



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

Birmingham, Alabama

9:30 A.M.

Every Sunday except
first Sunday of each month



TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #751

Last Sunday after Pentecost

November 24, 2002 -- Green

Mass of Sunday: Gl; Cr; Pref Trinity; comm. St. John of the Cross and St. Chrysogonus



"Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place - let him who reads understand - then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything from his house; and let him who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. But woe to those who are with child, or have infants at the breast in those days! But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, nor will be. And unless those days had been shortened, no living creature would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. Then if anyone say to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or, 'There he is,' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise, and will show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible even the elect. Behold, I have told it to you beforehand. If therefore they say to you, 'Behold, he is in the desert,' do not go forth; 'Behold, he is in the inner chambers,' do not believe it. For as the lightning comes forth from the east and shines even to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Wherever the body is, there will the eagles be gathered together. But immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give her light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then will all tribes of the earth mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven with great power and majesty. And he will send forth his angels with a trumpet and a great sound, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. Now from the fig tree learn this parable. When its branch is now tender, and the leaves break forth, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, know that it is near, even at the door. Amen I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all these things have been accomplished. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."



IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE REMEMBER THE SOUL OF
FRANCES MIRIAM ROY

WHO DIED SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2002
MEMBER OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHAPEL
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA



1. Today is the Last Sunday of Pentecost, 2002 A.D. It should be a day of most serious recollection and meditation. The points brought out in today's Gospel should be pondered on in a most honest and mature way.
2. Thursday, November 28, 2002, is Thanksgiving Day. In spite of it all we do have much to be thankful for, ESPECIALLY OUR HOLY FAITH AND RELIGION. Let us not fail to thank God for everything. **Masses on Thanksgiving Day in the Abbey Church are at 6: 00 AM and 8:00 AM.** Enjoy the food and relaxation that goes with Thanksgiving and thank God for it. Spent time on that day in prayer of thanksgiving with the family assembled. The following day - from time immemorial - even though it is a Friday is NOT a day of abstinence. Meat MAY BE EATEN on that day. DO NOT FORCE abstinence on the other members of your family!
3. BLESSED WHEAT is available today. Instructions for its proper use are on page four of this Bulletin.
4. The 2003 A.D. Calendars are available - the cost is the usual \$6.00 each.
5. The Ceremony for the ADVENT WREATH is available today. Please pick one up and use it for the edification of the family circle.
6. This year the Feast of the Immaculate Conception falls on the Second Sunday of Advent. Therefore it is transferred to the following day - Monday 9, 2002. That day is a Holy Day of Obligation, and Masses in the Abbey Church will be at 6:00 AM, 8:00 AM, and 7:00 PM.
7. Saturday, November 30, 2002, is the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle.
8. There will be Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass.
9. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Manny Gomez. Pray for all the sick and needy and the hungry and unbelieving people of the world. Whether or not they profit from the blessings as committed children of God, our prayers must go out to all the people of the world, to each and every one, wherever located and whatever their circumstances may be. Christ died for ALL men, not just a select privileged few. Pray for ALL sinners! Pray seriously for ALL priests. Pray for the Poor Souls in Purgatory. LEAVE NOBODY OUR OF YOUR PRAYERS!
10. Next Sunday is the first Sunday of December. Therefore there will be no Mass in Birmingham next Sunday.
11. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY: For the people of our Chapels
MONDAY: For the Poor Souls
TUESDAY: Special intention James Dolan
WEDNESDAY: Deceased Miriam Roy
THURSDAY: Welfare of Vincent Mc Donnell
FRIDAY: Deceased Mrs. William Scharf
SATURDAY: Special intention Sally Ryan



Without doubt, God will give a full measure of peace
to a heart full of love for Him.

Therefore, if God is given only a portion of a heart,
then He can give only that amount of peace
that will fit into the portion of the Heart He has been given.

Happy Thanksgiving to one and all!



CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE - THE LITTLE THINGS
THE ADVENT CUSTOM OF BLESSED WHEAT



Select a flowerpot or a shallow container about 10 inches in diameter. Clean it thoroughly and decorate it with the help of your children. Fill it with fresh potting soil, and place it (or them) in some easily accessible place near a window which is bright and sunny. As you take the blessed grains of wheat home with you (available today) instruct your children that, beginning with the first day of Advent, each member of the family (including the grownups), with EACH ACT OF SACRIFICE OR GOOD WORK PERFORMED IN SECRET, is to plant one grain of wheat in the pot. The planted grains of wheat will soon develop tender shoots, and on Christmas Day each shoot will be a reminder of a gift given to the Baby Jesus. The young wheat must be kept properly watered, and on Christmas Day, before going to see what Santa has brought, the wheat plants of love and sacrifice are placed around the Crib. THE WHEAT REPRESENTS THE REAL GIFTS - FIT FOR THE LITTLE KING OF KINGS. With proper care, the plants should easily last until Epiphany. After that they may be planted out of doors where they will continue to develop and where they can remain a source of interest.

This is but one of the many little things that pertain to Christmas, and which, if entered into with the proper spirit and intention, will keep the entire family busy as each new day offers more opportunities for special gifts for the Infant Lord. These customs which we present are some of the FORGOTTEN customs of Catholic living and life. They were once well known, and they were developed over the years by the religious experience of the Holy Church - little, child-like customs - profound customs - that brought Catholic living and life into focus within the family circle. Each year, these customs were fresh and crisp and all (adults and children alike) looked forward to them. Let us not introduce customs that are out of context with Catholic life and living, so that our children will not be confused when they are later faced with the broken-up life of the world. Customs that have evolved out of personal and private preference will soon wilt and will eventually be put out of the mind of the child.

If we simply keep the Holy Vision in our hearts and minds and all our activities, and in the hearts and minds and activities of our children, we need have no fear about the customary Christmas fantasy preparations - they will be in proper focus. Let us not be made to feel uncomfortable by the vicious attacks, coming from certain places, upon the customary and innocent Christmas fantasies. **If we take fantasy away from our children, we will create a void in their young minds - a void which will be filled - one way or another.** With all the filth and ugliness that is now everywhere, our little ones are more and more turning to matters too horrible to speak of. The final question we must answer is: Which is better for our children - WHOLESOME FANTASY or SOUL-WRENCHING FILTH? Let us be watchful of those who are on the warpath against legitimate and proper childhood fantasies - such as were enjoyed by all in the normal, Catholic, and happy childhoods of yesteryear!



Advent

ADVENT



Monastic

Wreath



Home Altars

ADVENT is a very special time of the year, and it is usually filled with all kinds of Christmas excitement. It is, also, the beginning of the new liturgical year. It is the season of spiritual preparation, marked by an eager longing for the coming of the Savior through grace at Christmas, and for His second and final coming. It is an ideal time to establish in our homes good customs (liturgical and otherwise) which will restore ourselves and our children to the Christ Child. It is a time to restore a proper sense of beauty, holiness, and serenity. It is a time to teach our children (by example as well as by words) the correct way of interpreting and understanding and applying the real values which the spirit of this part of the year should present to us. It is the obligation of the parents to explain the matter of Christmas to their children. The parents should demonstrate how all the things of Christmas should be kept in their proper order of importance. For example: Santa Claus is not the central figure of Christmas, and things are not being prepared to give pleasure to him. At the same time, neither is he a sin - as some erroneously think and teach. Given proper instruction, the children would soon come to understand that Santa Claus is a good being, whose purpose is to give service to the Christ Child.

Secularism has invaded our lives and households, and our ecclesiastical leaders, who were ordained to lead others to Christ, have failed in their ordination, and in so many cases simply do not lead the people entrusted to them in the direction of Jesus Christ! They have failed to teach the Christian how to make his home life holy; they have failed to bring about a proper and good and wholesome union between the altar and the home; they have failed to properly reflect Jesus Christ, The King of all the Universe, Whose shelter at the time of His birth was a stable where common beasts of burden lived.

Children like the beauty and simplicity of family religious practices, and therefore make little traditions easy to establish. The little Christmas traditions, which are the lasting part of Christmas, bring back to the older members of the family the long forgotten practices of their own childhood. Long after the toys and other Christmas things have gone into the land of forgetfulness, the simple family customs of this most lovely time of the year will remain in the awareness of the children for years yet to come.