

# 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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #793

September 7, 2003 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity

## *Confusion worse confounded*

In this our “new age” – “the new age of confusion,” the need for a definite, enduring, and reasonable philosophy of life, and the need for a firm and obedient spiritual faith, has become more than ever imperative. This need is most basic to the maintenance of mental health. Society, with its self-destructive behavioral pattern, has never been any help in the maintenance of mental health, and now, the only agent that has always been of help in the past, namely religion, is no longer of any significant help. The crumbled up condition of the once unbending structure of religion in the Western World – the Roman Catholic Church – is no longer structurally sound enough for anyone to hold on to, and this, regardless of the fact that Catholic leadership goes about advertising the “increase of Catholic membership” (while dozens upon dozens of churches are being closed). The modern Catholic Church has become a principle contributor to the mental disorders of so many good-minded people, especially good-minded Catholic people.

As always in society in general, but now even in the religious (Catholic) world, success is often confused with material gain. Progress is confused with the accumulation of knowledge, wealth, technology, power, computerization, and every kind of gadget for amusement, comfort, and entertainment. Importance is confused with noise (hoopla); greatness is confused with power, however acquired. Significance is confused with mere agitation, travel, motion, excitement, and mechanical work piled upon mechanical work, to such an extent that society itself has gone completely mad – always running like the squirrel in the wheel of his cage: always running but getting nowhere. The entire religious principle of obedience to Truth, and lawful authority, is confused with interference with one’s right to think and one’s right to act for himself. **It is no exaggeration to say that without a return to a pattern of life that is related to Eternity, the collapsing process in our civilization will certainly hit bottom before the end of the present generation, and NOBODY WILL BE ABLE TO COPE WITH THAT PROBLEM!**

It seems that we are all afraid of the need to pause – to **stop** – from time to time, and meditate prayerfully upon the three most important questions for us to give answer to: **Where did we come from? Why are we here? (What are we supposed to be doing here in this present existence?) Where are we going? (Where will we spend Eternity?)** Regardless of who we are or where we are, our program of life must conform to the accounting that we all must give one day to our Creator – Almighty God. Our present misconception of a Creator God; our present total disregard of the importance of a Creator God; our present rejection and even defiance of the influence of a Creator God, in no way affects the objective reality of the existence of such a Creator God.

Very few today hold fast to God! To speak of God and that which pertains to God, for most people today, is very much like trying to write in water. Therefore, and this is very true of a large part of the Catholic population, life has lost its real meaning, and many, abandoning all official religious systems, have concocted their own brand of worship (religion) in the seclusion of their homes. Because the once unbending structure of the Roman Catholic Church has indeed crumbled, we no longer have reliable religious direction, and furthermore, those who are striving to hold onto some fragment of our former religious security find instead, tragically, dissension, quarreling, and divisiveness amongst those to whom they look for help and guidance.