

## 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
<b>S C H E D U L E            O F            M A S S E S</b>		
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 AFTER EASTER

Weekly Bulletin # 452

April 20, 1997 - - - White

Mass: Sunday; Gl; Or. Sun; Bl. Maria; Church; A Domo; Cr. Pref. Easter.

### GREATER LITANY

Friday of this week - April 25, is the Feast of St. Mark, and you will notice that the notice of GREATER LITANIES is presented to us. An instruction in this area might be helpful.

On April 25th. the Romans used to keep the festival of the ROBIGALIA, which consisted mainly of the procession out of Rome and ending up at a sanctuary on the Claudian Way. When they had reached the sanctuary, they would sacrifice a sheep in honor of the god of of frost, ROBIGO. The Christians, when they had come along, objected to this practice, but had no power strong enough to blockade it. As at Christmas, they simply placed their ceremony alongside the pagan one - and substituted the pagan ceremony with THE GREATER LITANY (The Litany of the Saints). The original route of the Christian procession has been outlined to us by way of St. Gregory the Great, and it followed approximately the same route as that of the pagan celebration, except that the Christians gathered at the Church of St. Lawrence, which is near the place where the pagans would gather, and the Christian procession ended up at the Church of St. Peter where Holy Mass was celebrated. Thus the custom of the Greater Litany Day. There are several instances of similar substitutions of a Christian ceremony for a pagan feast - mostly as a form of protest, and also to erase mentality of pagan life, which, no doubt, was part of everyone's custom, even if some of them happen to have been converted to Christianity.

The Greater Litany has, in tradition, been said throughout the Church to ward off plagues. In rural districts, a special intention came to the foreground, namely to invoke God's blessing on the harvest: "Vouchsafe to give and preserve the fruits of the earth." This invocation is part of the Litany and it is sung as the procession moves about and through the fields. The Mass of the Day emphasizes the power of confident, persistent prayer to our heavenly Father.

There is no connection between the Greater Litanies and the feast of St. Mark, which was instituted later. They are both observed on the same day.

### ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF OUR ABBEY CHURCH

Wednesday of this Week - April 23, 1997 - is the Anniversary of the DEDICATION OF THE ABBEY CHURCH. This occasion is an important affair, and the day, itself, should be looked upon as a day of great blessing and grace. Even though most of you cannot attend mass on that day, some portion of that day should be set aside as a time of IMPORTANT pray. Each new day, brings with it an increased amount or urgency, and the monks and nuns of our institutes are caught up in that urgency. For the sake of God and His kingdom on earth, please pray for the monks and the nuns or our religious houses. Pray that God will give them the strength and the ability to be of assistance to Him in His effort to maintain His Kingdom on this earth.

!!G O D    B E    W I T H    Y O U!!

1. Confessions are heard before Masses on Sunday
2. Friday is the Feast of St. Mark.
3. Steve Smith is a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery, and he lives in Crestview, Florida. Steve is a pilot in the armed services of this country, and he has been ordered to report for duty (hopefully for one month's duration) and pilot the no-man's land which boarders the two most serious waring nations of the Middle East. Needless to say, his assignment is filled with hazard. Please pray for his speedy and safe return.

4. SPECIAL NOTICE CONCERNING MAY 11, 1997  
 May 11, 1997 is the Second Sunday of May, but there will be NO MASS at St. Pius V. Chapel on that day.  
 May 11, 1997 is the Feaat of Ss. Philip and James - Apostles.  
 May 11, 1997 is MOTHERS' DAY AND IS THE NORMAL DAY FOR MAY CROWNING WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE 10:00 A.M. MASS OF THE ABBEY CHURCH.

5. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs.

6. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Abbot Leonard's Schedule only)
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|------------|-------------------------------|
| SUNDAY:    | For the PEOPLE OF THE Chapels |
| MONDAY:    | For Marie Hummel              |
| TUESDAY:   | For Catherine Hierholzer      |
| WEDNESDAY: | Dec. John Peter Waldeck       |
| THURSDAY:  | Dec. Camilla Lohmeyer         |
| FRIDAY:    | Dec. Lucille Petzinger        |
| SATURDAY:  | Dec. Iris and Oscar Rickson   |

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION  
 OF OUR ABBEY CHURCH

Wednesday of this week - April 12, 1995 is the anniversary of the DEDICATION OF THE ABBEY CHURCH. This occasion is an important affair and the day itself should be looked upon as a day of great blessing and grace. Even though we are not celebrating the anniversary on that day, some portion of that day should be set aside as a day of importance. Each new day, brings with it an important word of urgency, and the monks and nuns of our institution are called upon to pray for the sake of God and his kingdom on earth, and for the life of the monks and the nuns of our religious houses. Pray that God will give them the strength and the ability to be of service to the world in His effort to sustain His kingdom on this earth.