

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 LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 21, 1993 - - - Green

Weekly Bulletin # 296

ADVENT

Most popular of the Advent customs handed down to us is the Advent wreath made of evergreens. The wreath represents the cycle of thousands of years from Adam to Christ during which the world awaited the coming of a Redeemer. The wreath bears four candles, equally spaced, three purple ones to be lighted on the 'penitential' Sundays, and a rose-colored one for GAUDATE SUNDAY, the joyful Sunday in Advent. Candles may be placed inside or outside the wreath.

During Advent, time should be spent reading from Sacred Scripture. Therefore, certain readings have been selected and are suggested for Advent reading. These readings are taken from various of the Prophets, and they foretell the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The best time for such reading is during the lighting of the Advent wreath. The entire Family should be gathered around the wreath, and all should take part in the ceremony. This can be done at any convenient time. The Father (or in his absence the Mother) should be the leader.

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday of the Third week are Ember Days. These are special days and they are days of Fasting and Abstinence. This means that no meat may be eaten on these days. These are days, also, of special prayers.

Various home ceremonies on Christmas Eve are perhaps the easiest of all to establish. Where children are very small they are the surest link between Altar and home. If they believe in Santa Claus, this emphasis on Christmas as the Feast of Baby Jesus and His Birthday will focus their thoughts on the Holy Child. A suggested practice is for the older members of the family to gather in a darkened living room. All might be holding lighted candles. Through the halls, the children with lighted candles come in a procession carrying the Infant JESUS for the living room crib, while all sing "Silent Night". The crib should have been built and carefully prepared sometime earlier during Advent. The assistance of the youngest child in this project of building the crib for Baby Jesus is most important. By the time the children reach the living room the Father of the Family is ready to light the tree. As soon as the Infant Jesus has been placed in the crib, one of the members of the Family reads from the Roman Martyrology:

"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 (ALL KNEEL), He was born as Man of the Virgin Mary at Bethlehem of Juda.
(READ VERY SOLEMNLY):

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

1. Please order 1994 Calendars now @4.00 per Calendar. This year's Calendars should be to the liking of all concerned. Please contact:
 Laurelyn Niebuhr in Birmingham
 Mrs. Paul Roy in Montgomery
 Father Leonard in Cullman
2. EARLY NOTICE OF MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY:
 12:00 A.M. - - -MIDNIGHT MASS - St. Francis Chapel
 8:30 A.M. - - -Mass at St. Pius Chapel - Birmingham
 11:00 A.M. - - - Mass at St. Francis Chapel

3. Thursday, November 25, 1993 is THANKSGIVING DAY. Over the years this celebration has taken on a civic characteristic, and might be called National Eating Day. Let us, on the other hand make this a truly religious day, and a day that calls from us words of THANKSGIVING to the Almighty Father. It is not wrong to celebrate a day given to thanksgiving, so long as we actually give THANKSGIVING. H A P P Y T H A N K S G I V I N G!
For many, many years, in the original Diocese of Mobile, the bishop dispensed the Catholic Family from the Abstinence Rule on the day after (Friday) Thanksgiving. This is a practical recommendation. Therefore, you are all dispensed from the Friday abstinence regulation on November 26th.
4. Confessions are heard before Masses on Sunday. No one can excuse himself for the obligation of going to confession on a regular basis!!
5. Please pray for all the sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering our Brother - Al Sachs.
6. Do not forget the Poor Souls in Purgatory - - Something SPECIAL should be given to the Poor Souls - - EACH DAY.

It is little to say of the INCARNATION that it is the greatest historical event that has ever been or that ever will be; - that it dwarfs into utter insignificance everything contained in human records. It is to belittle it to allow it to enter into comparison with ANYTHING that has ever affected human destinies, for it transcends comparison. Men may know this theoretically, but they fail to realize it practically. They simply fail to COMPREHEND what it is that they are talking about. Neither can men explain the question of this VIRGIN BIRTH scientifically, or else they would not assign importance to other historical happenings, except in proportion to their relation to this pivotal fact in human destinies. The event of the Divine Birth began when the Angel of the Lord came as an Ambassador of God to a young girl named Mary. THIS IS THE MOST DRAMATIC SCENE OF ALL TIME!!! The Annunciation of Mary by the Angel Gabriel has to be the most central thing that has ever happened. All previous generations looked forward to it, just as all subsequent generations have looked back to it. The result of this conference between Heaven and Earth had Angels "holding their breaths" as they awaited the answer of a teen-age girl - - whose answer would decide the fate of us all - whoever we are, wherever we are, and when ever we came to be!

7. MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY: 6:00 A.M. For Prayer Promises and Benefactors
9:30 A.M. For the People of the Chapels
12:30 P.M. For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY: Dec. Mary Urban

TUESDAY: Dec. Thomas Boike

WEDNESDAY: Dec. Sister Regina Campbell, O.S.B. Anniv.

THURSDAY: Dec. Fr. Luke Fazi, O.S.B. III

FRIDAY: In Honor St. Ann - Thksg.

SATURDAY: Dec. Elizabeth Quilty

JUDGE THE GOOD FRUIT, OH LORD!!! JUDGE THE GOOD FRUIT!!!
AND NOURISH THE TREES WHOSE FRUIT IT IS!!!

