

# Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

Cullman Alabama

Every Sunday

6:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M.

6:00 A.M. Daily

Holy Days

6:00 A.M.; 8:00 A.M.; 7:00 P.M.

Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel

Montgomery Alabama

10:45 A.M.

Only on First Sunday

of each month

St. Pius V Chapel

9:30 A.M.

Every Sunday except

First Sunday of each month

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 21, 2001 - - - Green

Mass of Sunday - G1; Cr; Com. St. Agnes; Pref Trin.

Weekly Bulletin # 653

## IN THE HEART OF MAN

### Part 2 and Conclusion

The words that come forth from the Heart of Man must give expression to a profoundly filial and a totally devoted love for God. This is best expressed in words that demonstrate a complete dependence on God, Our Father, Who is in Heaven, Whose name must be hallowed, and for Whose Kingdom we must all work to protect - with our lives if necessary. Unfortunately, the idea of total dependence on our Divine God is very repugnant to the mind of modern man. Man, with all of his inventions, whose earthly security is well provided for, feels that there is no need to look elsewhere for his security. He already has it, and he is in control of it. Besides, dependence implies the assertion of placing utter trust in God's care, and such an assertion of trust calls for utter OBEDIENCE. When we speak of obedience, man runs - immediately - into the wall which has the word "CONVERSIO" carved in it. It is idle folly to hide from that word "CONVERSIO". Once upon a time, man walked away! Now he must TURN AROUND (like it or not) and go back - EVERY INCH OF A STEEP AND LONG ROAD!

In the formation of Adam and Eve, God did not have it in mind to form wax figurines - dead reflections of His Beauty, something pleasing for Him to gaze upon. Adam and Eve were very much alive, and God placed in them a freedom wherewith they could prove to Him the quality of their love. Freedom was an essential ingredient, for in freedom would man or could man give any proof of love: therefore, FREE WILL! Adam and Eve were God's most excellent creation - they were His children, and their excellence was so marvalous that they - and man of future generations - could be looked upon as the vesture best suited for the Divinity (this has not changed). The tragedy of it all was that man was not totally satisfied with the degree of his excellence - he wanted more. Man wanted to be like God and he wanted to know what God knew. The answer was to be found in the Tree that was located in the center of the Garden, and at the coaching language of the serpent, man went and ate the Fruit of that Tree. The instant man touched the fruit, he placed his sonship with God in serious peril, and the entire human race has had to suffer the consequences.

As it has turned out, man continues to make his own decisions, and his will is supreme in all things that pertain to him. The result of all this is that man's will is in opposition to the Will of God. When Adam refused to accept God's mastery over him, he resolved to decide for himself that he should be master over his own destinies. Adam loved God very much, but he disliked being under the dominion of God, and he worked to become an equal - knowing both good and evil. Therefore, Adam dethroned God and enthroned himself. Adam WALKED AWAY from reality and went into the direction of unreality, and the gulf between Reality and Unreality has widened more and more every since the day his journey began.

There remains but one thing that must be done, and that is a solid return to God's original plan, but this can be done only if SELF - - EGO - - is completely dethroned and God returned to the Throne that is rightfully His. In this we find the difficulty, especially today as we turn more and more to the development of the personality, and the EGO is thriving! St. John of the Cross said: "God exercises more POWER in the sanctifying of a single soul that He did in creating the world, for in creating the world He met with no opposition!"

In order to be sanctified man must permit the power of God to work in him. Only then will the strife between good and evil; between love and hatred; between war and peace; between rich and poor; between the psyche and the intellect; and all the rest come to an end, and the battle between Michael and Lucifer will be over. Lucifer is winning the battles, but Michael will win the war - this we know! Man must tear down his "tinsel realities" so that, with serious determination he can - in truth - become the kind of man God would have him be, grown to all of the fullness and stature of a MAN OF GOD!

Do not be afraid, Oh my Soul, for God has placed His love on thee!

Do not be afraid, Oh my Soul, have Faith, have Trust, have Hope, have Love and PRAY much in patience and humility, and all will go well with Thee.