

“Let us go over to Bethlehem, and let us see this word that is come to pass which he Lord hath showed to us.”

“And they came with haste; and they found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in the manger. And all that heard wondered, and at those things that were told them, by the shepherds.”

Why were these men called before all others to worship the new-born Child! Because they were simple and docile, and patient under the many hardships of their rough lives. And because the Holy Child would teach us from the first this important lesson — that poverty is not a thing to be despised or to be ashamed of. It is a very painful thing, because it puts out of our reach the comforts, conveniences and amusements which make life pleasant. We care far too much for these things. An apple was too great a temptation for Adam and Eve, and nice things in the shape of food, dress, scents, bodily enjoyment of every kind, are often and often too much for us, their children. Not that pleasant things always lead us into sin. But a life of ease and self-indulgence, in which such things abound, is always a dangerous life, because the body never says: “It is enough.” It is always ready to indulge itself at the expense of the soul, and to get what it wants it will not atone at sin. We have to distrust it and to be on the watch always. This is why the poor are safer by far than the rich if only they bear their privations patiently.

1. There will be no Catechism class after 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. Monday December 28, 2009 is the Feast of the Holy Innocents.
3. Tuesday December 29, 2009 is the Feast of St. Thomas a Becket, Bishop Martyr.
4. Friday January 1, 2010 is a Holy Day of Obligation, Masses on that day are 6:00 AM, 10:00 AM only. Meat may eaten on this Feast Day.
5. Friday January 1, 2010 is the First Friday of January. No First Friday Adoration on this day. Regular Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held next week.
6. Saturday January 2, 2010 is the First Saturday of January. Masses in Abbey Church 6:00 Am And 8:00 Am
7. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. LET US ALSO PRAY FOR EVERYONE. It is not for us to determine who to leave out of this prayer.
8. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: Special Int. of the Donor in Honor of St Joseph
 - TUESDAY: Dec. Mary Rademacher
 - WEDNESDAY: Dec. Forney Roy
 - THURSDAY: For the Poor Souls
 - FRIDAY: For the Monks and Nuns and Oblates
 - SATURDAY: Special Int. Paul Roy Family

20 + G + M + B + 10

A Thought To Remember ...

Little by little and tiny thread by tiny thread,
with God's help,
our work as monks and nuns living in this monastic place,
is to weave, as best we can,
the spiritual tapestry of the soul.