

## 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

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES

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 FIRST SUNDAY THE EPIPHANY

Weekly Bulletin # 491

Feast of the Holy Family

January 11, 1998 - - - White

Mass of Feast; Gloria, Or of Feast, Credo, Pref. Epiphany



# THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

God made me to be a saint! But I must learn how to become a saint, and there is one great lesson which I am meant to learn. Sanctity is not a matter of reaching a particular milestone on the road to God. It is not like turning on a switch and there is AUTOMATIC - on the spot - sanctity. It is not a case of being my usual ordinary self until I come to the milestone - or until I decide to turn on the switch! It is a case of using my powers as perfectly and as honestly as I can. There is no fixed milestone - no switch to turn on. The only thing that is fixed is the destination - - GOD! The pilgrims on the road are all different, and all differently equipped for the journey. Some carry great burdens, some carry less. God adjusts these things according to each one's strength. God allows the strong pilgrims to be stung by wasps, the weak ones by mosquitoes. What counts is the love which is in each man's heart. So long as my heart, which may perhaps be a small one compared with the heart of another pilgrim, is going out to God as FULLY as it can, I have nothing to worry about. I may have a heart the size of a thimble, but if it is doing ALL IT CAN - in honesty and genuine humility - is it being as perfect as the heart of a far more saintly pilgrim than myself who is pounding away with a heart the size of a bushel basket.

If I really wish to become holy there are two things that I must consider. The first point to have clearly in my mind is that God wants me to be holy. He gives me the grace to be holy. He does not listen to my silly objections about not wanting to be holier than anyone else. How other people answer the call to holiness IS NOT MY BUSINESS!! I must learn to look after my own answer to the call and I must stop making guesses at what my neighbor is doing about his call. I must not wait to respond to God's grace. I must not take the very serious chance St. Augustine took when he asked to wait before answering his call. He took a real risk. I can go on saying 'not yet' for so long that I will come to forget what it was that I am praying for. In the same way I can go on saying, 'I am not big enough and strong enough to take it on,' for so long that I will come eventually to believe it - - and then, of course, I will cease to feel the urge to take it on. So it has to be NO W, and it has to be by GOD'S GRACE. HE IT IS WHO GIVES ME THE STRENGTH TO DO ALL THINGS.

The other point I must remember is that becoming holy is not like graduating from one level to another. From the outside it may look as though there are passing grades, or a graduation with degrees of honors. Not so! The reality of the whole thing depends on MY DEGREE OF LOVE. If I give out charity as generously as I can, I have passed THE ONLY TEST. How so? Because it means that I have GOT charity and charity is God, AND THAT IS SANCTITY.

They Looked upon the Babe  
and saw God

