

Wednesday, February 21, 1996 is ASH WEDNESDAY, and it is a DAY OF SOLEMN FAST AND COMPLETE ABSTINENCE. Unless the reason be serious and grave, NO ONE IS EXCUSED FROM THESE SERIOUS DIRECTIVES. Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation, but everyone, who can, is urged to attend Mass on that most solemn and holy day. If mass attendance is impossible, then, at least, one hour of special prayer - OVER AND ABOVE THE USUAL FAMILY PRAYER TIME, is strongly recommended. The Rules for the Season of Lent are attached. The relaxed climate of the Lenten Season, found in the mainstream catholic church is not to be taken as any kind of norm for any real and conscientious Catholic to follow. Ash Wednesday, and the entire Lenten program, is our feeble attempt to counter-balance the enormity of sin - - and the enormity of sin must be kept before us AT ALL TIMES!!

During Lent, Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, every Friday evening at 7:00 P.M. in the Abbey Church.

The usual PACKETS OF BLESSED ASHES will be available to all, at all the Masses on Ash Wednesday, and the Sunday Following. Scatter these ashes about your premises, or simply keep them in your house - - seeking always, the protection of God for you and for your family. Belief in Sacramentals has been seriously downplayed in recent years - LET THIS NOT BE SO WITH YOU!

Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels - especially remembering Al Sachs, Woody Flemming and Ethyl Wallace.

During the Holy Season of Lent, please pray more intently for VOCATIONS - not just for ourselves and for our Monastery and Convent. Pray for men and women of REAL AND TRUE CATHOLIC FAITH! Pray for men and women strong enough to stand up against the false loyalty to wrong doctrine and practice which is being stressed and forced in the name of (misplaced) obedience. FAITH COMES BEFORE OBEDIENCE!!! Faith is a THEOLOGICAL VIRTUE while obedience is only a MORAL VIRTUE.

During the Holy Season of Lent, please pray for the welfare of the entire Latin Rite Roman Catholic Purpose and Cause!!! Pride and self appointed importance have played havoc with the original intention, which was the PRESERVATION OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS OF THE COUNCIL OF TRENT.

Pray for: (1) Unity of Purpose with ALL TRADITIONAL PRIESTS AND PEOPLE; (2) Unity of Understanding; (3) Unity of Intention; (4) Unity of Charity; (5) UNITY OF PRAYER amongst EVERY ONE (priests and people alike!!!) who claim allegiance to the Banner of Holy Catholic Tradition. Anyone who is even remotely instrumental in the formation of any cause which results in division or suspicion or doubt is promoting poor religion. Every traditionalist grouping of priests and people insists it follows the Truth. If this be so, then why is there so much division amongst traditionalist people? Truth is ONE! Let us pray that all men fully believe the Truth - because a forced faith is a hypocrisy hateful to God and man. For years the Catholic Church has criticized the countless divisions found in all people of the Protestant persuasion. Today, the ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST is very much guilty of the same - - and worse, no matter if it be the mainstream Roman Catholic Church, or the traditionalist Catholics, or the traditional Latin Rite Roman Catholic Church. There is something very wrong here!!!

MASSES ON ASH WEDNESDAY: - - St. Francis Chapel Only - Abbey Church

6:00 A.M.

8:00 A.M. DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES AT ALL MASSES.

7:00 P.M.

The Dominican Sisters of Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel are sponsoring The Rosary Confraternity. Without doubt, this is a most worthy effort. Anyone interested should contact: Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel

Rosary Confraternity

P.O. Box 283

Monroe, CT. 06468

PAMPHLETS AVAILABLE

MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Abbot Leonard's Schedule)

SUNDAY: For the People of the Chapels

MONDAY: Special Int. Mr. & Mrs. Carpenter

TUESDAY: Dec. Mary Urban

ASH WEDNESDAY: For the Religious Communities of Monastery & Convent.

THURSDAY: Dec. Helen Mikolajczak

FRIDAY: Dec. Terry Thompson

SATURDAY: Dec. Mary Ogletree