

## 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. 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 TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST      Weekly Bulletin # 584  
October 17, 1999 - - - Green  
Mass of Sunday - Gl. Cr. Pref Trin. Comm St. Mgt. Mary

## CATHOLIC LIFE EXPERIENCE - - LIVING LIKE A CATHOLIC

Catholic Experience - (Catholic Life) - must always derive its meaning from the firm will of dedicating oneself entirely to God - FAITH. Our emotional capacity always exercises a great influence on our behavior, and this is no less true of one's spiritual conduct. Human nature is profoundly selfish in seeking its own pleasure and satisfaction, and even in sacrificing itself to God it spontaneously seeks its own interests either through God or through the creature. Whenever Our Lord gives spiritual consolations, difficulties vanish, heroic renunciations are made, promises come easily, and no obstacle is allowed to stand in the way. As these spiritual consolations diminish (and they will) human nature will try to compensate for them by seeking a greater number of human consolations - fasts, extra prayers, more devotions, novenas without end - and all the rest - anything to give a boost to the return of consolation.

Under normal conditions everyone is subject to this illusion. Since the fabric of the Roman Church has been torn to pieces, and the Faith of the Roman people has fallen into disarray, the workings of the interior life of the people is no longer there to help when consolation has been removed. The consoling help that the Catholic Religion of former times gave by way of the development of the INTERIOR LIFE is no longer promoted or fostered, and the needy people grasp at almost anything that they may consider helpful - both good and bad. External activity and external pomp and circumstance seem to give temporary help. No longer instructed in the meaning of the interior life - the Faith Life - the sufferings of the soul become severe. The same is true not only for those of the so called Novus Ordo Church, but as well for those of the Traditional Roman Catholic Church. We are going to confine our remarks to those of the Traditional Church, especially to those good people who have recently discovered Catholic Tradition and Catholic Experience for the first time. We speak also to those good good people who have been given the Grace to re-discover Catholic Experience after having been away for a long period of time. These people need delicate and patient guidance. As they enter the doors of tradition they expect to find EXACTLY what things were like when they were in grade school. If entering for the first time, they expect to find what they saw in picture books or heard on the latest hit records. That which is external and beautiful has attracted them - not the spiritual existence that the Catholic Religion gives - the Life of Grace. Unfortunately, to begin with, sentiment is necessarily superficial. Sentimentality can quickly deceive one into seeing beauty in the externals of religion, the sounds of the Latin, the chant (usually very poorly rendered) the fellowship, the various sodalities, and all the rest, and of course the numberless causes that are pushed by the people on the parking lots. But none of this is really SOLID religious Catholic Experience that one is - especially at this point in time and space - in desperate need of. The priests, either because of their former training, themselves lacking in well founded Experience, or because of their over crowded Sunday schedules, are quite unable to give time and instruction to the questioning people. As a result the traditionalist mind developed a very deformed idea of true Catholicism and Catholic worship, and often becomes very dissatisfied. Torn between a loyalty to the Catholic and Roman authority syndrome and the logic that Catholic TRUTH cries out to them, their former good will and enthusiasm begins to weaken. Unless one is given the nourishment of Grace, one can quickly find oneself in a state of real confusion. "Things" - the Latin, the chant, the ceremonies, the causes - everything begin to lose their attraction. One does not attend a Catholic Worship Service to enjoy the lovely surroundings and sounds!

Like it or not, everyone is infected with the virus of a religion that is centering its attention on man-- NOT GOD-- and the interior workings of the soul are no longer a consideration. The very fast pace that life leads today has no time to slip away a moment, just to think, and ponder what life is really all about. and the new religious practices feed the present mentality of man, The new religion has no longer any understanding of the interior life, and ridicules it