

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #839

July 18, 2004 – Green

Mass of Sunday; GI; Cr; Pref. Trinity; Comm. Ss Symphorosa and Seven Sons

LET NOT THE WINDS BLOW OUT THE LIGHT

(Part I)

The Benedictine Monastery (indeed – the Holy Roman Catholic Religion) does not exist in order to produce eloquent preachers, or imaginative writers or liturgists, or great artists or builders or learned philosophers.

The Benedictine Monastery (indeed – the Holy Roman Catholic Religion) exists to produce saints – holy men and women of God.

In reality, the Benedictine Monastery is governed by a very small booklet which was written over 1500 years ago by a man named Benedict who came from a small town in Italy called Nursia. It was written at a time when the world was very much as the world is today – in a state of cultural, social, political, and moral collapse. It was written at a time when life itself had lost its dimensions, its purpose, its destiny – and so it is today! The Rule was written when the world was bewildered and civilization was uprooted and beaten down. Roman times were terrible times. Modern times are terrible times, perhaps much worse than were Roman days.

Even though the Holy Rule of St. Benedict is but a tiny booklet, it nevertheless has demonstrated an unbelievable power, a power that has existed from the time of its writing, even to this day. It has been acclaimed to be perhaps the greatest historical fact of the Middle Ages, and one of the great facts in the history of Western Europe. For many centuries the Rule of St. Benedict was the favorite handbook of educators, heads of families, and rulers of Church and State. It is a document of great character and the spirituality outlined in it was once powerful enough to conquer barbaric mentality and entire nations.

Roman days were terrible days, indeed, but so it is today, but with the added demoralizing affliction that man has lost his contact with his God, a condition that reaches farther than the adoration of the pagan deities of the Romans. The relevance of any religious principle is no more, and its absence has been replaced with the pagan Roman pleasures of flesh and spirit and drugs – in ways that have surpassed even Roman wishes.

The influence of the one stabilizing agent, the Roman Catholic Religion is now quite gone. The institution itself of “church,” the “Roman Church,” is in a condition of almost irreparable shambles, peddling practices hardly worthy of the name of religious practices. The modern Catholic “religion” is flat, dull, cheap, and frivolous – even circus-like, and it reflects a god that is dull, flat, cheap, and frivolous – even clownish. The god of the “new age” is so free-lance that he places no limitations on the conduct of man. Man has become as free-lance as his god is. The very few remaining people – devout souls of high standards and principals – who continue to hold fast to the traditional moral principles of life as laid down by their Divine Creator, and expressed in the Ten Commandments of Law, are outcasts, even from their own family members and closest friends. These good people, laughed at and condemned as psychological misfits, are forced to wander about in the crumbled hallways of religious disillusionment and religious starvation – outcasts, every one, all alone and frightened.

We are at a point in time when man is hard pressed to find a way toward worthwhile spiritual fulfillment. Spiritual perfection is an unknown quantity. In fact, spiritual perfection is most often looked upon as a vice rather than a virtue, and certainly not something that anyone with any real sense should be in the least concerned about. Except in isolated and catacomb-like places, the very concept of “church” today is a joke. It is treated as a joke and it is carried out as a joke. “Church” today is in many places no more than a place where frivolous people gather from time to time to conduct frivolous fellowship and socializing. God is now so marginalized that there are those who actually make sport of Him.

The purpose of this writing is to focus upon the suffering of those stalwart Catholics who continue to hold fast to the established and traditional teachings, liturgy, observances, and FAITH of the ageless Roman Catholic Church. As we go along, we hope to make some useful suggestions that might be of help in providing shelter from the “WINDS” of destruction. We single out those Catholic souls whose faithful obedience caused them, from the very beginning, to become strangers in their own churches. Suddenly, without any warning, many unsuspecting, obedient, and trusting souls were led right through a blitz that literally cast all of them forth onto the street without altar or pew that they could anymore call their own.

