

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)

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
July 21, 1996 - - - Green

Weekly Bulletin # 412

A MAN IS - - almost as much as what he wills - - what he thinks. That is to say, we choose the furniture of our minds, and live with it. Our deliberate thoughts are our own in a way in which NO OUTWARD possessions are our own. If these deliberate thoughts come out into the open they give us away; they INFALLIBLY SHOW US FOR WHAT WE TRULY ARE!

But a man should be able to train his thought, his outlook, as he should be able to train a horse or as he should be able to train his will. By applying the right kind of discipline to the mind, a man may change his whole character and his whole life.

It is surely everyone's experience to find that mere mood can transform the scene as presented to the eye. Mood is a thing of the mind, and must be disciplined. Under the right kind of discipline the mood of cynicism can be turned into trust. To the jaundiced all things are yellow, and it is the function of mental mortification to supply the right colors.

As in the case of the training of the will, the differentiating quality is not in the OUTWARD OBJECT BUT IN THE INWARD DISPOSITION. To those who love God, all things work together for good. The penance of the mind helps both these processes: by directing itself towards the love of God it wins the co-operation of all things in the service of good.

Even more than WHAT I DO, I AM WHAT I THINK. It is my thought that prompts the acts that I perform. An objectively good act may qualify as a bad one if the thought is bad that gave it birth. The cup of cold water given in Christ's name will be blessed, while the distribution of all one's possessions to the poor and the deliverance of one's body to be burned is, with no thought of charity in the mind, nothing.

It is not what I do, or where I am, or how much I can endure, or why I succeed, that matters; what really matters is whom I am thinking of at the time - - or whom I originally intended to please. IS GOD UPPERMOST IN MY MIND, OR IS SELF???

But I really never feel sure that I prefer to choose God's glory over my own self glory. In some general way I suppose that I prefer God's glory, but I am unable to determine the extent of my preference. I never feel comfortable with my thought or my action, as to whether either give God His due. In default of more direct tests, an indirect method may yield better results. What answers, for example, would I give to such questions as: When you have sinned, do you think with compunction or with self-justification? When you have been snubbed, do you think you have deserved it or are you at the mercy of self-pity, resentment, desire for revenge? When you have done something worth-while or kind, do you think of yourself more than you think of the good you have tried to do? How much thought do you give to the person you have tried to be kind to?

The penance of the mind must not only correct the wrong thought that is there but must also supply for the thought that is not there. It must stir the intellect that is empty or lazy or irresponsible. The mind must be fed or the faculty of thought atrophies or dries up. The work of feeding the mind with right kind of ideas and processes is the positive aspect of mental discipline, and of the two perhaps the more important. Weak and limp minds that look for nothing better than light entertainment with which to fill the vacant spaces of thought must be stiffened by penance into looking for something more substantial.

1. Please pray for the many victims of the recent air-liner explosion. Does it not seem that all things are closing in on us from all sides??

Pray for the mercy of God to come upon us all.

In our prayer let us not exclude anybody. It is not for us to determine who is included and who is excluded in the love of God. It seems that that is God's work. It seems, further, that we must not act as judge in the matter of man's destiny.

Pray for all men, and leave the rest to God.

2. Please pray for all the sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels especially remembering Al Sachs and Woody Flemming. Continue to remember our friend Rama Coomaraswamy.

BE CAREFUL ON THE HIGHWAYS DURING THESE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS.

STREET TRAFFIC WILL BE UNUSUALLY HEAVY AND DANGEROUS.

KEEP CARS LOCKED AT ALL TIMES, ESPECIALLY IF

DRIVING ALONE. MANY OUTSIDER PEOPLE AND QUITE

UNKNOWN AND STRANGER PEOPLE MANY DANGEROUS PEOPLE!!

STAY HOME WITH DOORS LOCKED, AND DO NOT

GO ABOUT OUTSIDE UNLESS NECESSARY.

IF YOU HAVE TO GO OUT INCLUDE AT

LEAST ONE COMPANION.

3. Confessions will be heard at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham TODAY.

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

SUNDAY: For the People of the Chapels

MONDAY: Special Int. Gertrude Hurley

TUESDAY: Special Int. Ella Soileau

WEDNESDAY: Special Int. Peter O'Neil

THURSDAY: Special Int. Judith Judge

FRIDAY: Special Int. Vira Muller

SATURDAY: Special Int. Carpenter Family

Having allowed themselves to succumb to the omnipresent pressures of the world and humanistic influence, the shepherds of our day (priests, bishops, nuns, monks) have adopted the creed of SALVATION-THROUGH-SINCERETY.

In so doing, they have, without realizing it, denied Christ.

For they have denied, implicitly at least, that He is the

ONLY SAVIOUR. But not only is He the Saviour, He must be

ACCEPTED as the only Saviour. He must be accepted, not as

a mere spiritual benefit, but as a necessity of means in

order that we may live with Him forever in eternity.

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