

## 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 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
January 23, 2000 A.D. - -Green  
Mass of Sunday - - Gl. Cr. Pref Trin

Weekly Bulletin # 600

The Jews, at the time of the coming of the Redeemer, were an extremely religious people. The application of the law, for them, was literal. There was no room for private interpretation, and those who were found to break the law, even in small ways, were severely punished. Jesus Himself, bears testimony to their intense, indeed, extravagant zeal for the observances of their faith. They bore the heavy ceremonial burdens of the Law with fortitude and fidelity. They worshipped God diligently and with very careful exactitude according to the prescriptions God Himself had laid down. They worshipped God diligently because that wanted from God-and they wanted it seriously - Redemption. They wanted redemption from the yoke that was placed around their necks by the Roman conquerors. The Redeemer was for them one who would strike from their necks that yoke and make them masters of the earth. This would be their redemption. This would constitute him redeemer. But a tragic misunderstanding existed between the minds of the Jews and the mind of God, and the misunderstanding arose around the fact that Redemption is understood differently by the creature and the Creator. For the Creator it means restoration to mankind of the power to bind itself anew to God in terms of intimate friendship - - the CONVERSIO - the turning away from self - the turning back to God. For the creature redemption means merely an emancipation from the galling disabilities of life on earth. Man understands salvation as a change in the state of things external to himself. God understands it as a change in the internal state of the human soul (ONCE AGAIN - THE CONVERSIO!) From God's point of view, to save man is to offer him the MEANS OF A CHANGE OF HIS HEART. Man obstinately persists in attaching his happiness to other things - health, wealth, power, FREEDOM FROM OPPRESSION (today - the TRADITIONALIST ATTACHMENT TO FREEDOM FROM THE YOKE OF FALSE CATHOLICISM) and all the rest. The Jews prided themselves on being the only people who worshipped the true God. Therefore, at that chosen moment in time, when the divine object of their adoration presented Himself in visible form to His people - THEY REJECTED HIM - DECISIVELY. The Jews rejected Jesus because He pointed out that in rescue from slavery to their sins and their false ideas of religion, and not in mere political (and now a false and oppressive religious conformity for those who continue to give obedience to the religious observance laid down by their venerable forefathers) emancipation, lay their salvation. When Christ made it clear that in His eyes salvation for them was primarily to be sought in AN INNER REVOLUTION OF A SPIRITUAL NATURE, and not in an external revolution of a political (and not a religious) nature - they gave in to serious disappointment.

Today - the same scene is taking place with Traditional Roman Catholics, as they sit and WAIT - once again - for the coming of the Redeemer. Scattered into flocks of various numbers and located in various and sundry places they wait for the great CHASTISEMENT. They wait for the great coming of Christ. But Roman Traditional Catholicism is degenerating to a formalism, that gives little attention to the CONVERSIO that must - FIRST - take place in the Heart of Man. Secure in their own private little (and isolated) precincts they protect themselves with some rather narrow minded outputs of religious observations. Their narrow minded outputs seem to give more attention to the welfare of their own religious comforts and misplaced preferences than to the interests of their God, to Whom they give intense and extravagant devotion. Oftentimes their insensitivities to the delicate needs of the souls of others drives them to drive many souls away - souls in search. So often do they apply the letter of the law - totally forgetful of the spirit of that law.

It is most unfortunate that "CONVERSIO" is so little understood, and by those who need most to understand it. So busy have we become with exterior conformity and behaviour, that we pay precious little attention to the interior needs of a humankind who yet is most precious in the sight of God.