

TRADITIONAL CHAPELS IN ALABAMA

Our Lady of Lourdes
Roman Catholic Chapel
Montgomery, Alabama

St. Francis of Assisi
Roman Catholic Chapel
Cullman, Alabama

St. Pius V
Roman Catholic Chapel
Birmingham, Alabama

S C H E D U L E O F M A S S E S

10:30 A.M. - Rosary
10:45 A.M. - Mass
(ONLY on First Sunday
of each month)

6:00 A.M. - Mass
(EVERY SUNDAY)
12:30 P.M. - Mass
(EXCEPT on first
Sunday of each month)

9:10 A.M. - Rosary
9:30 A.M. - Mass
(EXCEPT on first
Sunday of each month)

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 22, 1993 - - - Green

Weekly Bulletin # 286

It is not easy to be a monk. The monastic life is not a life of refuge from the world. It is a life of sacrifice. The first duty of the monk is to fulfill those sweet words of Our Savior, which to the world are forbidding: "He who wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." In a way, it is a life against nature. It is a never ending struggle for self perfection. Our life is not an easy life, and each one of us here can assure you of that. The fasting, the observance of perpetual chastity and celibacy, the observance of quiet and silence and total separation from the world and all loved ones, the living of monastic poverty, the endurance of the unpleasant heat of the summer or the disagreeable cold of the winter, and the rejection of everything contrary to the Holy Religious State, are most surely difficult things. All the sacrifices that are required of a monk are bearable only if he make them with love. Just as in the world one can do difficult things with a glad heart for a loved one, so should it be with the monk who lives his life in the Monastery. But he should endure even greater sacrifices, because of his love for His Lord, Jesus Christ! The monk must be prepared to lay down all for God, for the disciples of Saint Benedict, according to the precept of the Rule, are allowed to have neither their bodies nor their wills in their own power.

In order to come to closer union with Our Lord, the monk will be submitted to exercises and tests which are designed to root out his faults, curb his passions, and prepare him for acquiring virtues and grace. If the monk questions these exercises and tests, and resists the steps towards a closer union with our crucified Lord, he is not nor can he be a monk and he does not belong in a Monastery. Monastic life is made up of an infinity of small things. The monk must try to live the Holy Rule, not day by day, but minute by minute - in a state of constant alertness against imperfection. The perfect Monk is one who, for the love of God, is obedient in all things, even the very smallest, until death. Obedience pulls out the roots of all the impulses of vainglory and the innumerable intrigues of the world, and makes the monk poor in spirit, gentle of heart, a mourner, merciful, a peacemaker, and in a word, makes him the fulfiller of the divine Beatitudes of Christ.

THE INVESTITURE OF NOVICES FOR THE MONASTERY OF CHRIST THE KING

(1) Mr. Joseph Alan Cooper of Chicago, Illinois

1. Everyone is asked to pray for Mr. Cooper as he approaches the doorway to Monastic Life. In these our unsettled times, it is no small thing for a young man to enter the Monastic Life, as it goes so contrary to everything that he experiences in life outside. It can be, without the help of God, a culture shock without equal.
2. Confessions are heard before masses on Sunday.
3. Please pray for 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!