

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

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

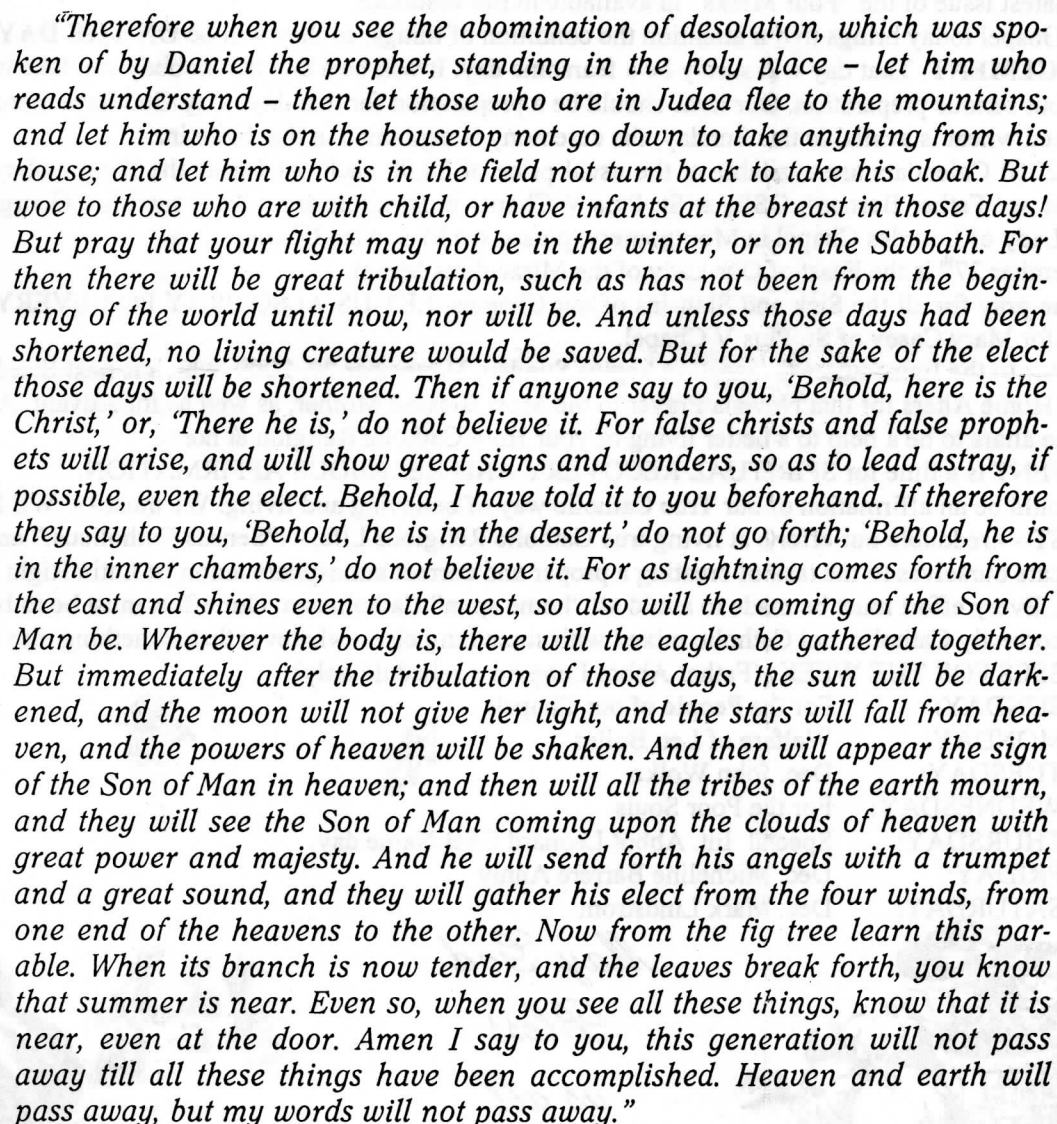
Last Sunday after Pentecost (24th Sunday after Pentecost in Missal)

November 22, 2009 – Green

Mass of Sunday GI; Cr; Preface of Holy Trinity comm. St. Cecilia Virgin M

Weekly Bulletin #1122

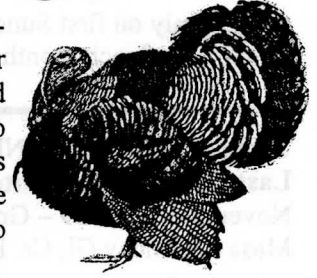
*O Lord, uphold us and
our absent brethren.*



“Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place – let him who reads understand – then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything from his house; and let him who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. But woe to those who are with child, or have infants at the breast in those days! But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, nor will be. And unless those days had been shortened, no living creature would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. Then if anyone say to you, ‘Behold, here is the Christ,’ or, ‘There he is,’ do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise, and will show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I have told it to you beforehand. If therefore they say to you, ‘Behold, he is in the desert,’ do not go forth; ‘Behold, he is in the inner chambers,’ do not believe it. For as lightning comes forth from the east and shines even to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Wherever the body is, there will the eagles be gathered together. But immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give her light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then will all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven with great power and majesty. And he will send forth his angels with a trumpet and a great sound, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. Now from the fig tree learn this parable. When its branch is now tender, and the leaves break forth, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, know that it is near, even at the door. Amen I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all these things have been accomplished. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”

Happy Thanksgiving!

A.D. 2009

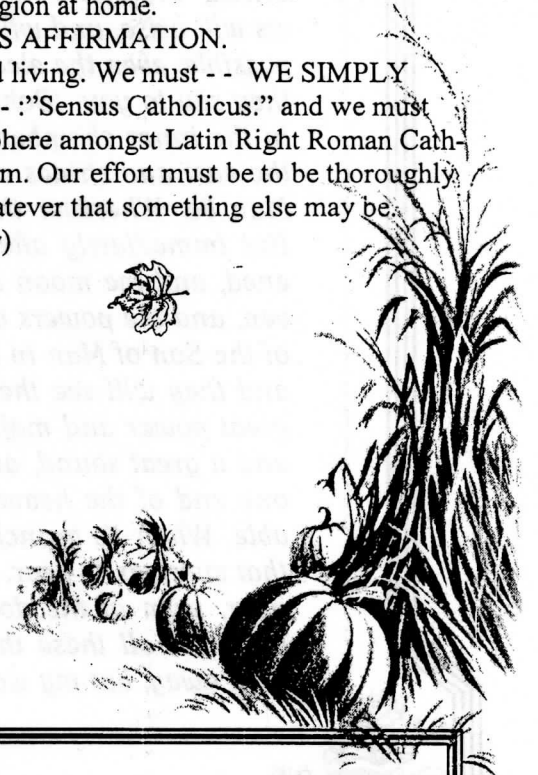


Thanksgiving should not be looked upon as a purely worldly, commercialistic occasion. Many see it as no more than "Turkey Day," or "Football Day." It is a day for right and proper celebration, of joy and fun, but it is primarily a day set aside to give profound thanksgiving to Almighty God for all His blessings and protection He has given us over the past year. This year especially prayer should be given for the countless thousands of our brothers and sisters who have suffered so grievously. God must be at the center of this day in particular, and our

gratitude should be profound, and our celebration should be profound! Because of the many leftovers of the Thanksgiving meal, the day after Thanksgiving, a Friday, by long established Church custom in America, is **NOT** a day of abstinence, **and meat of any form may be eaten on that day.**

1. There will be Catechism class after 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. This morning after the 10:00 AM Mass there will be RENEWAL OF OBLATION for all our Oblates.
3. The latest issue of the "Four Marks" is available in the vestibule.
4. The Gospel today brings to our attention the condition of things, as they will be **ON THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT**. That day will surely be a fearsome day. It will be a day that nobody can take lightly and without serious preparation. Our lives should be a preparation for that day. May God have mercy on us all!
5. Blessed wheat is available this Sunday; the ceremony is explained in this bulletin.
6. The 2010 Calendars are available at the usual price of \$8.00 each. At Christ the King Abbey in Cullman, please see Father Bernard, OSB; at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham, please see Mrs. George Niebuhr; at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery, please see Mrs. Alan Olson.
7. November 27th is the Feast of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.
8. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. **LET US ALSO PRAY FOR EVERYONE.** Please pray for Mary Casey of St. Pius V Chapel.
9. Novena to the Immaculate Conception begins Sunday, November 29, 2009, which is next Sunday. Prepare your Home Altars for that Novena Prayer to the Most Blessed Mother, as well as for Advent. Allow your Home altars to be a help to a better living of your Holy Catholic Religion at home.
10. **ADVENT** is a time for **SPIRITUAL RECOVERY AND RELIGIOUS AFFIRMATION**. It should be an affirmation of our True Catholic way of believing and living. We must - - **WE SIMPLY MUST** - - redouble our efforts at living true Catholic Religious Life. - - "Sensus Catholicus:" and we must dedicate ourselves to the task of creating a proper and correct atmosphere amongst Latin Right Roman Catholics. Every effort must be made to avoid all "home spun" Catholicism. Our effort must be to be thoroughly and correctly Catholic, not Catholic mixed with something else - whatever that something else may be.
11. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: Welfare of Leo Bolles
 - TUESDAY: Dec. John Wolke
 - WEDNESDAY: For the Poor Souls
 - THURSDAY: Special Int. Abbot Leonard OSB Name day
 - FRIDAY: Dec. Micheline Barrere Anniv
 - SATURDAY: Dec. Mark Lindstrom

*May God
Bless
us all*



A Thought To Remember...

Let us remember that religion is not something we put on and wear like clothing.
Religion is a living conviction, which we carry out every day of our lives.

ADVENT

2009

SUGGESTED ADVENT READINGS



FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT:

Sunday:	Romans:	Chap. 13 (11-14)
Monday:	Isaias:	Chap. 2 (1-5)
Tuesday:	Isaias:	Chap. 11 (1-10)
Wednesday:	Sophonias:	Chap. 3 (14-20)
Thursday:	Isaias:	Chap. 61 (1-11)
Friday:	Isaias:	Chap. 7 (10-14)
Saturday:	Isaias:	Chap. 65 (9-25)

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT:

Sunday:	Philippians:	Chap. 4 (4-9)
Monday:	Isaias:	Chap. 62 (11-12)
Tuesday:	Isaias:	Chap. 35 (1-10)
Wednesday:	Micheas:	Chap. 5 (1-4)
Thursday:	St. Luke:	Chap. 1 (5-25)
Friday:	St. Luke:	Chap. 1 (26-38)
Saturday:	St. Luke:	Chap. 1 (39-45)

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT:

Sunday:	Isaias:	Chap. 45 (1-9)
Monday:	Isaias:	Chap. 64 (1-11)
Tuesday:	Jeremias:	Chap. 33 (14-16)
Wednesday:	Isaias:	Chap. 26 (1-10)
Thursday:	Baruch:	Chap. 5 (1-9)
Friday:	Isaias:	Chap. 40 (1-12)
Saturday:	Isaias:	Chap. 52 (7-10)

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT:

Sunday:	St. Luke:	Chap. 1 (46-56)
Monday:	St. Luke:	Chap. 1 (57-66)
Tuesday:	St. Luke:	Chap. 1 (67-80)
Wednesday:	St. Luke:	Chap. 3 (1-6)
Thursday:		(CHRISTMAS EVE)
	S. Matthew:	Chap. 1 (18-25)
Friday:		(CHRISTMAS DAY)
	St. Luke:	Chap. 2 (1-14)



*After the scheduled reading on Christmas Eve,
the following ceremony takes place -
led by the Head of the Family:*

"In the forty-second year of the empire of Octavian Augustus, in the Sixth Age of the world, while all the earth was at peace, JESUS CHRIST, Eternal God, and Son of the Eternal Father, willed to consecrate the world by His gracious coming, having been conceived of the Holy Ghost, and the nine months since His conception having now passed, (*here all kneel*) He was born as Man of the Virgin Mary at Bethlehem of Juda: (*read the following very solemnly*)

THE BIRTHDAY ACCORDING TO THE FLESH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

(After this has been completed, the Head of the Family blesses the beautifully decorated Christmas Tree:)

Let us pray: O Lord Jesus Christ, Who by dying on the Tree of the Cross didst overcome the death of sin caused by our first parents' eating of the forbidden Tree of Paradise, bless this our Christmas Tree, so that in its use we can obtain even more of the Graces of Thy Nativity. Keep Thy holy peace in our home and be with us forever. Amen.

The next day (Christmas Day), after all have given glory to God and to His Son, The Baby Jesus, by attending Holy Mass - wherever possible - all should gather around the Christmas Tree again, and all should open the wonderful gifts brought to them by none other than SANTA CLAUS!

CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE – THE LITTLE THINGS



THE ADVENT CUSTOM OF BLESSED WHEAT

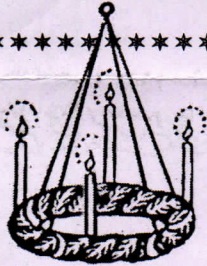


Select a flowerpot or a shallow container about 10 inches in diameter. Clean it thoroughly and decorate it with the help of your children. Fill it with fresh potting soil and place it in some easily accessible place near a window which is bright and sunny. As you take the blessed grains of wheat home with you, instruct your children that, beginning with the first day of Advent, each member of the family (including the grownups), with EACH ACT OF SACRIFICE OR SELF-DENIAL OR GOOD WORK PERFORMED IN SECRET, is to plant one grain of wheat in the pot. The planted grains of wheat will soon develop tender shoots, and on Christmas Day each shoot will be a reminder of a gift given to the Baby Jesus. The young wheat must be kept properly watered, and on Christmas Day, before going to see what Santa has brought, the wheat plants of love and sacrifice are placed near the Crib. THE WHEAT REPRESENTS REAL GIFTS – FIT FOR THE LITTLE KING OF KINGS. With proper care, the plants should easily last until Epiphany. After that they may be planted out of doors where they will continue to develop and remain a source of interest.

This is but one of the many little things that pertain to the Christmas Season, and which, if entered into with the proper spirit and intention, will keep the entire family interested as each new day offers more opportunities for gifts for our Infant Lord. These customs which we present are some of the FORGOTTEN customs of Catholic living and life. They were once well known, and they were developed over the years by the religious experience of the Church – little, child-like customs, profound customs, that brought Catholic living and life into focus within the family circle. Each year these customs were fresh and crisp and adults and children alike looked forward to them. Let us not introduce customs that are out of context with true Catholic life and living, so that our children will not be confused when they are later faced with the broken-up life of the world. Customs that have evolved out of personal and private preference will soon wilt and will eventually be put out of the mind of the child.



If we simply keep the Holy Vision in our hearts and minds and all our activities, and in the hearts and minds and activities of our children, we need have no concern about the customary Christmas fantasy preparations – they will be in proper focus. Let us not be made to feel uncomfortable by the vicious attacks upon the customary and innocent holiday fantasies (whether they concern Christmas, Easter, or etc.). If we take the old fantasies away from our children we will create a void in their young minds – a void which WILL be filled, one way or another. With all the filth and ugliness that is now everywhere, our little ones are more and more turning to matters too horrible to speak of. The final question we must answer is: Which is better for our children – WHOLESOME FANTASY or SOUL-WRENCHING FILTH? Let us be watchful of those who are on the warpath against legitimate childhood fantasies – such as were enjoyed by all in normal, Catholic, and happy childhood days of yesteryear!



ADVENT

Advent
Wreath

Family
Home Altars



ADVENT is a very special time of the year, and it is usually filled with all kinds of Christmas excitement. It is also the beginning of the new liturgical year. It is the season of spiritual preparation, marked by an eager longing for the coming of the Savior through grace at Christmas, and for His second and final coming. It is an ideal time to establish in our homes good customs (liturgical and otherwise) which will restore ourselves and our children to the Christ Child. It is a time to restore a proper sense of beauty, holiness, peace, and serenity. It is a time to teach our children (by example as well as by words) the correct way of interpreting, understanding, and applying the real values which the spirit of this part of the year should present to us. It is the obligation of the parents to explain the matter of Christmas to their children. The parents should demonstrate how all the things of Christmas should be kept in their proper order of importance. For example, Santa Claus is not the central figure of Christmas, and things are not being prepared in his honor. At the same time, however, neither is he (Santa Claus) a sin – as some erroneously think and teach. Given proper instruction, the children will soon come to understand that Santa Claus is a good being, whose purpose is to give service to the Christ Child.

Secularism has invaded our lives and households, and our ecclesiastical leaders, who were ordained to lead others to Christ, have failed in their ordination, and in so many cases simply do not lead the people entrusted to them in the direction of Jesus Christ! They have failed to teach the Christian how to make his home life holy; they have failed to properly reflect Jesus Christ, the King of all the Universe, Whose shelter at the time of His birth was a stable where common beasts of burden lived.



Children like the beauty and simplicity of family religious (and secular) practices, and therefore make little traditions easy to establish. The little Christmas traditions, which are the lasting part of Christmas, bring back to the older members of the family the long forgotten practices of their own childhood. Long after the toys and other Christmas things have gone into the land of forgetfulness, the simple family customs of this most lovely time of the year will remain in the awareness of children for years to come.