

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 TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #692

October 21, 2001 - - - Green

Mass of Sunday - G1; Cr; Comm St. Hilarion; Pref Trin

CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE

- THE MAGISTERIUM-

PART 8

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.

When Moses had finished speaking, he went up to the top of Mount Nebo, from which the Lord showed him the land of Chanaan. When Moses saw it he rejoiced; and full of gratitude and thanks to God, died at the ripe old age of a hundred and twenty years. The Lord buried Moses in the Valley of Phogor, but where the spot is NO MAN KNOWS!

After the death of Moses, the Lord commanded Josue to pass over the Jordan. The priests took the ark of the Covenant and marched before; the people followed. When they were come to the banks of the Jordan, and the priests had touched the water with the soles of their feet, the waters above stood still, while the waters below ran down, leaving a dry passage for the people to pass over.

, When all had passed, the waters returned to their usual course. The people encamped near Jericho, where they celebrated the feast of the Pasch. Jericho was a large and populous city, and well fortified with walls. For six succeeding days the Israelites went round about it. On the seventh the priests carried with them the Ark of the Covenant, while seven priests sounded the trumpets of Jubilee, and the people shouted with a great cry. All this was done by the command of God. At the sound of the trumpets and the shout of the people, the walls fell flat to the ground. and the Israelites entered and took the city.

In time, Josue conquered all the country, and, by lot, divided it among the twelve tribes of Israel. Each tribe bore the name and was descended from one of the twelve sons of Jacob. Thus, after their long wanderings, had the Israelites arrived in the Land of Promise.

Surely the Israelites owed a deep debt of gratitude to the Lord for the rich and magnificent country He had given them; but they were an ungrateful people, and were easily led astray by their pagan neighbors. Shortly after their arrival in the Promised Land they fell into idolatry. In punishment for their crime, the Lord delivered them into the hands of their enemies. Servitude taught them repentance and their dependence upon God. Having humbled themselves before Him, he sent pious men, called Judges, selected from among the people, to deliver them and to rule them.

Their repentance was but of short duration; at the death of each Judge they returned to their sins and idolatry. For four hundred years this faithless and thankless people were in turn changing from God to the worship of idols - - - RELAPSING AND REPENTING - - -. Amongst the great Judges was one to be found whose name was Samson, and Samson was a man of the greatest strength. So powerful was he, that on one occasion he slew a thousand men with the jaw-bone of an ass. We will not here go into the very interesting story that surrounded the remarkable life of Samson. Also, during the time of the rule of the Judges, we come to the knowledge of a certain remarkable woman by the name of Ruth - a very poor woman. Led by the hand of God, Ruth went to glean in the fields of a man named Booz who was a man of great wealth. Eventually, Booz married Ruth. The Lord blessed them and gave them a son, named Obed. Obed was the father of a man named Isai, the father of DAVID. From this family Our Holy Saviour, Jesus Christ descended.