

**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)

HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Weekly Bulletin # 490

January 4, 1998 - - - White

Mass of Feast; Gloria; Or. of Feast; Credo; Pref Christmas

## *Holy Name of Jesus*

The life-blood of sanctity is the Charity of Christ. He is the vine and we are the branches; the branches are alive and fruitful for just as long as they receive the life which belongs to the vine. Personal sanctity is true and fruitful for just as long as it comes from the Person of Christ. Now if the Charity of Christ is our source of sanctity, the more we draw from it the greater will be the gift which we can offer to God. Whatever we possess in the way of NATURAL kindness and friendliness must be made to mingle with His Divine Charity - - and so become SUPERNATURAL. To be nice to people merely because we happen to like them is not enough and far from being spiritual in motive. Politicians are doing this every day. To go and hug a leper because it is the appropriate and wonderfully natural thing to do is not enough. Politicians are doing this every day, and they do go down in history as great humanitarians. God is not interested in humanitarianism. He is interested in Sanctity. If sanctity is our motive, we must set our affection higher up the scale. We must be nice to the leper for the love of God!! This ought not to be too difficult because affection comes from God and can easily be directed back again to Him.

In order to lift up our hearts to God in the proper spirit of supernatural Charity, we must first place under control our ADDICTION to the acclaim we receive from the nice (political) personality and gentle (political) disposition we demonstrate to those who come into contact with us. We must come to grips with ourselves and in all honesty ask ourselves the question of just exactly why did I hug that leper? If the personality of Jesus Christ does not show through every act of ours, it is because our OWN PERSONALITY blocks the view. We prefer the gaze of the people around us over the gaze of God Himself, and at the moment that we hug the leper, it is the people around us that is uppermost in our minds, rather than the Love of God! If the personality of Jesus Christ does not show through our associations with those around us, charity - sanctity - cannot take root. If our self-will and pride cause us to look with suspicion at those around us, if we deliberately refuse to see the other person's point of view, charity - sanctity - cannot take root. An absolute condition of charity is a readiness to understand, and this supposes a readiness to make allowances for what genuinely CANNOT be understood. One cannot raise up sanctity where there is no foundation of understanding. It goes by other names (such as sympathy, longsuffering, harmony, consideration, patience, compassion, self control, SILENCE, gentleness, helpfulness, more SILENCE, meekness, cheerfulness, still more SILENCE, never a display of temper, and etc.) but the many sides of understanding and tolerance amount to only one thing: CHARITY. What doth it profit me to go out and hug that leper if I do not possess the right and correct ingredients prompting such a gesture?

If the above thoughts seem directed to outsiders, the above thoughts are with stronger force directed to us as we deal with the members of our own households!

THE VERY SPECIAL GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS OF THE ABBOT AND ALL THE MONKS AND NUNS OF CHRIST THE KING ABBEY AND ST. JOSEPH MONASTERY ARE EXTENDED TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE CHAPELS IN ALABAMA FOR THE MANY KINDNESSES AND EXPRESSIONS OF GENEROSITY BESTOWED ON THEM DURING THE CHRISTMAS TIME JUST PAST. SUCH KINDNESS TOWARD THE RELIGIOUS OF CHRIST THE KING ABBEY AND ST. JOSEPH MONASTERY IS A GREAT SOURCE OF STRENGTH, ENCOURAGEMENT AND HOPE!!

!!!GOD BLESS YOU EVERY ONE!!!