

## 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.  
10:00 A.M.  
Every Sunday  
6:00 A.M.  
7:00 P.M.  
Holy Days

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

SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE ASCENSION     Weekly Bulletin # 403  
May 19, 1996 - - - White

# IN ASCENSIONE DOMINI

Mortification is a servant in the spiritual life, not a master. It is not an end but a means. If penance and mortification assume the pose of being ends in themselves, they can become (and often do) become not only tyrannical in their demands but worse than useless to the spiritual life. The man who finds that the idea is to be mortified for the sake of being mortified must break out from the chains which he has forged for himself, and begin all over again with God as his sole desire and no thought of penance as an ideal in its own right. The principle of all Christian penance is response to grace. The man who loses his life in this world in order to find it again in Christ and in the next world has learned the principle. He is allowing the seed to die so that it may begin to live. Such a man knows that self-indulgence cannot go hand in hand with full discipleship of Christ. Discipleship is the main thing, so self-indulgence is dropped. This is only elementary reasoning; no great wisdom is required to arrive at the conclusion; few truths could be more obvious. But before the significant decision is made, there is normally great conflict. There is conflict all along the line, because there is opposition from every sense and from every emotion. If the senses and emotions have been allowed their independence for years they will not readily come to heel at the command of the converted will. They have substituted their own particular gratifications for conscience over such a wide area that the reformed character will have to go back over a good deal of ground - as it were and un-learn the things that were learned over a period of years. This process is certainly possible, though it is difficult, and can be accomplished with the help of prayer and grace and perseverance. But if we wish to save our souls it is a process that must be employed.

1. Next Sunday, May 26, 1996 - is the Feast of the Holy Spirit -

### P E N T E C O S T     S U N D A Y

The importance of this occasion cannot be overstressed. Pentecost is a day that we should pray most specially to the Holy Spirit, and ask Him to enlighten the darkness of our beliefs and our Faith. Ask Him to LIGHTEN the heavy burden of confusion that true and holy Catholic people who remain faithful to the true and holy Catholic tradition and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, are presently carrying on their tired and weary shoulders. Only through the Spirit of God can this cloud of unknowing be safely penetrated. Mere knowledge of the direction to take is of no assistance if the Spirit of God is not present to lead us. Knowledge without the Grace of God is sterile, and Grace is not forthcoming because of knowledge, but because of Faith and the earnest desire to believe. Prayer, and more prayer, is the principal ingredient needed to obtain this great gift of God.

2. Please pray for the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs, and Woody Flemming.