

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
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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)
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SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY

Weekly Bulletin # 440

January 26, 1997 - - - Violet

Mass: Septusgesima Sunday; NO Gl; Or: (1) Sun, (2) St. Polycarp (3) A
Cunctis; (4) A Domo; Cr. Pref. Trin.

SEPTUAGESIMA

'Let us change our garments for ashes and sackcloth:

let us fast and lament before the Lord: for plenteous

in mercy is our God to forgive our sins.'

(Joel 2:13)

1. TODAY is SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY and the beginning of the PENITENTIAL SEASON OF LENT. The Festive Season of Christmas is now over, and the white and gold of the Christmas Season has turned to the purple and violet of the Lenten Season.

The proper atmosphere of the Season of Lent is the atmosphere of fasting, sacrifice, penance, mortification, reparation. Such acts are proper and certainly praiseworthy, but what is more important than the acts themselves is that we employ a correct mental attitude concerning the reason for Lent. In themselves, the acts of penance do not make one holy. Attitude of mind will bring holiness down upon a soul (or the opposite - corruption). When we look to the saints for example, we must study what the really important part is about saints and that the sanctity of saints is not due to their fierce mortifications. The really important part concerning sanctity is the GIVING of oneself to God - surrendering and STAYING surrendered. The fierce penances were taken up by the saints to show God that soft living is not what they wanted. Their great love for God, literally forced the saints to want to share the sufferings of Christ TOGETHER with him. And since they realize that Christ died for the sins of all mankind by offering reparation to God for all the sins of all mankind, the saints wish to make additional reparation for the sins of man. Love and atonement are at the back of the fasting and the acts of mortification of the saints. It was not that by fasting and mortification that the saints thought they could crash their way to sanctity - - there is an element in traditionalist ranks today that promotes severe living as an almost absolute way to sanctity. The saints love our Lord so much that they feel uncomfortable trying to follow a way of life un-similar to that which He followed. If and when the good things of God's creation are put aside by the saints, they are put aside NOT because they look upon them as evil (they are

that they were good) but because the absolute goodness and beauty of God is more attractive to them than even the things He created. Therefore they look away from creatures and look toward God. This is like the child who puts aside its toy when it suddenly comes into the presence of its mother who had been absent for a period of time. The greater love MAKES the love of lesser things FADE OUT. The more one loves God, the more like straw do created things begin to look like.

2. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs.
3. Confessions are heard before Masses on Sunday.
4. The Monks of Christ the King Abbey are very grateful to anyone and everyone who assisted in any way at the little reception given in honor of the two ORDINANDS: Frater Francis, O.S.B. and Frater Paul, O.S.B.
5. Next Saturday, is the First Saturday of February 1997 (already). Mass in the Abbey Church at 8:00 A.M.
6. Next Sunday, February 2, 1997 is the First Sunday of February. There will be no 9:30 A.M. Mass in Birmingham.
7. The Feast of the Purification of B.V.M. is transferred to Monday, February 3. St. Blaise Blessing in Montgomery at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel will be administered on Sunday.
8. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Abbot Leonard's Schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: For the PEOPLE OF THE CHAPELS
 - MONDAY: Special Int. Francis Seng
 - TUESDAY: In Hon. St. Philomena
 - WEDNESDAY: Dec. Robert Brisbois
 - THURSDAY: Special Int. Colleen McGinnis
 - FRIDAY: Special Int. Mrs. Hughes
 - SATURDAY: Special Int. Paul Roy Family

Home Monasteries

The Society of Man has become so degenerate, immoral, self-centered and, above all, Godless, that right thinking people must work to discover certain safeguards, not only for themselves, but the generation of children brought into the world population at the time of the millennium. On the eve of the formation of a one world religion - something that is against all right reason - methods of protection must be invented if the spark of faith is to survive. Perhaps one of these methods that would be helpful is the formation, inside the frame work of the family unit, of small retreats. Such retreats employing the atmosphere usually found in monasteries. In other words, "mini-monastic cells", in which a life of religion and Faith can be lived. The term "restore all things in Christ" seems to have lost its significance, and ought to give place to the expression: "preserve what we can of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ!" Individual families will have to make it a responsibility of preserving, and forget about restoring. Therefore, each member of the family must become quite attached to the form of community life lived in his own household, and must be sincere about it. Every care must be taken, however, that the form of religious life not be without some sort of direction from someone in the position to teach, and is able to give religious schooling. The use of the telephone might be necessary for those who live some distance from a priest known for his religious and common sense! It must be remembered that in this monastic community there is always something important to be learned about our Holy Faith. There can be no doubt that God has called certain good and sincere souls to live this life of Faith. There has been a choosing! In a spirit of deepest humility, it might be said that there is something quite supernatural and special about these Souls of God who have been given the extraordinary ability to realize the importance of the profound spritual truths of God, about the importance of charity for their neighbor, and the awareness of the purpose of their own existence.
