Christ the King Abbey

Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel Montgomery, Alabama 10:45 A.M. Only on first Sunday of each month (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.

St Pius V Chapel Birmingham, Alabama 9:30 A.M. Every Sunday except first Sunday of each month

Weekly Bulletin #762

THE PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2003 -- White

Mass of Purification: GI; Cr; Pref Nativity; comm. Fourth Sunday

#### only and Nuns of

THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD BE GLORIFIED

How anxious are we to give glory to God? How truly committed are we to God's glory? Or does the glory of God and more importance to us than the flurry of a passing thought? Do we fully comprehend our obligation, and are we

have no more importance to us than the flurry of a passing thought? Do we fully comprehend our obligation, and are we deliberate in our COMMITMENT to the Creator of us all? Do we fully comprehend our enormous obligation to the sanctification of our souls? Do we actually and truly WISH and WANT to comprehend our commitment to the sanctification of our immortal souls - or is the very thought something that we will worry about at some future date? Will we ever bring ourselves to understand that the sanctification of our souls - the souls of ALL men - is the chief means of giving glory to God?

All of us have the craving to be great; to be wealthy; to be popular; to be friends with the upper classes in the world in which we live, and we erroneously think that our greatness and strength consist in the favor of the great and mighty of the world, in the social, cultural, and political personages of the world. NOT SO! If we want greatness and strength, it can come only from a free and open access to God, from Whom all greatness and strength come. To look upon this matter in any other way will sooner or later doom us to utter failure, and if we do not become saints of God, to be with Him for all eternity, WE ARE NOTHING BUT MISERABLE FAILURES!

We must not be content only to love God. We must strive with all our strength to be wholly LOST in His love, instead of letting ourselves be carried away by our work or the cares of the world. Work we must, and nobody is spared of this, which is placed upon us by God Himself. But what is the motivating force behind the work we do? Is it for the greater honor and glory of God - or is our motivation MONEY? POWER? VAINGLORIOUS WORLDLY ESTEEM?

It must be our outlook to GIVE ourselves entirely to our Creator, and only LEND ourselves to creatures (people, places, things). We have a strong duty to those of our household, and to those who are good to us and who care for us, and we must be grateful to them all. At the same time we have a duty to our enemies whom we must love. We must be obliging to our companions and give them every consideration. We must be courteous towards everyone. When trouble comes to the threshold of our comfortable homes (and who is without trouble?), the best way to bear the trouble is with self-control, levelheaded-ness, composure, and gratitude to God for the suffering involved. For some time to come, without doubt, we will all be besieged with the worry of war. A recollected mind is the best way approach to take, and prayer and penance (sacrifice) the only remedy.

The truly humble man is the one who truly recognizes his limitations and is not over zealous to protect his own opinion. A recollected mind - a mind centered upon God - is what we all must show of ourselves. Standing upon our right to our own opinion, quarrelling and disputing with anyone and everyone who contradicts us, is no demonstration of a recollected mind.

When we come into contact with the poor we must be compassionate and merciful toward them, and we must be genuine with them. They are poor - not beggars - and but for the grace of God, anyone of us can be caught up in poverty.

These are but a very few of the recommendations for those wishing to become perfect and to give the greatest honor and glory to Almighty God. There are many, many others, of course, and anyone desirous of sanctity will seek them out. Let us not be too mindful of what concerns us personally. Rather, let us stand up zealously for whatever touches God and His honor and glory.

Above all, every aspect of our lives must love and speak TRUTH at all times. Deceit before man is deceit before God - let us not forget this!

- I. Today is the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is likewise Candlemas Day. This Feast commemorates not only the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, but also the meeting of Simeon and the Infant Jesus in the Temple. The blessing of the candles dates from the Tenth Century. It is probable that the custom of the distribution of candles on this date has been retained because of the words of Simeon: "A Light in the revelation of the Gentiles."
- 2. Tomorrow is the Feast of St. Blasé. The Church therefore prays for all those whose necks the blessed candles touch, asking that they be delivered from diseases of the throat and every other evil. This is a very appropriate blessing at this particular time in our lives. The Blessing of the Throats will take place in Montgomery today. In Cullman it will take place tomorrow and next Sunday (February 9, 2003), and in Birmingham next Sunday.
- 3. Particularly for the convenience of the people of Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery, the reading lists for Septuagesima and Lent are attached to today's Bulletin. Please keep these lists and refer to them when the time comes. Everyone is urged to do the readings each day of the coming seasons, either at the evening meal, or at any other time of the day. This is especially urged where children are concerned.
- 4. This Thursday, February 6, 2003, is the first Thursday of February (a day of reparation and recollection for the Monks and Nuns of our Monasteries), and Holy Hour in the Abbey Church is at 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and at 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Those who cannot attend this devotion in the Abbey Church are encouraged to make some true and real act of reparation at home, and to gather together in prayer around their Home Altar. Our present trying times demand reparation and prayer as never before.
- 5. This Friday, February 7, 2003, is the First Friday of February. Masses in the Abbey Church are at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM.
- 6. There will be NO Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass today.
- 7. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Manny Gomez. Pray, also, for all the sick and needy, the suffering and hungry, the oppressed of the world. Pray for all the children of the world. Pray earnestly for all Priests! PRAY FOR THE PRIESTHOOD! Pray for all sinners! Pray for all who have called upon us for prayer and help. Let us pray for each other, especially during these most troubled times.

8. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY: For the people of our Chapels

MONDAY: Special intention Marguerite McGill TUESDAY: Special intention Martha Brueggemann

WEDNESDAY: Special intention Ethel Howard

THURSDAY: Deceased Rev. Father Frederick Schell

FRIDAY: Deceased Frank Mieszczak SATURDAY: Deceased Mary Haefling

The pursuit of virtue is attainable, but it entails self-discipline and sacrifice - and the pursuit of virtue is a real obligation that no one is free of. Here is a formula that can and should be followed, though it is by no means easy to do:

- 1. We must do what we are supposed to do that is for our sanctity.
- 2. We must do what we are supposed to do as well as we can.
- 3. We must do what we are supposed to do all for God!

When we reach the realization that God is not only in each and every external event of our lives, but also in each and every internal event - that is to say, in every involuntary feeling we have - we understand that at every moment of our lives, we are in touch with God, that His hand is on us and His love carries us in His arms. Our one care must be to never jump out of God's arms and try to walk alone.

## SUGGESTED READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE FOR EACH DAY OF THE SEPTUAGESIMA SEASON

#### **SEPTUAGESIMA**

**Sunday:** Gen. 1: 1-26 Matt. 20: 1-16

Monday: Gen. 1: 27-31; 2: 1-10

Tuesday: Gen. 2: 15-24 Wednesday: Gen. 3: 1-20 Thursday: Gen. 4: 1-16 Friday: Gen. 4: 17-26; 5: 1-5 Saturday: Gen. 5: 15-31

#### **SEXAGESIMA**

**Sunday:** Gen. 5: 31; 6: 1-15 Luke 8: 4-15

Monday: Gen. 7: 1-5, 10-14, 17

Tuesday: Gen. 8: 1-13

Wednesday: Gen. 8: 15-22; 9: 1-6 Thursday: Gen. 9: 12-15, 20-29 Friday: Gen. 10: 1-6; 11: 1-8 Saturday: Gen 11: 10-30

#### **QUINQUAGESIMA**

Sunday: Gen. 12: 1-19

Luke 18: 31-43 *Monday:* Gen. 13: 1-16

Tuesday: Gen. 14: 8-20



This above all:
To thine own self be true,

And it must follow, as the night the day,

Thou canst not then be false to any man.

(Shakespeare - Hamlet)



Let us note well that the importance of our expressions or our conversations with God does <u>not</u> lie in the quality of the spoken words of the prayer that issues forth from our lips. The importance of our prayer lies <u>entirely</u> in the QUALITY OF THE INTERIOR DISPOSITIONS WHICH PREDOMINATE IN OUR HEARTS, AND THE HUMBLE STATE OF MIND THAT SPRINGS FORTH FROM THE TRUE AND PURE LOVE IN OUR HEARTS! So much do we love - so much do we speak the truth, **and this is prayer!** 

# **# CHRIST THE KING MONASTERY #**

### SUGGESTED READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE FOR EACH DAY OF LENT:

(Traditional Chapels in Alabama)

	(Traditional Chapets in Alabama)					
ACH WEDNESDAY.	Joel:	2:12-19	FIFTH WEEK OF LENT:			
ASH WEDNESDAY:			FIFTH WEER OF LENT:			
	Matt:	6:16-21	Sunday:	Heb:	9:11-15	
Thursday:	Isiah:	38:1-6				
Friday:	Isiah:	58:1-9	PASSION SUNDAY:	John:	8:46-59	
Saturday:	Isiah:	58:9-14	Statues Covered in Purple			
			Monday:	Jon:	3:1-10	
FIRST WEEK OF LENT:				John:	7:32-39	
Sunday:	II Cor:	6:1-10	Tuesday:	Dan:	14:27-42	
Sulluay.	Matt:	4:1-11		John:	7:1-15	
<b>M</b>		34:11-16	Wednesday:	Lev:	19:1-25	
Monday:	Ezech:		Wednesday.	John:	10:22-38	
Tuesday:	Isiah:	55:6-11	Thursday:	Dan:	3:25-45	
Wednesday:	Exod:	24:12-18	Thursday.	Luke:	7:36-50	
EMBER DAY:	III Kings:	19:3-8	Friday:	Jer:	17:13-18	
Thursday:	Ezech:	18:1-9	rilday.	John:	11:47-54	
Friday:			G	Jer:	18:18-23	
EMBER DAY:	Ezech:	18:20-28	Saturday:			
Saturday:	Duet:	26:12-19		John:	12:10-36	
EMBER DAY:	Duct:	11:22-25	HOLV	WEEK		
	II Mach:	1:23-27	HOLY WEEK			
	Ecclus:	36:1-10	PALM SUNDAY:	Matt:	21:1-9	
	Dan:	3:47-56	TALM SUNDAT.	Phil:	2:5-11	
				Phil.	2:3-11	
SECOND WEEK OF LENT			SACRED	PASSION		
			Matt:	26:36-75		
Sunday:	I Thess:	4:1-7	THUCK.	27:1-66		
	Matt:	17:1-9		27.1-00		
Monday:	Dan:	9:15-19	Monday:	Isiah:	50:5-10	
Tuesday:	III Kings:	17:8-16		John:	12:1-9	
Wednesday:	Esth:	13:8-11	Tuesday:	Jer:	11:18-20	
		:15-7	Tuobany.	301.	11.10 20	
Thursday:	Jer:	17:5-10	SACRED PASSION			
Friday:	Gen:	37:6-22	Mark:	14:32-72		
Saturday:	Gen:	27:6-40		15:1-46		
			Wednesday:	Isiah:	61:11	
THIRD WEEK OF LENT: -					63:1-7	
Sunday:	Eph:	5:1-9		Isiah	53:1-12	
Sullday.	Luke:	11:14-28	CACRED	DACCION		
Monday:	IV Kings:	5:1-15	SACRED Luke:	22:1-71		
Tuesday:	IV Kings:	4:1-7	Luke.			
Wednesday:	Exod:	20:12-24		23:1-53		
			HOLY THURSDAY:	I Cor:	11:20-32	
Thursday:	Jer:	7:1-7		John:	13:1-15	
Friday:	Num:	20:1-3:6-13	GOOD FRIDAY:	Osee:	6:1-6	
Saturday:	Dan:	13:1-62	GOOD FRIDAT.	Exod:	12:1-11	
				EXOU.	12.1-11	
FOURTH WEEK OF LENT:			SACRED	PASSION		
TOURIN WEEK OF BENT:			John:	18:1-40		
Sunday:	Gal:	4:22-31	John.	19:1-42		
LAETARE SUNDAY:	John:	6:1-15		19.1-42		
Monday:	III Kings:	3:16-28	HOLY SATURDAY:	Gen:	1:1-31	
		3:16-28 32:7-14	A STATE OF THE STA	Con.	2:1-2	
Tuesday:	Exod:			Exod:	14:24-31	
Wednesday:	Ezech:	36:23-28		Exou.	15:1	
<b></b>	Isiah:	1:16-19		Iniah.		
Thursday:	IV Kings:	4:25-38		Isiah:	4:2-6	
Friday:	III Kings:	17:17-24		Duet:	31:22-30	

28:1-7

Matt:

Saturday:

Isiah:

49:8-15