

# 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Weekly Bulletin #822

**Lætare Sunday**

March 21, 2004 – Rose/Purple

Mass of Sunday; no Gl; Cr; Pref. Quadragesima

## The Holy Season of Lent

*What have I given to my Lord, for all He has given to me?*

### The Annunciation of the most Blessed Virgin MARY

Thursday, March 25, 2004

O MARY,

Conceived

Without

Sin,

Pray for Us

Who

Have recourse

To Thee!



*The importance of this day cannot be overestimated. The entire destiny of mankind depended on the events of this one day. The entire destiny of all mankind depended on the simple answer of this young girl. All the angels in heaven must have held their breaths waiting for this one little girl to say: "yes" – "I will" – "BE IT DONE UNTO ME ACCORDING TO THY WORD!" These were the most important words ever uttered by any creature of God. "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior."*

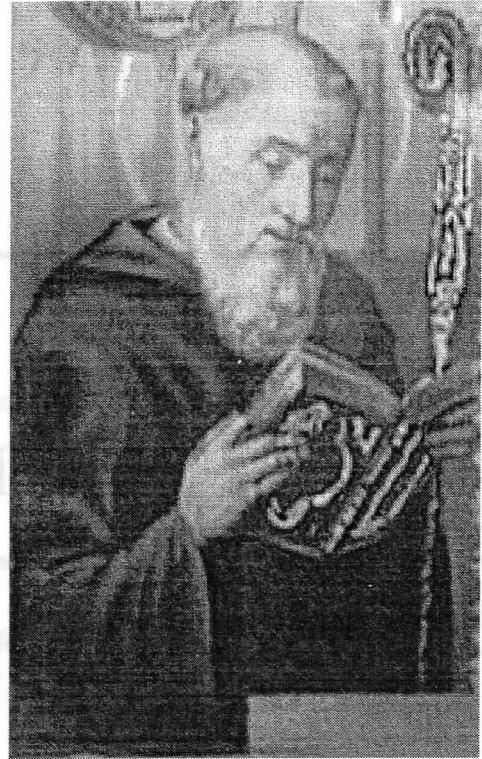
*What exaltation of the greatest beauty and joy must have exploded before the holy Throne of God. The moment of the turning point of the destiny of mankind had arrived. The moment of the fulfillment of the promise of the crushing defeat of the dragon had arrived. "He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaid, behold, from henceforth all generation shall call me blessed." The power of this single moment, and the arrangement agreed upon in the quiet private silence of that small room, simply cannot be described or understood. It was the moment when heaven and earth came together for the welfare of all mankind.*

*"He hath shown might in His arm,  
He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart."*

# Listen, O My Son, to the Precepts of Thy Master

*Tomorrow we celebrate the Feast Day of our most Holy Father Saint Benedict.*

*Let each of us work to come to a proper understanding of the teaching of St. Benedict. Our main concern should be our family as it lives in a crumbling world culture with a church that no longer is of any help to anybody. We travel on a road that leads to nowhere. It is ridiculous to think that we can fortify ourselves by establishing monasteries in our houses. However, the monastic ideal saved our world once before, and it was the monastic ideal as applied to the home that finally brought the world and the church out of barbaric chaos. The conversion of the world begins with the conversion of the home, and the conversion of the home begins with the conversion of the individual. It is up to the parents, using good common sense and good judgment, to bring the family up to standard. The prayer center of the world is the home. Not until this is clearly understood will there be any hope for anything or anybody.*



**Frater Joseph, O.S.B.**

**Will pronounce his Final Vows of Obedience, Stability, and Conversion of Life  
As a Benedictine Monk of Christ the King Abbey  
During the Mass of the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady  
Thursday, March 25, 2004, at 8:00 AM  
Please pray for Frater Joseph**

A monk is a man, and a nun is a woman, who is constantly occupied with the affairs of God.

The frugality of a monk or a nun and the discipline of such men and women is what reveals the refinement of an ascetic. In reality, an ascetic can be anyone who is constantly occupied (even while living in the world) with the affairs of God. In a world gone mad, the ascetic stands tall amongst those around him or her. The ascetic stands out, and cannot but be revered and respected as a man or woman of great culture, even by those who do not agree with their unworldly way of living. Culture, as is understood here, is not to be taken as the appreciation of the arts of man's ingenuity and craftsmanship. Culture as is understood here means the ability of joining the "cult" of God with the "cult of man and making them one and the same. It is living the Christ life on earth. This means sanctity. Only the ascetic is best suited to live the Culture we here speak of. Only the thinking and the attitude of an ascetic can lead to the holy life required of a saint of God. A true monastic ascetic (monk or nun) gives life to the family of man by way of prayer, example, and instruction. It is only natural that the union of the "cults" of God and man can be best exemplified by the life of the monastic family as lived in a well established monastery or convent. It is from the portals of the monastery or the convent that the Culture of God is then "percolated," as it were, to every family under its influence. The family unit is the strength of the world and of all society. Only when the family returns, with the all-embracing power of prayer and good will as presented in the monastic ideal, to the love, respect, and discipline of the father and mother, who guide with prudence and common sense, only then will our world and our church find healing.

1. There will be Catechism class this morning after the 10:00 Mass.
2. Monday, March, 21, 2004, is the transferred Feast of our most Holy Father Benedict. *(See the bottom of page 4 of this Bulletin for a special note concerning this day.)*
3. Wednesday, March 24, 2004, is the Feast of the great St. Gabriel the Archangel. Let us pray especially to this great Archangel, that he will guide us safely through the trials and temptations of this most dangerous age.
4. Thursday, March 25, 2004, is the great Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us never forget to thank Our Lady for all she has done for us and for all of mankind, and let us ask her to continue to watch over and protect us all.
5. Thursday, the Feast of the Annunciation, Frater Joseph, O.S.B., will pronounce his Final Vows as a Benedictine Monk of Christ the King Abbey during Mass at 8:00 AM. We ask for your serious prayer for Frater Joseph as he steps forward out of our confused and mangled modern age to present himself totally to God.
6. Sunday, April 4, 2004, begins Daylight Savings Time. Be sure to set all clocks FORWARD one hour.
7. Sunday, April 4 is also Palm Sunday, and, the first Sunday of April. **There will be NO Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery, or at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham.**
8. Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament are held on the Fridays of Lent at 7:00 PM in the Abbey Church.
9. PALM SUNDAY (April 4, 2004): Masses in the Abbey Church are at 6:00 AM and 10:00 AM. The people will assemble (weather permitting) in front of the Monastery for the Ceremony of the Blessing of the Palms before the 10:00 Mass.
10. Once again, since our monastic community of monks remains too small to carry out the magnificent ceremonies of Holy Week with the dignity and perfection they must have for the edification of all and the greater honor and glory of God, the usual Holy Week Ceremonies will be omitted. This is a real sacrifice, and we offer it to God as a solemn prayer for vocations. Nevertheless, everyone is urged to spend these most holy days as prayerfully as possible, using the Home Chapels according to their intended purposes.
11. HOLY THURSDAY (April 8, 2004): As is the usual custom, the Abbey Church will be open all night from 8:00 PM until 7:00 AM Good Friday morning. Each one is asked to make the small sacrifice of one hour's adoration watch during that most sacred night – in silent but solemn prayer, in penance, mortification, and reparation: all for the sins of our poor world.
12. GOOD FRIDAY (April 9, 2004): From 12:00 Noon until 3:00 PM we will have our usual Good Friday services and the Stations of the Cross. **There will be NO stations of the cross Good Friday evening.**
13. BECAUSE THERE WILL BE NO SOLEMN CEREMONIES DURING HOLY WEEK, MASSES ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE ABBEY CHURCH ON HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY, OR HOLY SATURDAY. THEREFORE, THERE WILL BE NO MASSES ON THOSE DAYS.
14. **SCHEDULE FOR EASTER SUNDAY:**
  - + Masses in the Abbey Church are at the usual times of 6:00 AM and 10:00 AM.
  - + **N.B.:** Mass at St. Pius Chapel in Birmingham is at **9:00 AM.** *(Since the Fathers will be rushed to meet the Montgomery Mission, there will be no blessing of religious objects or any visiting with the people on that day.)*
  - + Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery is at **11:00 AM.** *(N.B.: The Fathers may be several minutes late in arriving.)*
15. The Annual Spring "Picnic" at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel will take place after Mass on the first Sunday of May (May 2, 2004). For any information please contact Mrs. Alan (Pam) Olson: (334) 361-7030.
16. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Manny Gomez (whose sickness is truly grave at this point), Edward Sautner (our Father Michael's father), Diane Calandra (our Frater Joseph's mother), and Salvatore Riccardi (Maria Morin's father). 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.
17. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels
MONDAY:	St. Benedict – Welfare of our Benedictine effort
TUESDAY:	Deceased William Graham
WEDNESDAY:	For Salvacion Salillas
THURSDAY:	In honor and thanksgiving to Our Lady (Frater Joseph, O.S.B. – Solemn Vows)
FRIDAY:	Deceased Eriberto Caranto
SATURDAY:	Special intention Louis and MaryAnne Glentz



## IN GRATITUDE

Everyone in our Abbey and Convent  
and everyone in our Chapels  
is profoundly grateful  
for the tickets, the food, the gifts, the preparations,  
and the solemn and respectful atmosphere  
on the occasion of the viewing of  
*THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST.*

It was a day to remember. Thanks be to God.

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## PRAYER OF POPE PIUS XII TO OUR LADY

*(From his Christmas Message)*

“... To you, to your Immaculate Heart, in this tragic hour of human history, we entrust, we offer, we consecrate – in so far as we can as human souls – not only our holy Church, the Mystical Body of your Son, Jesus, which suffers and bleeds in so many places and in so many ways, but also the whole world torn by mortal strife, ablaze with hate and victim of its own sins. ... Give peace to all who profess singular devotion to thee, and in whose homes an honored place has ever been accorded to thy venerable icon. Amen.”

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*MATTER OF RECORD: Tomorrow, March 22, 2004, is the transferred Feast of our Holy Father St. Benedict. The statue you see in the Sanctuary of the Abbey Church this morning is a statue of St. Benedict, which we have recently acquired. In addition to the regular 6:00 AM Mass tomorrow, we will also have an 8:00 AM Mass. After the 8:00 Mass we will perform the rather simple and brief ceremony of blessing the statue. Later in the week this statue will be placed in the remaining upper corner niche of the Church.*



*U. I. O. G. D.*

