

# 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.

Birmingham

Every Sunday except

First Sunday of each month

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 26, 2001 - - - Green

Mass of Sunday - G1; Cr; Pref Trin

Weekly Bulletin # 684

The word MAGISTERIUM has not been in the theological vocabulary for a terribly long time, even though the concept of it is as old as we can go back. It is not an easy word. The average layman is not helped by its academic definition. It cannot be easily defined - it can only be understood. We hope our present attempt will help in the understanding of it. To give the word any understanding, we must go all the way back to the very beginning of it all and follow the workings of the VOICE of God as He presented the WORD to the understanding of Man. Your patience and a good study attitude will be most essential in this attempt.

## CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE

### - THE MAGISTERIUM -

#### PART 4

Joseph, therefore, was called upon to interpret the troublesome dreams of the Pharaoh. Joseph's interpretation of the dreams was so good and so clear and so reasonable - - and so impressed was the Pharaoh with the explanation given him by Joseph - as well as by Joseph's personality - that he placed Joseph over all the affairs of Egypt and put him in charge over all the goods of Egypt. He gave Joseph authority second only to himself. Then he took the ring from his own finger and put it upon Joseph's finger, and putting upon him a silken robe, and around his neck a chain of gold, made him go up into his second chariot, while a herald went before, crying aloud: "Let all the people bow their knee before Joseph, who is made governor of Egypt." Pharaoh also changed Joseph's name, and called him "Saviour of the world." Joseph was then thirty years of age. The Pharaoh of that time was a very good ruler and he was a very wise ruler, and he had a genuine concern about the welfare of Egypt and of the people of Egypt. He recognized in Joseph all the good qualities he was looking for.

As Joseph's predictions began to come true, drought and famine spread over all of Egypt and over all the countries around and about. The vast store houses of Egypt, and the vast quantities of grain owned by Egypt soon became known all over the world. Joseph's brothers, too, were not long in learning of the abundance of food and grain to be found in Egypt, and they went there to seek help.

This brought them into contact with their brother Joseph, but they did not at all know or recognize him to be their brother. Joseph, however, recognized his brothers at once, and began a series of clever and secretive negotiations with them. Finally, as time passed, by loving trickeries, he succeeded in bringing down to Egypt all of his brothers and their families - together with his beloved father, Jacob.. Pull of joy and peace, Jacob gathered together all his possessions and, accompanied by his sons and their wives and their children - - in all amounting to the number of seventy - - began his long but happy journey into Egypt.

While on his way to Egypt, the Lord God appeared to him and told him to fear nothing, for He would go down to Egypt with him, and would yet make of him a great nation. In time the Lord God would bring them all back again. After Joseph introduced his family to the Pharaoh, he gave his father and his brothers possessions in Gessen, because there was a great abundance of grass there for their flocks. Seventeen years after his arrival in Egypt, Jacob fell sick and died. Israel as a national concept began to be a reality at Jacob's deathbed.

In Egypt the family of Jacob lived and worked. They married and were given in marriage, and they increased and multiplied and they prospered very well. In fact, they multiplied to such an extent that they did become a great people, indeed. They became a nation within a nation, and, in time they became as might be expected, a serious threat to the economy of Egypt. It was not long, in their generations, before the Egyptians began to look upon the Sons of Israel (Jacob) as a real problem, and a problem that the Pharaoh had to deal with. In their fear, the Egyptians oppressed the children of Jacob, and they placed very heavy burdens upon them. Finally it was ordered that all the male children born among the Hebrews must be cast into the Nile River - at birth.

One of the Hebrew women bore a son whom she loved most tenderly. For three months she hid him; but finding it impossible to conceal him any longer, she made a basket out of bulrushes, and smearing it with pitch, she placed the little baby boy in it. She next placed the basket amongst the sedges along the bank of the river, and then the Hebrew mother made sure that the presence of the basket become known to someone in authority. The little boy's older sister remained around the river's edge to keep watch over the safety of the baby, and to report matters of importance as they occurred.

To be Continued