

LENT

REMEMBER, MAN, THAT THOU ART DUST, AND UNTO DUST THOU SHALL RETURN **ASH WEDNESDAY**

1. Today is the beautiful Feast of our Most Blessed Mother - SAINT SCHOLASTICA. Let it be for us a day of SPECIAL PRAYER for our Sisters. As we take a brief moment of "time out" from our Lenten preparations, and enjoy the celebration of this day, let us nevertheless pray for the welfare of our Sisters, and that God will grant us the very great blessing of good, solid, strong and proper vocations.
2. Because of the Baptism after Mass today, there will be no Catechism Class today.
3. The St. Blaise Blessing of Throats will be given at all masses today.
4. MARDI GRAS - - "Fat Tuesday" - - will be this week. Let us recognize the correct religious and meaningful purpose of this day. Mardi Gras has its roots in good Catholic Tradition, and it is a day of good and proper celebration and prudent feasting - but it is the day that marks the beginning of the Holy Season of Penance the Holy Season of Lent. Let us not hesitate to enjoy it with a lovely family party. Let us make amends for all the brutalisms that brutalist people have brought into Mardi Gras, and pray for all those who place dedicated emphasis on the brutalisms.
5. Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament - Lenten Fridays - 7:00 P.M.
6. Please pray for the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Manny Gomez and Miriam Roy. Remember, also, Mother Angelica.
7. Wednesday of this Week is ASH WEDNESDAY! It is not a holy day of obligation, but it is a day that should be observed, and Holy Mass is a must for that day. ASH WEDNESDAY is a day of solemn fast and solemn abstinence - and this should be seriously observed by all who are supposed to observe the fast and abstinence regulation. ASH WEDNESDAY is a NO NONSENSE day! The celebration is now over, and the time of for serious reflection on our life's purpose begins. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses Wednesday, and at St. Pius Chapel in Birmingham next Sunday at the 9:30 A.M. Mass. The small packets of Blessed Ashes should be taken home and used as Sacramentals around the Home and Gardens.
Masses Wednesday will be at 6:00 A.M. - - - 8:00 A.M. - - - 7:00 P.M. (Last week's Bulletin was incorrect - the evening mass is at 7:00 P.M.)
8. Wednesday is ASH WEDNESDAY - and the thoughts of some people gently turn to thoughts of prayer and sacrifice. While prayer and sacrifice are certainly very good in themselves, "prayer" and "sacrifice" are NOT the reason and purpose of Lent. The reason and purpose of Lent is "US"! The reason and purpose of Lent is our SANCTIFICATION! During Lent our thoughts must concern themselves on the way our personal SANCTIFICATION can take place. This must be well understood, or we might find ourselves doing many wonderful things that remain useless: of no use whatever as far as our personal SANCTIFICATION is concerned. If what we do fails to bring about a GOD INTENDED change in our behavioral pattern, it all serves as nothing. The candy that we "give up" or the cigarettes or the whiskey that we "give up" - not bad in themselves - are the goings on of "light weight" Catholics, insufficient in the bringing about of our SALVATION. Without proper conviction, even the burning of our bodies will always remain insufficient. Those who do not understand true CATHOLICISM look to their trivial efforts as necessarily demonstrative of strong conviction - as being solid evidence of their abhorrence of sin and their avowed determination to save their souls. Even though our religious convictions are not to be guided by a set of rules, it should be obvious that whatever convictions we may have about our religious obligations must penetrate our superficial self justifying obediences! We must comprehend PURPOSE - GOD'S PURPOSE - the One Who placed us here, and the One we must be subject to. But God's PURPOSE is frustrated by man's self will! Therefore, this Lent, let us not waste precious time and energy on non-essentials such as candy and cake and ice cream. If we are truly in earnest about the fulfillment of God's purpose in "US" then let us give up something worth while - - - something that has real importance and meaning - - - LET US GIVE UP OUR SELF WILL!
9. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's Schedule Only)

SUNDAY:	Welfare of St. Joseph's Monastery
MONDAY:	For the People of the Chapels
TUESDAY:	Dec. Stanley Poinatowski
** WEDNESDAY:**	For the Poor Souls
THURSDAY:	Special Int. Genevieve Godlewsky
FRIDAY:	Special Int. Dudley McSwain-Cawthon
SATURDAY:	Special Int. Father Francisco Radecki, C.M.R.I.

