Sister Philomena, OSB (<i>Name day</i>)
WEDNESDAY:	Special Int. Gloria Harris
THURSDAY:	For Jean Konieczka
FRIDAY:	For the Poor Souls
SATURDAY:	For our Monks and Nun and Oblates

Matter of Record

Wednesday, August 5, 2009

The crack in the transept ceiling of the Abbey Church, which has developed over the years, and of late began to cause concern, has been repaired and the ceiling has been restored to its original condition.

A Thought To Remember...

It ill behooves us to waste the time of day in praying all the prayers in the book, if we, at the same time, do not with honest and upright intention and purpose, reconstruct our souls according to the will and wish of Jesus Christ in all purity and humility and Christ-likeness. Our effort must be interior, not a feeble external show of restraint which is no more than a dead body and a ghastly mockery of the goodness of God.