

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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #852

October 17, 2004 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity; Comm. St. Margaret Mary

LET NOT THE WINDS BLOW OUT THE LIGHT

(Part IX)

In the light of all that stands before us in these very tumultuous times, we have every reason to give serious consideration to our personal welfare and protection – to our personal security. More importantly, however, we must give serious consideration to our spiritual needs and security – to our FAITH! It is quite natural that our principal interest concerns the welfare of the members of our immediate family, especially our precious and cherished children. This is indeed as it should be. However our concerns cannot stop there: “We must love our neighbor as we love ourselves!”

Our work so far has pointed out the conditions in our world and in our religion as they exist at the present moment. We have noted the chaos that envelopes every one of us and which seals us in on every side. Those of us fortunate enough to be near a true Roman Catholic Church with the true Mass and Sacraments enjoy blessings that are not available to a great number of souls – souls quite abandoned and unknown and suffering greatly. They do not have the consolation of any priest, they do not have the true Mass, they do not have the Sacraments – they cannot go to Confession or receive their dear Lord in Holy Communion. Is not this the greatest poverty of all? For these poor souls spiritual and religious assistance cannot be found except it be hundreds of miles away.

For the moment let us turn our attention to the suffering of the elderly, the sick, the really poor, and the dying – unknown numbers of who are located completely outside the reaches of every religious help and consolation. For them the usual help and guidance given by good priests is completely out of the question. The agony of these poor helpless isolated souls cannot be imagined. Their fear of losing their souls is beyond description. The “size” of eternity looms before them, and the fear of hell is uppermost in their minds. Worse still, the devil, who is never absent, stabs constantly at the two most vital virtues: Faith and Holy Purity! The torture nearly drives them out of their minds, and there is nobody – no priest – nearby to bring peace and calm to them. The fear of these good souls is not the result of any sentimentality or scrupulosity or wild imaginings of old or unstable minds. Their fear concerning their eternal salvation is indeed very real! No word of compassion or understanding ever reaches them – rather they are very often plagued with lengthy dissertations written by some quite secure and self-satisfied (and, most often, self-proclaimed and certainly untrained and unauthorized) “theologians” (both priestly and lay) reminding their readers of the supreme importance of the salvation of the human soul. In some cases they receive mailings from some of our modern day “traditional” theological technicians or so called Canon Law specialists pounding their tired minds with iron clad rules which they are told they must observe if they wish to save their souls. Our Catholic Religion is not a set of rules! This is a cruelty of the worst kind. Such people need compassion, not additional hurdles they simply cannot cope with.

If there be any merit to these writings, it is our hope that no one be hesitant to repeat them to any good souls seeking help. It matters not if the ones in need be young with family or old and abandoned. After that, the good God Who sees all, Who knows all – the merciful, compassionate, all loving God – will do whatever is needed to bring nourishment to those souls in need. They must be given hope, and the God of Hope stands ever ready to respond with full measure to the cries of those who, with genuine fears and sincere minds, cry out to Him for help. God will not turn His Face away from any one of His suffering and beloved Children who are truly struggling to save their souls and the souls of others. Let not any one of us be guilty of judgment. If judgment is to be made, it will be made by God. If there is any sifting to be done, only He can do the sifting – NOT US!

One further point of caution. Our instructions must not ever give anyone the false notion that we, in any way, disallow the need for or the importance of the ministrations of good and true Catholic priests. The Eternal Priesthood of Jesus Christ is ever so essential. When the help of such priests is absolutely not to be found or had, we, with God as our Witness, have to do the best we can. Unfortunately, it sometimes appears in these our times that the usual “catholic area of concern” needs to become a bit more concerned about the inalienable rights of those who truly love their God and who really want to save their immortal souls. To those who have limited concern about the matters we speak of here, or