REMEMBER, MAN, THAT THOU ART DUST, AND UNTO DUST THOU SHALL RETURN

TODAY IS SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY. The Church offers to our considerarion 1. especially in the DIVINE OFFICE, during this week of Sexagesima, the history of Noah and the deluge. Man had not profited - (AND EVEN YET HAS NOT PROFITED) - by the warnings already given him. God is obliged to punish him once more, and by a terrible chastisement. There is found out of the whole human race one just man; God makes a covenant with him, and with us through him. But, before He draws up this new alliance, He would show that He is the sovereign Master, and that man and the earth whereon he lives, subsist solely by His power and permission. Today we look for a chastisement - the worst ever - and we can be certain of it. But what might it be? In ignorance we fail to see it -- for it is here and we do not know it! LOSS OF FAITH! What could be more damaging?

Since the Abbot cannot say a public mass today - because of his injury - Father Prior Sebastian will offer the 10:00 A.M. Mass, the intention is for the welfare of the new novices. Father Abbot willsay mass privately for the usual Sunday Intention: for The People of the Chapels.

Next Sunday is the First SUNDAY of March-there will be NO mass at ST. PIUS.

Friday is FIRST FRIDAY and Saturday is FIRST SATURDAY. Masses in the

Abbey Church at 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 A.M. Please pray for the SICK AND SHUT-INS of our Chapels - especially remembering Carol Girardi.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK - - (ABBOT LEONARD'S SCHEDULE ONLY) 6.

For the People of the Chapels SUNDAY:

Special Int. Sister Mary Laurene, O.P. MONDAY:

In Honor St. Philomena TUESDAY: Dec. Margaret Irwin WEDNESDAY: THURSDAY: Dec. Rosa Molitos

Special Int. Virginia Tullius FRIDAY: Sprcial Int. Paul Roy Family SATURDAY:

That in all things God may be glorified.

(Benedictine Motto)

St. Benedict conceived life as a journey to God, the last end of the rational creature. The monastic life was a special grace to chosen souls to whom God deigned to reveal with startling clearness the perils of the world and the priveleges of His chosen servants. But they were never to idle on the way. They must be up and doing; they must run while they have the light of life; they MUST EVER BE SEEKING GOD. When a man comes to his monastery to ask admittance into the community, he is to be severely tested to see whether he <u>truly seeks God</u>. That is the point: the novice must have that basic purpose. He does not come to the monastery for a quiet life, or because he is a disappointed man or that he man practice quiet life, or because he is a disappointed man, or that he may practice his craft, or devote himself to study. He does not come even for the ordered liturgical life: for the pure joys of choir and of the cloister. HE COMES TO THE MONASTERY TO SEEK GOD - NOTHING ELSE! That is the fundamental and essential purpose. Therefore, if the novice comes to the monastery to seek God and that is his fundamental and essential purpose, this must mean that the novice is on the threshold of contemplation, and as a consequence, everything and everybody that would in some way or other be a source of distraction to his contemplation must be kept at a reasonable and prudent distance. When Christ says: "Come follow me" He leads the young monk deep into the desert. The desert is a favorite spot of the Lord because the desert purifies and makes clean.