

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)
www.christthekingabbey.org

Cullman, Alabama

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

St Pius V Chapel
Birmingham, Alabama
9:30 AM
Every Sunday except
first Sunday of each month

Weekly Bulletin #1159

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 1, 2010 – Green

Mass of Sunday Gl; Cr; Preface Holy Trinity

It Is I – Do Not Be Afraid

How truly in Christ Jesus and how effectively in Him does God work to reconcile Man with Himself. Over and over again do we hear God's loving Words of guidance. Throughout all the ages, since the moment of the death of His Divine Son on the Cross, we hear God's message of love and help to Man. The message is always the same! It always contains God's assurance of Love and concern for Man, and it always contains a Divine plea for Man's Love in return to Him. The message is always the same. Countless times down through the ages do we hear our Holy Redeemer, Jesus, say: "Come to Me" - - "Trust" - - "I love you" - - "Do not be afraid, it is I" - - "I am Mercy Itself." The necessity of the persevering assurance of Christ's love for Man and His often repeated appeal to Man for his love and trust in return serves only to show the spiritual deafness of Man. It indicates the hardness of Man's heart, and the indifference of so many of us whom Christ loves. There is no exaggeration when we say that this unfortunate reality is stark - it is astounding and terrifying. Yet, He continues and continues to cry out asking for our acknowledgement of our love for Him. In the brief period of life of thirty-three years on this earth, our Blessed Lord gave His ALL for our redemption, salvation and sanctification. The Father and Creator of all demanded this total redemptive sacrifice of His own Most Beloved Son. That same Father and Creator of all demands no less from us in return. We are, therefore, under obligation - a serious obligation - today more than yesterday, not to allow the sound of the Heavenly Message of love to be suppressed by our doubts and superfluous discussions and inane speculations and excuses.

Christianity, indeed, civilization, today is being dragged into a catastrophe which threatens to overwhelm humanity with something akin to despair. Universal despair! We ask with reason:

"Who is there to save us?"... "Who is looking after providing for our needs and securities?"... "Who is there to trust? - - the government? - - and horror of it all - - the Church?"... "Who is there who can give us assurance that in the end Faith will prevail?"... We look! We ponder! We discern! And the best we can see is that our age is one of *blood and iron!* Nothing more! *Our age attacks Charity directly.* A wild and lawless and irresponsible propaganda has successfully persuaded most of us that we will become as gods by the use of *FORCE!* Charity, they tell us, is paralyzing in its effects. They also tell us that Charity is an opiate that dulls the mind. Charity, so they say, keeps people drugged. The "few" therefore, feel compelled to treat Charity with contempt, as degrading and leading mankind to a state of decadence. Today's age is a new age, and Man, bereft of all nobility and purpose, has been made to become - more than ever - "a sounding brass". Man must bow in adoration of the great idol of the new age: *FORCE!*

What could be easier for the Almighty Power of God than to banish all of humanity from the face of the earth, as once He banished our first parents from the Garden of Eden, and condemn us all to utter destruction? How easily could the Power of God banish us all to the fires of hell for all eternity? In spite of Man's waywardness and intransigence God has never pronounced such a sentence, and He never will. In the place of such a horrible chastisement God chose to show the full strength of His Divine Love: He sent His Divine and only Son to show all of us the quality of His love for us, and all the way from the squalor of Bethlehem to the horror of Calvary did Jesus Christ give with unwavering fidelity and perfect example. In spite of Man's indifference God has never failed in His love for Man. In spite of Man's show of hardness of heart, God pledges