

1. Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament every Friday during Lent at 7:00 P.M. Please make every effort to attend this most worthwhile service. Yes, it is a penance, but a very wonderful gift to our Most Holy Redeemer.
Lent is a time for PENANCE, SACRIFICE, MORTIFICATION AND REPARATION!
2. Next Sunday is the First Sunday of March (ALREADY). Therefore there will be no 9:30 A.M. Mass at St. Pius Chapel in Birmingham.
3. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs.
4. EARLY INFORMATION CONCERNING EASTER:
 - PALM SUNDAY: - Mass ONLY in the Abbey Church - None at St. Pius.
 - 6:00 A.M. Mass as usual
 - 10:00 A.M. Blessing of Palms and Procession (weather permitting)
Followed by Mass.
 - EASTER SUNDAY: - St. Francis Chapel (Abbey Church)
 - - -, - - - 6:00 A.M.
 - · · · 10:00 A.M.
 - St. Pius V Chapel- - 9:00 A.M.
 - Our Lady of Lourdes
Chapel- - - 11:30 A.M.
 - (Father may be a bit late in arriving
in Montgomery)
5. During Lent please pray for good and holy and persevering vocations to the Monastery and the Convent. The Contemplative Life is so important, and if God is ever to be persuaded to come to the aid of His elect, it will be because of the prayer that comes out of Contemplative Monasteries and Convents.
6. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Abbot Leonard's Schedule Only)
 - SUNDAY: For the People of the Chapels
 - MONDAY: Dec. William Callahan
 - TUESDAY: Dec. Father Mark Mages, O.S.B. (II)
 - WEDNESDAY: Special Int. Ella Soileau
 - THURSDAY: Dec. Father Alfred Kunz - Anniv.
 - FRIDAY: Dec. Brian Blackwood
 - SATURDAY: Special Int. Paul Roy Family



Why do we observe Lent? The basic reason is that during the Lenten Season the Cross of Christ looms as the most significant factor of our salvation. It brings before us vividly the picture of the Sacrifice and Suffering of the innocent One - Christ offering Himself on the Cross for you and for me, and for all mankind.

Lent also provides a period of evaluation to stop and to ask, "What is happening to me as a person?" Am I becoming hard, envious, inconsiderate, crude or impressed with my own importance? Unless we take serious inventory of ourselves, we can easily drift into such a pattern of living. Lent also provides a period of spiritual nourishment. How easily the well runs dry! Jesus said: "Come unto me and I will refresh you."

During Lent, the Church will be calling her children - Come, receive the Sacrament of Penance, make a good Confession, Hear the Word of God in the Lenten Sermons, pray the prayers, partake of the Heavenly Bread of Life in Holy Communion and be refreshed.

Lent means "Spring," a New Birth, a fresh start. The path of the Christian in this earthly pilgrimage is either a steady incline or decline. Each time we start "up" represents a new beginning. While rededication is by no means confined to the six weeks of Lent, the Church wisely realizes that it is helpful to have a definite time, each year, to re-assert our allegiance to Christ. True, the leaves of spring may last only until fall, but each Spring they do blossom forth and each year the tree grows stronger.