The very absence of everything calculated to please the senses LEAVES THE SOUL FREE to enjoy itself more largely. In Bethlehem little concession is made to the body! Bethlehem is the setting FOR THE SOUL! It is not of that which benefits the body, but of that which benefits the soul that all men stand in need of! All that this earth can give us is NOTHING. All that life with God can give us is EVERYTHING.

- 7. Thursday, December 24th, the VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS is a Day of Fast and Abstinence. To fast and abstain on such a day is truly a difficulty, but it is necessary and good, and a beautiful and acceptable gift to the Infant Saviour, Who, as you know, is so forgotten on that day.

 8. ESPECIALLY DURING THESE VERY HOLY DAYS let us remember to pray for all
- the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering our Brother Al Sachs.

LORD, GRANT US MONKS! LORD, GRANT US HOLY MONKS! LORD, GRANT US MANY HOLY MONKS! !!!! LORD, PLEASE ALLOW US TO COMPLETE OUR ABBEY CHURCH IN 1993!!!!

9. Confessions are heard before Masses on Sunday - - NOT BEFORE MIDNIGHT MASS OF CHRISTMAS.

