

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)

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #458

Octave of Corpus Christi

June ~~May~~ 1, 1997 - - - White

Mass: Corpus Christi Sunday; Gl; Or. Sun. Com Octave and 2nd Sun after pent
A Domo; Cr. Pref Christmas.

We are now back to our consideration of PENANCE:

It is to be assumed as a certainty, that the trials which God allows us in the nature of human existence are to be preferred before any which we could devise for ourselves (Example: long prayers, fasting; abstinence from this and that - and all such like). To the penances which God allows us we must try to respond as voluntarily as to those which we have voluntarily chosen. Among such penances could be numbered the trials that come from one's temperament; from one's early training at home and the example - good and bad - given by parents; from one's state of life; from one's contacts with others - ("Show me who your friends are, and I will tell you what you are"); from one's age; from one's mental abilities; from surrounding circumstances generally; from the irritations that come from those around us. Powerless to alter the conditions imposed by divine Providence, we must learn to welcome the signified will of God. In faith we must bow to His wisdom, take it for granted that His love is the EXPLANATION of the treatment which is being handed out to us, submit ourselves to whatever else may yet await us!

The more interior the faculty and intense its appetite, the sharper the pain - the greater the penance - and the stronger the faith required to meet it. Thus God may try the intellect by allowing us to feel deluded, deceived by those we felt once to trust; by involving us in every sort of doubt, by showing us the weakness of our judgement. He may try the will by allowing our love for Him to seem wasted, by meeting our desire for a return of affection from others with indifference or ingratitude or misunderstanding. He may try our memory with a knowledge of missed opportunity and a sense of resentful regret. He may try the imagination by letting us feel obsessed by temptations and dreads. He may try the physical side of our natures with sickness, exhaustion, loss of material goods, nerves, sleeplessness and the inability to find comfort in any outward thing!

Not one among the above catalogue of horrors is an active penance: ALL are trials coming from the permissive WILL OF GOD and not from personal selection. Such penance is MADE, however, by the soul: it is response to grace. A soul habitually on the alert to serve God by prayer and penance is in a state of positive receptivity which makes these "passive" trials generative. The attitude is the same as our Lady's: "Be it done unto me according to Thy Will."

1. Friday, June 6, 1997 is the great Feast of the Sacred Heart Of Jesus. Again, we say, that the greatness of this Feast is without limit. Need we be reminded of the warmth and generosity of the Sacred Heart? On that Day, please remember to pray for our Monasteries and ask God's blessing upon them.
Friday is also the First Friday of June.
2. Please pray for the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs.
3. Confessions are heard before Masses on Sunday.
4. Thursday, June 5, 1997 is the Feast of the great St. Boniface, the Apostle of Germany. One of the stained glass windows of our Abbey Church is being constructed in his honor.