

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING
First Sunday of Advent

Priest: On that day beholding from afar I shall see the Power of God coming and covering the whole earth like a cloud. Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.

People: On that day beholding from afar I shall see the Power of God coming and covering the whole earth like a cloud. Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.

Priest: And, all ye dwellers upon earth, sons of men, rich and poor.

People: Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.

Priest: Hear, O Thou Shepherd of Israel: Thou Who leadest Joseph like a sheep.

People: Behold the Lord shall come and all His saints with Him: and there shall be a great light on that day.

Priest: All ye who thirst come to the waters: seek ye the Lord while He may be found.

People: The mountains and the hills shall sing praise before God, and all the trees of the forest shall clap their hands, because the Lord, the Ruler, will come into His eternal kingdom.

Priest: The Lord will come and will not delay, and He will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will manifest Himself to all nations.

People: Let us live justly and godly, looking for the blessed hope and coming of the Lord.

Priest: Sound the trumpet in Zion, for the day of the Lord is near. Behold, He will come to save us. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: The Lord will come, go forth to meet Him, and say: Great is His dominion, and His kingdom shall have no end. He is God, the Mighty, the Ruler, the Prince of Peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Priest: The people shall fear Thy Name, O Lord.

People: And all the kings of the earth Thy glory.

Priest: LET US PRAY: As we Thy servants, O Lord, ask Thee for Thy blessing to descend upon this symbol of our hope and expectation, put forth Thy power, we beseech Thee, and come, that with Thee as our protector we may be rescued from the impending danger of our sins: and with Thee as our deliverer, may we obtain our salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

People: Amen. *(Priest lights first candle - sprinkles wreath and people with holy water)*

1. **EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT: THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, DECEMBER 8, 2003, IS A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION. MASSES IN THE ABBEY CHURCH WILL BE AT 6:00 AM, 8:00 AM, AND 7:00 PM.**
2. Today is the **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT.**
3. There will be Catechism class after the 10:00 Mass this morning.
4. Tomorrow, December 1, 2003, is the transferred Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle.
5. Thursday, December 4, 2003, is the first Thursday of December, with Holy Hour in the Abbey Church from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM.
6. Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6, 2003, is the First Friday and the First Saturday of December, with Masses in the Abbey Church at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM both days, with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM.
7. Saturday, December 6, 2003, is also the Feast of St. Nicholas.
8. Sunday, December 7, 2003, is the first Sunday of December. Therefore there will be no Mass at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham on that day.
9. There will be NO Catechism class in Cullman next Sunday (December 7, 2003).
10. **■■■N. B.: The new date for Ordination to the Subdeaconate is Saturday, January 10, 2004, and the new date for Confirmation is January 11, 2004. Please pray that all goes well, God wills. ■■■**
11. The Traditional 2004 Calendars are now available, at the usual price of \$6.00 each. Please contact:
CULLMAN: FATHER ABBOT – BIRMINGHAM: LAURIE NIEBUHR – MONTGOMERY: SCOTT LINEBACK.
12. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Manny Gomez, Woody Fleming, and Father James Wathen. **LET US ALSO PRAY FOR EVERYONE.** Let us pray for ALL the priests and religious men and women of the world. **NO MAN, WOMAN, OR CHILD SHOULD BE LEFT OUT OF OUR PRAYER.** God made all men to be with Him in heaven for all eternity, and this includes every human being on earth, regardless of station or condition or place. Weak human nature and erroneous persuasions will prevent some from achieving the purpose intended for them by God, but that matter remains entirely between all such and God. We must make no judgments concerning such matters. If there is any sifting to be done, it is to be done by God, Himself alone. **We are NOT** the ones to do the sifting.
13. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)**

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels
MONDAY:	For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
TUESDAY:	Deceased of the Hugh Edge Family
WEDNESDAY:	Special intention Marguerite McGill
THURSDAY:	Special intention Josefina Salillas
FRIDAY:	For the Lucille Jones Family
SATURDAY:	Special intention Paul Roy Family

