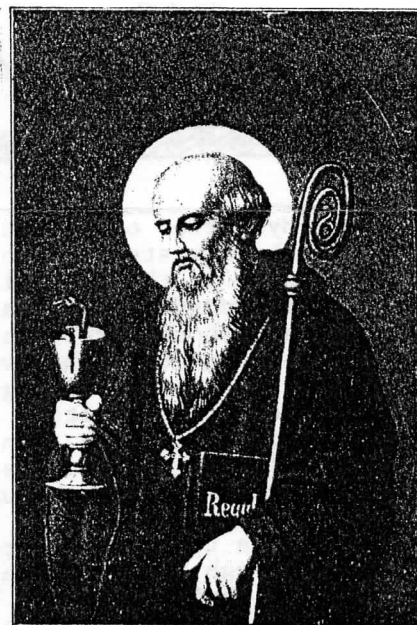


1. TODAY is the SOLEMNITY OF THE FEAST OF OUR MOST HOLY FATHER, BENEDICT. This is a very special day, and one of much prayer. Please pray for the welfare of Christ the King Abbey and St. Joseph Monastery. Pray that God send us wonderful and good vocations, - men and women dedicated to the purpose of these religious houses. Always, in times of great stress, St. Benedict has been called upon, and he has always proved his power and his concerns. Until midnight tonight, the "Toties Quoties" Indulgences can be gained for the Souls in Purgatory. Use your HOME ALTARS for the purposes of gaining these indulgences.
2. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs and Rick Burkehart (Our Lady of Lourdes).
3. The Narrative today has been greatly inspired by Father Edward Leen in his wonderful book: "In the Likeness of Christ".
5. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Abbot Leonard's Schedule Only)
  - \*\*\*SUNDAY:\*\*\* Welfare of our Religious Communities
  - MONDAY: Dec. John Lavretta
  - TUESDAY: For the People of our Chapels
  - WEDNESDAY: For the Poor Souls
  - THURSDAY: Welfare Holy Rosary Monastery
  - FRIDAY: Special Int. Kathleen Klabenes
  - SATURDAY: Dec. Henrietta Faas

Raise up in Thy Church  
 O Lord/ the Spirit  
 wherewith our holy  
 Father Benedict/ Abbot/  
 was animated: that  
 filled with the same/  
 we may strive to love  
 what he loved/ and  
 practise what he taught.



St. Benedict

as did Mary and Joseph. The Saints sat with Christ and His apostles at the Last Supper and were filled with wonderment, and in their wonderment they prayed, and when their eyes became filled with tears, the experience was real. The darkness of Gethsemane filled the souls of the Saints and they were filled with numbness when Judas and the soldiers arrived. Each year, the Saints struggle up the steep and bloody slopes of Calvary, and each year they suffer - and each year they GIVE suffering - real suffering, their only thought being a deep desire to do something for Him, Whom they love so much. The Saints always shuddered when they heard the crash of the huge stone that sealed the place where they laid Him. Above all things, the Saints believe - - but when the huge stone of life here on earth comes crashing on the place where all of their beliefs lay, they ask for help in their unbelief.

It is not always easy to establish a vital connection between the events of the Life of Christ and our own inner spiritual life. The mode of application is not readily discovered; the relation is not always obvious - as it is in the case of sainted souls. Yet such a connection has to be made - somehow - and our Holy Church, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, over the centuries, has carefully worked out ways to bring about such a connection. We call this the Sacred Liturgy. Ever mindful that our ways must be brought into conformity with the ways of Christ, the Liturgy it is that gives us the greatest assistance. The Sacred Liturgy is laid out before us - not as it might be laid out in some dusty museum. Neither is it presented to us in cold and dead recitals, presented to people of unreality. The Liturgy is alive, and its purpose is to lead people of good will through life to the top of the mountain where reality can only be found. That is why present day worship practices are so very inappropriate and ineffectual. The entire outlook concerning Liturgical practice has been lost, and the entire outlook of souls concerning the Divine has been lost. The way is being paved for the full blooming of ecumenicism on the rotten stalk of one world religion!!! As long as the supernatural element is kept alive by traditional Liturgy, man will continue to know calm and peace of soul, and the difficulties that invade him from every side will seem to evaporate.