

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. and 10:00 A.M.
Every Sunday

6:00 A.M. - 8:00 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 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin # 569

July 4, 1999 - - - Green

Mass of Sunday - Gl. Cr. Or. of Sunday, Pref Trin.

Happy Forth of July

God alone is constant in His love and He alone must be clung to, even when it seems that all else has been turned upside down. No matter - God is still the Lord and He is behind the events and happenings of this world; He can be found there amongst the happenings and He must be sought in everything that is taking place, so that His Holy Will may be done. Every thing is just another circumstance; every person is just another instrument leading us to God. And if our will is good, we come to understand that every experience is designed to chisel us and forge us into the shape and make of us the saints. It was God Who chose us. It is not we who have chosen God. God is the One Who gives Grace. It is God Who made the promise to us: "I will be with you all days!" He is the one Who told us about the "Lillies of the Field" and about "The Birds of the Air." and that He cares for us and shepherds us and feeds and guards us in every tribulation. But He, in return, asks us to fulfill our part of the agreement we made with Him when the Waters of Baptism flowed on our heads, and which agreement we renew every time the Hands of His Minister remove the stains of our countless sins from our souls. The agreement we made was that we must trust HIM AND HIM ALONE! We have promised to remain always faithful to Him; to look to Him and not to any other gods, and to rely on Him and not on rulers or on chariots or bowmen. God has always been faithful to His promises and so in turn we must be faithful to the promises we made to Him, EVEN when He leads us where we would not go, or into lands we know not, or worse - into exile. It is He that has chosen us, and for that we are His people. He loves us. He can no more forget us than a mother could forget the child in her womb - - but we, on our part - - must never forget Him. Yet, in spite of everything we know, there are many times when we do forget Him and turn away from Him!

How easy it is, in times of ease, for us to become dependent on our routines, on the established order of our day-to-day existence, to carry us along. We begin to take things for granted, and to rely on ourselves and on our own resources, to "settle in" in this world and we look to this world for our support. We conclude that our peace of mind, our joy, and our happiness come to us by way of this world in which we live. We all too easily come to equate being comfortable with a sense of well-being, to seek our comfort solely in the sense of being comfortable. Friends and possessions surround us, one day is followed by the next, good health and pleasure for the most part are ours. The demands of our party-time existence take charge of a major portion of all our significant effort. The glamour of our world, and the promises (false in every case) of our world occupy most of thoughts that crash through our souls, and we are enamored of the riches and the fine things we have around and about us. All such things have become part of our very existence. Even the best of us, to some extent have become greedy and avaricious - - in order to gain the sense of comfort and well-being. We admire the things we possess and we love them greatly and oftentimes we place our trust in them as being our support. When we glance upon our wonderful possessions, a sense of well-being comes upon us, and our chests fill up with pride: it all feels so good! We are overtaken by a feeling of accomplishment, a feeling of achievement, so much so that we, without really intending it, take God for granted. It is the status quo that we rely on, that carries us from day to day, and somehow we begin to lose sight of the fact that under all these things and behind all these things it is God Who supports and sustains us. We go along satisfied and taking for granted that tomorrow will be safe very much like today has been safe, comfortable in the world we have ourselves created, secure in the established order we have learned to live with, - however imperfect it may be - and we give precious little thought to God at all. To God Who demands ALL OF OUR HEART, ALL OF OUR MIND, AND ALL OF OUR SOUL! So many, thinking to justify themselves, each Sunday Morning cast thirty minutes of their priceless time of silver on his temple floor, just as Judas in his vain attempt to justify himself cast his thirty piece of silver on his temple floor. When the thirty minutes are up, they go back to their cosy way of life with the thought that they have done all that was expected of them. Judas hanged himself!!!

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