

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

Ss. PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

Third Sunday after Easter

May 11, 2003 -- Red

Mass of Feast; Gl; Cr; Pref. Apostles; Comm. Sunday

Weekly Bulletin #776

O Mary conceived without sin

Pray for us who have recourse to thee!

Happy Mothers' Day!

Blessing of Mothers and Children

(Mothers and Children only, please kneel)

- ✠. Preserve thy handmaids, O Lord.
✠. Who have trust in Thee, my God.
✠. Send them, Lord, aid from on high.
✠. And from Sion watch over them.
✠. Let the enemy have no power over them.
✠. And the son of evil do nothing to harm them.
✠. O Lord, hear my prayer.
✠. And let my cry come unto Thee.
✠. The Lord be with thee.
✠. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, Who through the delivery and humility of the Blessed Virgin Mary hath turned her motherhood into joy and blessing, look kindly upon these Thy handmaids and their children, who come rejoicing into Thy holy temple to give Thee praise and honor, grant that after this life they all may merit the joys of everlasting bliss, by the merits and intercession of the same Blessed Mary. Through Christ our Lord.

✠. Amen.

May the peace and blessing of Almighty God, the Father, ✠ Son, ✠ and Holy Ghost ✠ come upon you all, and remain with you for all time. Amen.



*If there is nothing else we ever do in this world that is worth doing, for the love of God,
let us read and absorb, and let us grasp, as a drowning man grasps a lifebuoy,
the message and the warnings of Our Lady of Fatima!*

O Most Holy Father Benedict

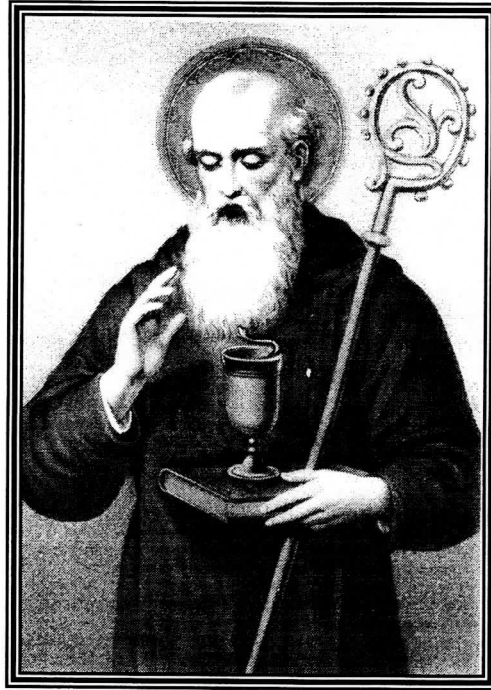
Pray for us!

Profession of Final Vows

*Obedience
Reformation of Life
Stability*

*Frater Bernard,
O.S.B.*

*Wednesday, May 14, 2003
Feast of St. Pachomius
Mass at 9:00 AM*



**A Monk is a man
who labors because he is
poor and is poor because he
loves God, and who lives
apart from the world and all
the arrangements of the world
in order to give praise to God.
The world forgetting -
by the world forgotten.**

*The Benedictine - monastic - community
does not exist for the sake of togetherness,
but for the sake of support
in the many hardships of the inward journey
and the search for our God in our solitariness.
We cannot save each other by our words or our debates or our works!
What we can do
is help create the workplace of each other's salvation:
the monastery.
But the saving work itself will be done by God
in the solitude of our monastic home.
In this way the Community is grounded
in God's power and love -
NOT IN OUR OWN!*

Please pray for Frater Bernard, O.S.B.

1. There will be NO Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass today.
2. The May Crowning of Our Lady will take place after the 10:00 Mass this morning. Miss Victoria (Tori) Henderson will crown the Blessed Mother.
3. The daily Rosary procession to the Shrine of Our Lady on the Abbey grounds begins in the Church at 7:10 PM every day during the Month of May.
4. May is the Month of Mary, Our Most Blessed Mother, and is a time when every effort should be made to please her. The very best way to please her is to recite her favorite prayer each day - THE MOST HOLY ROSARY. During these most troubled times, the Holy Rosary is, after the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the best and most effective weapon to fight off evil.
5. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Manny Gomez. Let us also pray for everyone. NO MAN, WOMAN, OR CHILD SHOULD BE LEFT OUT OF OUR PRAYER. Every human being has the God-given right to eternal salvation. God made man - every human being - to be with Him in heaven for all eternity. Weak human nature will prevent some from achieving that goal. If there is any sifting to be done, it is to be done by God, Himself alone. We are NOT the ones to do any sifting.
6. **CORPUS CHRISTI CEREMONIES:** Sunday, June 22, 2003. The ceremonies will take place at the Abbey Church (weather permitting). There will be NO Mass at St. Pius V Chapel on that day. If anyone in the following list is for any reason unable to fill his or her assignment, please notify Father Abbot immediately.

- **Celebrant:** Father Prior Sebastian, O.S.B.
- **Acolytes:** Frater Joseph, O.S.B.; Brother John, O.S.B.
- **Masters of Ceremony:** Father Michael, O.S.B.; Father Francis, O.S.B.; Frater Bernard, O.S.B.
- **Censor Bearers:** Steve Smith; Bernard Morin
- **Chanters:** Frater Joseph, O.S.B.; Brother John, O.S.B.; Postulant Mark
- **Baldachin Carriers:** Thomas Girardi; Samuel Liburdi; Donald Mullan; Raymond Keating
- **Cross Bearer:** George Niebuhr
- **Flower Girls:** Briana Winland; Marie Henderson
- **Banner Bearers:** Joseph Bonometti; Scott Lineback; Alfred Krebsbach; Sam Spano; Alexander Salillas; Albert Patterson, Sr.

N.B.: Baldachin Bearers are to congregate in the bell tower of the church.

Banner Bearers are to congregate in the vestibule of the church.

Flower Girls are to wait in the designated front pew of the church.

Censor Bearers and Cross Bearer are to congregate in the sacristy of the church.

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

SUNDAY: For the people of our Chapels
 MONDAY: Special intention Maureen Swink
 TUESDAY: Special intention Theresa Svetz
 WEDNESDAY: Welfare Frater Bernard, O.S.B. - SOLEMN VOWS
 THURSDAY: Deceased Carl Opasker
 FRIDAY: Deceased Father Daniel Crowley, O.P.
 SATURDAY: Special intention Rita Peluso

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When we pray for others, the voice of our prayer reverberates through the immensity of God to the minds and hearts of all mankind, and in virtue of the divine immensity resounds with a sympathetic resonance in the hearts of all who daily receive their supernatural guidance from their Eternal Father. When we pray for others we should think particularly of those who know Him not, who persecute Him, and who harbor mischief in their hearts and minds, and we should beg that they may be converted and turn to God - their salvation. And in virtue of the divine immensity what we say in our own hearts reverberates in the minds and hearts and religious convictions of those in distant lands; and then in strange and unexpected ways those who have never known Him begin to understand that it is He Who is their God - their Savior and consolation. As we pray for others we should pray also most warmly for those of our own household and for those whose voices, like ours, are being lifted up to Him Who is the Father of us all.

SANCTITY TODAY AND EVERYDAY

EXCEPTIONAL TIMES DEMAND EXCEPTIONAL CONDUCT. The wave of evil today can only be turned back by a counter-wave of holiness. But holiness today is looked upon, in general, as a mental disorder rather than the practice of virtue. Nevertheless, every living person is called upon to participate in this counter-wave and in the work of expiation and reparation. Truly speaking, the situation is so critical that no one has a right to be mediocre. We cannot be satisfied with being half a saint. We must be a whole saint or no saint at all. "The lukewarm and the indifferent I shall vomit out of My mouth."

As each sin compromises the salvation of the world, so does each good action performed as an act of expiation and reparation help some poor - unknown - sinner to salvation. If men only knew what awaits them in eternity, they would do everything in their power to change their lives and bring themselves more closely in conformity to the wishes of the eternal God. But what exactly is it that God wishes of those who work to bring their lives into conformity with His expectation? Can the demands of God be met by mortal man? Is it possible for the work of finite man to be satisfactory to an infinite God? The truth of the matter is that what God asks of any of us is so simple and so very reachable. The penance, the expiation, the reparation that God asks of each of us is simply to persevere in doing His Will in all things, which means the keeping of His Commandments and accepting all the sufferings and difficulties encountered in the vicissitudes of everyday living with patient and prayerful resignation.

Unfortunately, many people imagine that penitence means the practice of great austerities, painful fasts, tedious prayers, torturous hair shirts, and all the rest. The result of this mistaken and uncalled-for practice, which is usually constructed around personal preference, disordered conventions, and improper religious formation, is that inevitably since most people have neither the strength nor the generosity to undertake such austerities perseveringly for great lengths of time, they become discouraged and even disillusioned when things fail to meet their personal expectations, and they literally give up and then fall, sooner or later, into a life of indifference and sin.

If we but look at the matter squarely and work to exercise the virtue of prudence; if we but take the time to study and imitate the life of Christ; if we but make the trip to the House of Nazareth and enter into that life; we will soon learn that all that God asks of any of His children is to offer up as penance and prayer the sacrifices necessary to avoid sin, however difficult such an avoidance may be in our present pagan environment. God simply, mercifully, and lovingly asks that we strive to maintain unswerving fidelity to our reasonable religious obligations; that we perform our daily tasks to the best of our abilities; that we strive to be honest, patient, and charitable; that we keep constant guard against temptation; that with the free exercise of love, we love Him with our whole heart and mind and soul and being. Is He asking for too much? Is His demand beyond human strength?

However, besides the living out of such unspectacular requests, there is a bit more that should be done by those who claim to love God: there is the quiet but effective and greatly meritorious routine of patiently bearing the various unavoidable and inevitable crosses present in everyday life: pain, sickness, weariness, humiliation, disappointment, frustration, tension, anxiety, fear, disagreement, misunderstanding, and all the rest. Even the weather can be a source of worry, concern, and discomfort. All these and countless others can be turned into prayerful advantages, simply by offering them to God. It is all a matter of disposition and intention. An improper attitude - a grumbling disposition - can make of these a total waste, reducing them to the ashes of uselessness, whereas a simple turning around of our intention and disposition quickly makes of these moments works of the greatest value, which serve for the betterment of all mankind and at the same time increases our own sanctity.

EXCEPTIONAL TIMES DEMAND EXCEPTIONAL CONDUCT. The wave of evil today can only be turned back by a counter-wave of holiness. Everyone is called upon to participate in this counter-wave and in the work of expiation and reparation. The situation is so critical that no one has the right to be mediocre.

