

## 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 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 29, 2001 - -- Green

Mass of Sunday -G1; Cr; Pref. Sun.

Weekly Bulletin # 680

## CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE ~ ~ AN ALERT

In order to annihilate every possible cause for confusion and distraction and DISSENSION amongst the good and Faithful People who attend Holy Mass in our Christ the King Abbey Church, or in St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham, or in Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery, it seems necessary to make clear certain important directives. It seems necessary to make clear, also, the attitude of purpose of the Monks of Christ the King Abbey - and the Monk-priests who say Mass in all three Mass locations. These directives must be well understood by everyone who attends Holy Mass in our Mass locations, lest perhaps the pestilence of dissension find its way into our Chapels and destroy the peace and prayerful atmosphere we all have been blessed with and enjoyed for the past twenty years.

First of all the first and foremost purpose of the Monks is to protect and preserve the integrity of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the true and untarnished teaching of our Holy Catholic Religion as handed down to us by our Forefathers. Secondly, our purpose is to protect and preserve for future generations the correct traditional Benedictine life as lived and observed in well regulated Benedictine Monasteries for the past 1500 years. These two purposes must be considered as uppermost and must be respected by all as uppermost. In today's world and Church, the presence of true monastic centers is most important. Built on the very delicate and fragile holiness of life of the Monks and Nuns and the prayer life of the Monks and Nuns, monasteries, with God's help, can once again exert influence for the good of Mankind. Our Chapels, therefore, have to be looked upon as an added dimension, not reflected in the original thinking of our Most Holy Father Benedict: our Chapels take the Monks out of the seclusion of their spiritual environment. This may seem selfish. It is not. The word "Monk" means solitary - - alone. It is because the Monk and the Nun live the life of seclusion that makes them best suited to petition God - the Creator of everything that is.

Not any one of the three places where our Monks say Mass can be considered a "PARISH". As Monks and because of the disrupted conditions in our Church of today, we are not allowed parishes - only chapels. Our priests are not pastors - as such. Our beloved Faithful People must keep in mind, therefore, that the total CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE BENEFIT that we, as Monks of the present time and crisis are able to give, or have the reason to give is (1) The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Sacraments; (2) the Catholic EXPERIENCE instructions that are presented to us in our Weekly Bulletins and in our Weekly Sermons: NOTHING MORE. To do more would seriously interfere with our fundamental purpose as Monks, and would seriously prevent us from living out our Monastic Life. If more than this is expected by anyone, it seems reasonable to suggest that such ones might be forced to go elsewhere to fulfill their religious requirements.

As already stated (Weekly Bulletin # 628) in order to prevent any infiltration of poor and incorrect Catholic thinking, the distribution of literature, tapes and all such like is strictly forbidden without the expressed permission of the Abbot - himself - - in each case and in every case. The Monks think it timely and important at this point to address themselves to the formation of "groups" in our chapels - whether the intended purpose of such groups be for social or educational or religious study reasons. (Occasional house parties and the occasional picnics on Abbey grounds are not at all the point of concern here. These are beneficial recreational occasions and are good for everybody concerned.) With emphasis, the Monks of Christ the King Abbey state that all such groups are absolutely forbidden in any of our chapels. There is serious and reasonable cause for such a strong prohibition. Such groups have, in almost every case, turned into "cults" eventually. Wherever they have been permitted to form, they have shattered the peace and the Faith of the people all around them! Many chapels have been forced to shut down because of "groups"! The problems caused by traditionalist chapel groups are too numerous to mention. The practice of "coffee and doughnuts" after Mass has been a direct cause of much chapel unrest and disturbance. It might even be said that the activities of traditionalist chapel groups have brought about the formation of a THIRD KIND of traditionalist mentality, a mentality that is surely a profound and serious deviation from our true Catholic Traditional Magisterial Teaching, and fails to maintain the EXPERIENCE proper to our true

intention as Traditional Roman Catholics. In every case "groups" eventually form their own agenda: they become cultic, exclusivistic, dogmatic, domineering - JANSENISTIC - and very hurtful to the Faith climate of all the chapels so afflicted with their presence. Such groups have become most damaging to the credibility of the entire reason behind True and Authentic Traditional Roman Catholicism! Sooner or later - INEVITABLY - every such group comes under the manipulation of those (always ready to step in from the side lines) poorly informed "THEOLOGICAL TECHNICIANS" - self appointed teachers of the Word - who construct a catholicism identifiable only with their own preferences and definitions. With a political-like doggedness such ones find fault with everything. They find fault with their priests; they find fault with the way the priest says Mass; they find fault with the sermons; they question validity (something they know very little about, indeed); they find fault with each other; they find fault with everything - - EXCEPT THEMSELVES AND THEIR MANUFACTURED PREFERENCES! Many of these individuals are "come-lately" traditionalists, and being in their first fervor they are driven to excesses and want to go forth and convert the whole world! Their excesses have resulted in the driving away of countless wonderful and searching souls from the only Fountain of Grace left on this earth - - NEVER TO RETURN!

If ever such a harassing bedevilment tries to creep into any of our chapels to disturb our Families whom we love so much and whom we welcome with all our hearts, we, the Monks of Christ the King Abbey are prepared to close our doors to everyone - rather than have the Holy Faith of our Beloved People tampered with or tainted.

With good reason, a number of Families, disturbed by the religious unrest in their own chapels, have chosen to relocate, and have moved into our area so that they can attend Mass UNDISTURBED in our Chapels. Cultic intolerance and poor religion have forced many good people into great inconveniences. Quite a number more - nationwide - frightened by the narrow-minded religious observance and demands of the chapels they presently attend, plan to relocate into our area. The teachings found in our "SPECULUM" indicate to them a message they have not heard, and the peace of the message is very attractive to them. The Monks will not, with God's help, disappoint these good people in their expectations.

Oftentimes, the effort of a single individual is quite sufficient to uproot the foundations of peace, stability and good order in a chapel setting. A single individual is very capable of ushering in out-of-control bigotry, intolerance, prejudice, unrest and downright hatred. They chain innocent and trusting people to religious practices and manufactured catholicism. Eventually, frustrated and worried, many, many good Catholic People have withdrawn themselves into the privacy of their own homes - never to return to any organized religious practice. The pages of the annals of many of our traditionalist Catholic Chapels are filled with countless heartbreaking accounts of people, literally - driven away from the doors of their Chapels. Some, worse yet, have been told to leave the Holy Communion Railing!!! These people with good reason have left - they shall never return!

The Monks of Christ the King Abbey will not permit the inexperience of any unlearned, over-zealous or over enthusiastic individual (or group of individuals) to soil the peace, the Faith and the prayer life of the wonderful People who come to our Chapels - - - of those who come to our Abbey Church where we Benedictine Monks offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 10:00 A.M. each Sunday, and 6:00 A.M. daily. Let it be known by all that whoever comes to our Chapels comes there to pray and give honor to God - - NOTHING MORE. The Monks will not allow the disturbance of argument or debate or idle gossip or speculation or untutored research or trouble provoking questions to enter the doors of our Church and Chapels to disrupt the atmosphere of peace, prayer and serenity our Communities have been Blessed with for Twenty Years - - and more.

Of necessity, we must keep everyone reminded that anyone and everyone who attends Holy Mass in our Chapels or in our Abbey Church is **TOTALLY, COMPLETELY AND ABSOLUTELY WELCOME**. We, the Monks and (Nuns) want all the people to know full well that our Monastic Love and Prayer will always be with every Soul of God who come into our Chapels with Good Will. We invite everyone to join us in our daily prayer, our sacrifices, our worship and praise of the Good God Who is in Heaven. However, it will always remain important for everyone to remember that attendance in our Chapels or in this Abbey Church is by privilege - - - not by right.

There is no immediate and direct reason for the writing of this "epistle" at the present time. It has been written simply to have on hand, if, at some unknown date in the future it should ever, which God forbid, become necessary to write one - - with reason!

*Let us avoid our worries and concerns about things that are beyond our limits of understanding, and let us center more of our attention on our Faith, on our Hope, and on our Charity. Let us leave to God the things that only He can attend to.*

1. Please remember to pray for the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Miriam Roy and Manny Gomez and Little Baby Patterson.
2. Friday, August 3, 2001 is the First Friday of August and Saturday, August 4, 2001 is the First Saturday of August. Masses - each day - are at 5:15 A.M.; 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 A.M.
3. Saturday, August 4, 2001 is the Feast of St. Dominic, and is therefore the Major Feast Day of Bishop McKenna, O.P. and the Dominican Sisters in Monroe, Conn. This year it marks the 50th. Anniversary of the Bishop's Receiving the Dominican Habit. The Priests of Christ the King Abbey are each going to say Holy Mass for Bishop McKenna on that day. Your special prayers are requested for Bishop McKenna. May God grant him many, many more fruitful and wonderful years of good work and labor, health and benediction.
4. Sunday, August 5, 2001 is the First Sunday of August. Therefore there will be no Mass in St. Pius Chapel, Birmingham on that day.
5. The present day's world, and especially, the present day's church, place heavy burdens on the shoulders of us all. Most assuredly do they place serious and weighty burdens on the shoulders of the Abbot and the Monks of Christ the King Abbey. At the present time, special help and direction and guidance is needed by the Monks as they come to grips with the mounting pressures that are put upon them with each new day. The needs of those generations yet to come will demand that the Monks of today move with prudence and wisdom. This need is serious and it is grave. The Help of God - the Help of God the Holy Spirit is most certainly needed at this point, as the Monks face certain important and unavoidable decisions. Therefore, a Novena of Masses will be offered to God the Holy Spirit in our Abbey Church, the First being said on August 7, 2001, and the Last one being said on the Feast of the Assumption of our Most Blessed Mother. Your very special prayers and sacrifices are asked for during those most Holy and important days. The Monks will be most grateful to you for this.
6. August 15, 2001 - - - WEDNESDAY - - - is a Holy Day of Obligation.
7. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Abbot Leonard's Schedule Only)
 

SUNDAY:	For the People of the Chapels
MONDAY:	Dec. Reverend Father Mark Mages, O.S.B.
TUESDAY:	Dec. Abbot Gregory Roettger, O.S.B. (1)
WEDNESDAY:	Special Int. Marguerite McGill
THURSDAY:	Special Int. Frank Calabretta
FRIDAY:	Special Int. Paul Roy Family
SATURDAY:	Welfare of Bishop Robert McKenna, O.P. 50th Anniversary as a Dominican

## **Important Notice**

ST. PIUS V CHAPEL - - - BIRMINGHAM

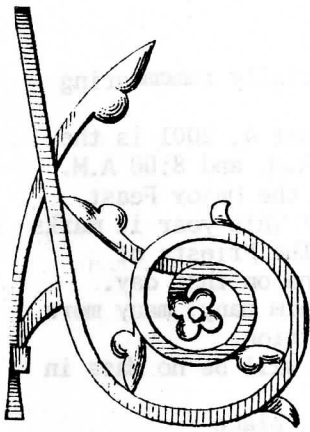
During the Month of August - **NEXT** - we have been asked to vacate the Chapel by 10:15 each Sunday.

**THEREFORE** - Mass will begin promptly at 9:00 AM.

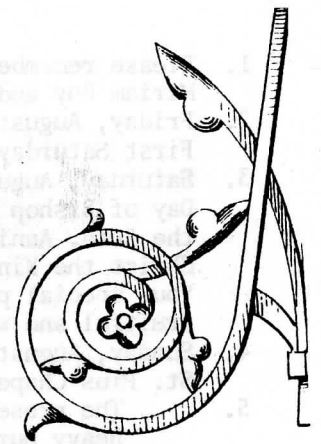
**NO ROSARY BEFORE MASS**

No confessions after - 8:50 AM





**IT IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH SIMPLY**  
**TO READ OUR WEEKLY BULLETINS**  
**WE MUST STUDY THEM CAREFULLY**



"FOR THE LETTER KILLS: BUT THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE." (St. Paul)

The trouble with many of us - even after many serious reminders - is that we do not read our Weekly Bulletins as we should. We may casually glance over them, and then proceed to walk away and forget all about them. As a consequence, forgetful of what has been said to us, some might be tempted to complain that our Holy Religion is not being presented or properly taught. The same some might be of the opinion that it would be more helpful if our Bulletins and Sermons would concentrate themselves more on the Catechism. The same some might be of the wrong opinion that the Catechism gives all that is needed for one to be a good Catholic. May we repeat: "The Catechism is a book of religion. The Catechism is not a religious book." The Catechism tells one what to do to reach eternal life. The Catechism DOES NOT tell anybody HOW to reach eternal life!

Our Weekly Bulletins concern themselves with the Interior Life, for it is in the Interior Life that one discovers the way to Sanctity. The Weekly Bulletins work to develop the right kind of DISPOSITION required to achieve Salvation. As was mentioned in last week's Bulletin - "Sorrow for sin without amendment of life is nothing but emotion!" and all of the external dramatizations that we are capable of, without thorough and genuine internal conversion - the turning back - are worth nothing! Our Weekly Bulletins strive to create an atmosphere - or mental activity - which is directed by the free action of the Holy Spirit within us. If we fail to notice a change taking place within us, it is because we have not given freedom to the Spirit of God to operate within us; it is that we have kept our minds and souls bound up with the letter of the law. The result is inevitable - the Spirit has been killed, and all we do is fruitless - - - the Spirit of God within our minds and souls has been stifled. On the other hand, when we allow for the Spirit to operate within us we have life, and peace, and serenity, and joy, and fulfillment, and hope, and Charity, and Salvation. Those who fail to STUDY the Bulletins will miss out on the "HOW" of Salvation. The Weekly Sermons, taken with the Bulletins,, and then given life with the Graces received from attendance at Holy Mass, should be quite enough to satisfy our hunger and thirst for true refreshing Spiritual Nourishment.

IN STUDYING OUR BULLETINS AND IN LISTENING TO THE SERMONS PRESENTED TO US IN OUR PULPITS IT ILL BEHOOVES US IF WE REMAIN UNWILLING (OR UNABLE) TO APPLY THEM TO THE DAILY VICISSITUDES OF OUR LIVES. IF OUR LIVES ARE NOT NOTICEABLY CHANGED BY THE INSTRUCTIONS WE RECEIVE, OUR LIVES HERE ON EARTH AND THE PURPOSE GIVEN OUR LIVES BY GOD, HIMSELF, WILL BE HALF DONE.

