

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 AFTER THE EPIPHANY
January 25, 1998
Weekly Bulletin # 493

Mass of Sunday; G1 Or of Sun, A Domo Cr. Pref. Trin.

It has been said by some that our Bulletins and our sermons seem harsh and that they have a negative ring about them. Some go so far as to indicate that what is being said in our Traditional chapels lacks the Spirit of the Gospel. The opinion has been expressed that our Bulletins and our sermons should give space and time to the issues that concern Post Vatican II Catholics.

When compared to the light-hearted religious presentations generally heard today in the run of the mill voice of catholicism, our message sounds harsh. The man of the Twenty-First Century does not want to hear the rasping sound of such Medieval terms as penance! or mortification! or atonement! or reparation! If the words that come forth from us sound threatening, it is because they give warning about the rough and steep road ahead that leads to the Narrow Gate at the top of the Mountain, they give no time describing the delightful traveling conditions found on the cool and pleasant valley road! In the full account of the Sermon on the Mount we find such excerpts as ". . . It was said to them of old . . . but I say to you" followed by some very stern words, indeed! And again - "not everyone that saith to Me Lord, Lord. . . ." And again when speaking of the Ten Virgins - "I know you not!"

It cannot but be honestly admitted that the average person still carrying the badge labeled "Catholic" has, over the past twenty to thirty years, become accustomed to a relaxed application of the Law of God. Witness the present day regard for the Ten Commandments. Take note of what is being said in so called Catholic pulpits and confessionals concerning the Ten Commandments! Note the relevance of the Fourth, or the Fifth or the Seventh Commandments in today's Catholic society. Note the respect given today - even amongst strict Catholics - for the essential marks of the Sixth Commandment. Is it not true that the Commandments of Almighty God have been reduced to and subject entirely to consensus opinion? Who is the supreme judge today? And is it not true also the the run of the mill Catholic literature on Spirituality has gotten so soft - - so tender - - so "if you like it, do it" that spiritually minded people are accordingly soft - - and tender? Is not the "if you like it, do it - - God will understand" attitude in glaring evidence today in catholicity? What about the receiving of Holy Communion by absolutely anybody? What about the eating of meat on Friday? What about extra marital living together? What about the strong inclination toward the acceptance of abortion? What about the regard toward Catholic Marriage Laws? and etc? etc? etc?.

It should be time, it would seem, that the full force of the Word of Christ be placed in open opposition to the deteriorating fungus of MATERIALISM! OF CONSUMMERISM! OF MODERNISM!!

Our Bulletins and sermons do not spend valuable time and space on disputations concerning validity or schism or excommunication or encyclicals or popes or any other such issues.

The only topics considered important by our Bulletins and Sermons are those which, hopefully, will help us all through the NARROW GATE to SANCTITY!!