

**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 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
December 1, 1996 - - - Violet

Weekly Bulletin # 431

Mass of Sunday: NO Gl: Or. (1) Sun. (2) B.V.M. (3) Against Church Persecutors.  
(4) Against Storms; Cr; Pref. Trin.

# ADVENT



Today is the First Sunday of Advent, and a new beginning. At every new beginning, people are want to make "Resolutions", which in most cases are not at all effective after two or three days. If one has it in mind to become a saint, the path of good resolutions is not the road that will lead him to his intended destination. Resolutions are not for really serious minded people, they are the instruments used by the weak and those whose interests are superficial and shallow. If one wishes to become a saint, he can do so only up the steep road of vigorous determination which finds inspiration in the heart. It is not by resolve - it is by desire! \*

Therefore, let us begin our Advent with a heartfelt DESIRE to become holy - not with a watered down resolution to become holy, and prayer is the beginning of all that is good in man. To become familiar with prayer, NOT PRAYERS, - to value prayer greatly, to love it and use it rightly and zealously is an inestimable possession both for time and eternity.

May it please God, that our discussions for the next many weeks will prove helpful to us as we strive to acquire a better understanding of prayer.

1. Friday, December 6, 1996 is the First Friday of December and Saturday, December 7 (the Feast of St. Ambrose) is the First Saturday of December.
2. Saturday, December 7, 1997 is the VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. It is a day of Fast and Abstinence.
3. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs and Kathryn Lineback. Also, please remember our friend Doctor Rama Coomaraswamy who is again in need or serious prayer.

4. CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF MASSES:

12:00 A.M. - Midnight Mass - St. Francis Chapel  
(ABBEY CHURCH) \*

Church opens at 11:30 P.M.

9:00 A.M. - St. Pius Chapel - Birmingham  
10:00 A.M. - St. Francis Chapel ( Abbey Church)

5. NEW YEARS' DAY SCHEDULE OF MASSES: - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

St. Francis Chapel (ONLY) - Abbey Church:

6:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M.

The fairest ornament of Mary is her Immaculate Purity. From the very INSTANT of her conception her soul was dazzlingly bright, free from the slightest stain or blemish. There was no spot of sin on the soul of this chosen one of God. She was a SPECIAL CREATION of God - someone apart. Throughout her life her purity remained untarnished. She was the TABERNACLE of the All-Holy God, therefore, she had to be free from EVERY taint of earthly dross. She is our IMMACULATE MOTHER!!!



\*

# First Sunday in Advent

## Blessing

Priest: On that day beholding from afar I shall see the Power of God coming and covering the whole earth like a cloud. Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.

People: On that day beholding from afar I shall see the Power of God coming and covering the whole earth like a cloud. Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.

Priest: And, all ye dwellers upon earth, sons of men, rich and poor.

People: Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.

Priest: Hear, O Thou shepherd of Israel: Thou who leadest Joseph like a sheep.

People: Behold the Lord shall come and all His saints with Him: and there shall be a great light on that day.

Priest: All ye who thirst come to the waters: seek ye the Lord while He may be found.

People: The mountains and the hills shall sing praise before God, and all the trees of the forest shall clap their hands, because the Lord, the Ruler, will come into His eternal kingdom.

Priest: The Lord will come and will not delay, and He will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will manifest Himself to all nations.

People: Let us live justly and godly, looking for the blessed hope and coming of the Lord.

Priest: Sound the trumpet in Sion, for the day of the Lord is near, Behold, He will come to save us. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: The Lord will come, go forth to meet Him, and say: Great is His dominion, and His kingdom shall have no end. He is God, the Mighty, the Ruler, the Prince of Peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Priest: The people shall fear Thy Name, O Lord.

People: And all the kings of the earth Thy glory.

Priest: LET US PRAY: As we Thy servants, O Lord, ask Thee for thy blessing to descend upon this symbol of our hope and expectation, put forth Thy power, we beseech Thee, and come, that with Thee as our protector we may be rescued from the impending danger of our sins: and with Thee as our deliverer, may we obtain our salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

(PRIEST LIGHTS FIRST CANDLE - SPRINKLES WREATH AND PEOPLE)

### 6. MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY: For the People of the Chapels

MONDAY: Special Int. Caroline Sakstrup

TUESDAY: Special Int. Richard Ahearn Family

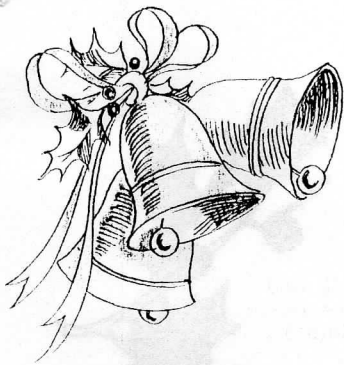
WEDNESDAY: Dec. John Fleming

THURSDAY: Special Int. Virginia Balnis

FRIDAY: Dec. Elizabeth Stopp

SATURDAY: Special Int. Paul Roy Family

Behold the Lord cometh down with  
glory... to visit His people in peace  
and establish them in everlasting life.



## Do-It-Yourself Kit

### for the Christmas Crib

The following directions show you how to build a spiritual crib in your heart for Christ. Use it to put Christ into your Christmas in a real, living way.

Start on December 1. Read the thought indicated about Christ's first crib. Practice it during the day. Do this daily during December and make your heart a worthy crib for Christ on Christmas Day.

#### Dec. 1 -- THE STABLE

Frequently during the day offer your heart to the little Infant Jesus. Ask Him to make it His home.  
--Sweet Jesus, take my heart and make it meek and pure.

#### Dec. 2 -- THE ROOF

See that the roof of the stable is in good condition, so that the Infant Jesus is protected from rain and snow. This you will do by carefully avoiding every uncharitable remark. -- Jesus, teach me to love my neighbor as myself.

#### Dec. 3 -- CREVICES

Carefully stop every crevice in the walls of the stable, so that the wind and cold may not enter there. Guard your senses against temptations. Guard especially your ears against sinful conversations.  
--Jesus, help me to keep temptations out of my heart.



#### Dec. 4 -- COBWEBS

Clean the cobwebs from your spiritual crib. Diligently remove from your heart every inordinate desire of being praised. Renew this intention at least three times today --My Jesus I want to please Thee in all I do today.

#### Dec. 5 -- FENCE

Build a fence about the crib of your heart by keeping a strict watch over your eyes, especially at prayer.  
--Sweet Jesus, I long to see Thee.

#### Dec. 6 -- MANGER

Fix the best and warmest corner of your heart for the manger of Jesus. You will do so by abstaining from what you like most in the line of food, comfort and amusement. --Mary, use these sacrifices to prepare my heart for Jesus in Holy Communion.

#### Dec. 7 -- HAY

Supply the manger of your heart with hay, by overcoming all feelings of pride, anger or envy.  
--Jesus, teach me to know and correct my greatest sins.

#### Dec. 8 -- SOFT STRAW

Also provide your manger with soft straw by performing little acts of mortification; for instance, bear the cold without complaints; or sit and stand erect.  
--Dear Jesus, Who suffered so much for me, let me suffer for love of Thee.

#### Dec. 9 -- SWADDLING CLOTHES

Prepare these for the Divine Infant by folding your hands when you pray, and by praying slowly and thoughtfully. -- Jesus, let me love Thee more and more.

#### Dec. 10 -- BLANKETS

Provide the manger of your heart with soft, warm blankets. Avoid harsh and angry words; be kind and gentle to all. --Jesus, help me to be meek and humble like Thee.

#### Dec. 11. -- FUEL

Bring fuel to the crib of Jesus. Give up your own will; obey your superiors cheerfully and promptly.  
--Jesus, let me do Thy will in all things.

#### Dec. 12 -- WATER

Bring fresh, clean water to the crib. Avoid every untruthful word and every deceitful act. -- Dearest Mary, obtain for me true contrition for my sins.

#### Dec. 13 -- PROVISIONS

Bring a supply of food to the crib. Deprive yourself of some food at meal time; or a cigarette or candy, especially when you feel like smoking or eating.  
--Jesus, be my strength and nourishment.

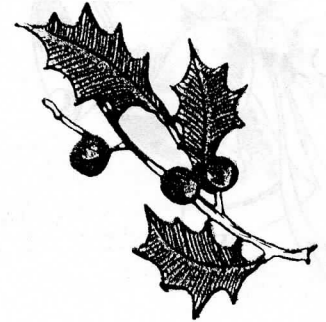
#### Dec. 14 -- LIGHT

See that the crib has sufficient light. Be neat and orderly about your person; keep everything in its place in your room. --Jesus, be the life and light of my soul.

#### Dec. 15 -- FIRE

Take care to have the crib of your heart warmed by a cozy fire. Be grateful to God for the love He has shown us in becoming man; behave with grateful respect towards your parents and relatives. -- Jesus, how can I return Thy love; how can I show my gratitude to Thee?

# Peace



## Dec. 16 -- THE OX

Lead the ox to the crib. Obey cheerfully without making excuses and without asking "why". -- **I will obey for love of Thee, Jesus.**

## Dec. 17 -- THE DONKEY

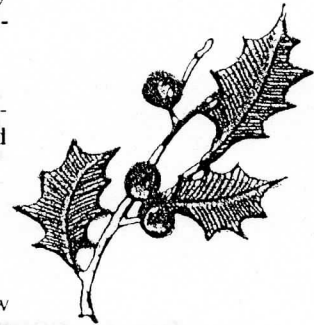
Bring the donkey to the crib. Offer to the Divine Infant your bodily strength; use it in the service of others. -- **Jesus, accept my service of love; I offer it for those who do not love Thee.**

## Dec. 18 -- GIFTS

Gather some presents for the Divine Infant and His Blessed Mother. Give alms for the poor and say an extra decade of the Rosary. -- **Come, Jesus, to accept my gifts and to take possession of my heart.**

## Dec. 19 -- LAMBS

Strive to bring some little lambs, meek and patient. So not murmur or complain. -- **Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like Thine.**



## Dec. 20 -- SHEPHERDS

Invite the shepherds to pay homage to our new born King. Imitate their watchfulness; stress in your speech and thoughts the idea that Christmas is important because Jesus will be born again in you. -- **Jesus, teach me to love Thee above all things.**

## Dec. 21 -- THE KEY

Provide the stable with a key to keep out thieves. Exclude from your heart every sinful thought, every rash judgment. -- **Dear Jesus, close my heart to all that hurts Thee.**

## Dec. 22 -- ANGELS

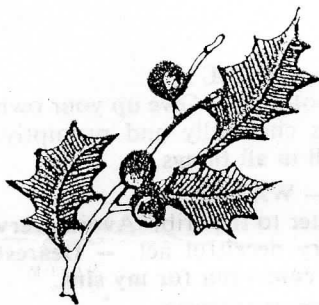
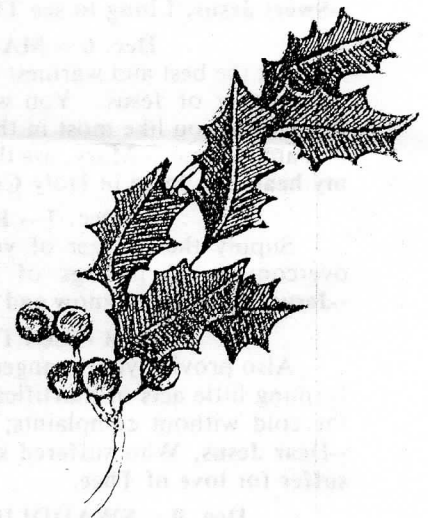
Invite the angels to adore God with you. Cheerfully obey the inspirations of your guardian angel and of your conscience. -- **Holy Guardian Angel, never let me forget that you are with me always.**

## Dec. 23 -- ST. JOSEPH

Accompany Saint Joseph from door to door. Learn from him silently and patiently to bear refusals and disappointments. Open wide your heart and beg him to enter with the Blessed Virgin Mary. -- **Saint Joseph, help me to prepare for a worthy Christmas Communion.**

## Dec. 24 -- THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Go meet your Blessed Mother. Lead her to the manger of your heart and beg her to lay the Divine Infant in it. Shorten your chats and telephone conversations and spend more time today thinking of Jesus and Mary and Joseph. -- **Come, dear Jesus. Come, my heart longs for Thee.**



MARIAN HOUSE

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