

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 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Weekly Bulletin # 445

March 2, 1997 - - - Violet

Mass: Of Sunday; no Gl; Or (1) Sun. (2) A Cunctis (3) Liging and Dead
(4) A Domo; Cr; Pref. of Lent

*Within the veil have I called very early in the morning: O
God, thou art my God, early will I seek Thee.*

LENT



The way back to God has to be the way back to an even exercise of all the powers of the will that are within our reach: our power to control our temper; our power to control our deep set desires for food and drink; our power over our intemperate ambitions; our power over our hunger for power; our power over our passions for money; our power over our eagerness to control all those around us; our power over the force of the demands of the flesh; our power over our desires to own things; and etc. These are some of the things that must be brought under control before our homes are ready to become centers of the spiritual life. These are some of the things that our innocent children must never come to know! As mentioned earlier, each of our appetites, whether physical or mental, must be brought into regulation, or they will take control and regulate us, and keep us under subjection to them. Penitence is not a tumultuous stirring of sorrow for the lack of control over our appetites - our sinfulness because we give in to them - as many imagine penitence to be. Rather penitence - penance, contrition, remorse - is the circumspect harnessing of all the faculties under the single command of the enlightened will. Every member or power of the soul MUST be trained in obedience: the lower faculties co-operating in their fidelity to the higher, and the higher faculties co-operating in their fidelity to Christ. Identification with Christ is identification with the cross. Not until the divine authority is established throughout the whole kingdom of the soul is either the Christ-life or the life of penance made sure. This means that penance and "putting on Christ" are one and the same thing. If one can train himself to "walk in Christ", he is training himself in penance. If the contemplative life of a monk is to "walk before the Lord", then the penitential life of the Lay Person is no less. In all that one does and all that one gives up one must accustom himself to keep Christ before him as a practical and constant living model. Christ must be the role model of anyone who intends to lead any kind of spiritual life. One must forget all of the sophistications that are promoted in some places and which are identified with Christ-likeness! In the spiritual life there must not be found any fragment of radicalism, severity, self righteousness, exclusivism, bigotry, arrogance and all such like. This penitence, which assumes both recollection and submission to God's will, raises one's life and whole outlook above temporal things and places one in the element of eternity. Now we begin to see the architecture of a house built on the Corner-Stone: Christ!!!

1. Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Friday evenings during Lent at 7:00 P.M. - Abbey Church.
2. Please read the Weekly Spiritual Messages found in the Bulletins with great care. These are Foundation Stones for future HOME SPIRITUAL CONSTRUCTION.
3. Confesions are heard before Masses on Sunday.
4. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels. Remember Al Sachs.
5. Next Friday is the First Friday of March.
6. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot's Schedule Only)**
 - SUNDAY: For the People of the Chapels
 - MONDAY: Dec. Lawrence Kelley
 - TUESDAY: Dec. Henrietta Faas
 - WEDNESDAY: Welfare Father John Quinn (Anniv. Gift)
 - THURSDAY: Special Int. Patricia Haefling
 - FRIDAY: Special Int. Mary Thomas
 - SATURDAY: Dec. Louise Gootee

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES: - ABBEY CHURCH

- PALM SUNDAY: 10:00 A.M. - No Mass at St. Pius Chapel in Birmingham. 6:00 A.M. Mass as usual
- HOLY WEEK MASSES - Abbey Church - all at 6:00 A.M. only.
- HOLY WEDNESDAY: TENEBRAE SERVICE - Solemn Recitation of the Divine Office of Matins and Lauds by the Monks - 7:00 P.M.
- HOLY THURSDAY: Solemn Holy Thursday Liturgy - Mass, Procession 7:00 P.M. All Night Adoration of Most Blessed Sacrament which continues until the beginning of the Good Friday Services.
- GOOD FRIDAY: Solemn Good Friday Services begin at 12:00 NOON. Stations of the Cross follow the Services.
- **THERE WILL BE NO STATIONS OF THE CROSS GOOD FRIDAY EVENING.** ←
- HOLY SATURDAY: Solemn Services begin with Blessing of New Fire - weather permitting outside. Blessing of New Fire begins at 7:00 P.M.
- EASTER SUNDAY: IMPORTANT TO NOTE:
 St. Francis Chapel - Cullman - - 6:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M.
 St. Pius V Chapel - Birmingham - 9:00 A.M.
 Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel - 11:30 A.M. (Possibly a bit later)

How does one put his will at the service of his neighbor? How is this done? First, we must think of how one puts his will at his own service. When one wants something - wants it really badly - - his will sees to it that he make every effort to get what he wants. He will put his mind to thinking out ways and means, he sets his hands, feet, eyes, ears - - he sets all his powers to work. If the thing he wants is spiritual, the will, aided by grace, puts the man on his knees in prayer. His will will lead him to Holy Mass and to the Sacraments. The will of that man will keep his spiritual effort in proper focus. That is what is meant when it is said that the will is always at one's service. The function of the will is to seek what is good, and then to command all the many powers which are under its control to contribute their quota of co-operation in obtaining what is needed. If evil is the focus of the will, then evil will be accomplished - in the same way.

To put one's will at the service of his neighbor means just the same thing. It means using the will - and all the powers it has under its control - - in obtaining what is needed for the welfare of the needy neighbor. Since we are here speaking of the love of charity, the needs we speak of here are the spritual needs of our neighbor but his material ones are included also in so far as they are in any way connected with the salvation of his soul.

This is how charity works out in practice.

Charity prompts one to pray for others - the will reacts accordingly. When one needs something spiritual for himself, he prays to God for it. Love of one's neighbor prompts one to pray for him in his spiritual needs. The will reacts accordingly. In so doing and aided by grace, the will keeps one at prayer for his neighbor, and it is by that very act, therefore, loving him. At this point, the will prompts one to practice the Spiritual Works of Mercy on the behalf of his neighbor. When love is engaged in relieving distress it is called mercy. Love which is engaged in relieving spiritual distress is practicing the Spiritual Works of Mercy, and the Spiritual Works of Mercy are all those things one would want done for himself, or have others do for him, if he stood in need of them. By doing the Spiritual Works of Mercy for his neighbor one puts his neighbor in his own place. In other words, one would love his neighbor as he loves himself, because he would be doing for his neighbor what he would want his neighbor to do for him. Finally, the will prompts one to practice the Corporal Works of Mercy in behalf of his neighbor, but unfortunately in these our days, prudence and common sense must be consulted before acting in this regard.