

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

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #855

November 7, 2004 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity

LET NOT THE WINDS BLOW OUT THE LIGHT

(Part XI)

The last paragraph of Part X repeated: A room, a place, a spot, a shelf on the wall – a sanctuary – where one, when all else has been denied them, may go to or enter into and give silent adoration to a God Who sees and loves and gives consolation and salvation to those who hunger and thirst for justice's sake. Such a place is sacrosanct – it has to be sacrosanct – it must be sacrosanct, and every member of the family, even the tiniest toddler must be made to understand the importance and the awesome holiness of the chapel. No more than the tiniest of shelters, our little chapel is our religious home for as long as our exile lasts. For those of us who have nothing better, for those of us exiled to the farthest reaches, let us rejoice; let us be glad that God, in His mercy and goodness, has given us the blessed Faith to see Him in spite of our poverty. Permit no one, regardless of who he or she may be, permit no one to plant the seed of doubt in us relative to the holy importance of our tiny “church” away from our rightful and true church!

Part XI:

The worship of God is the first – indeed – the foremost important work and duty of man! For this was man created and to this man must respond. When conditions militate against the fulfillment of this work and duty, determined and committed action must be resorted to. When our home becomes the only place on earth where we can go in order to be face to Face with our God, then without hesitation we must turn our steps thither. That which is rightfully ours in the fulfillment of our true work and duty is no longer available to so many of us; therefore our home and our little sanctuary within our home should be the most loved place on earth to us. It will teach us and it will provide us with everything needed in this time of spiritual stress and privation. Our home will be our place of salvation for us. It matters not that it is simple and full of poverty. The very simplicity and poverty of it makes our home more like the House of Nazareth, in the same way that the simplicity and poverty of Bethlehem made the little stable more like the portico of Heaven. The Good God Who sees all things and understands all things and Who alone reads the hearts and minds of men will accept that which is given Him out of love, poor though it be. It is love that will take that which in the eyes of man is paltry and make it important in the eyes of God. God loves! God consoles! God will provide! God will most certainly not leave us to perish in the parched wilderness of the desert we are forced to travel through at the present time. There can be no question that the sands of our desert are the hottest sands ever walked upon since our first parents paid a visit to the forbidden tree in the center of the Garden. God is our Faith! God is our hope! God is our help! Pay no heed to those in our times who try to intellectualize that which cannot be explained!

That which we are duty bound to accomplish, however, must be wrought with the greatest of care. For the sake of the young and the children in our family, not only must the chapel area of our house be properly and appropriately arranged and designed, the entire house must be properly and appropriately arranged and designed. This is important if the proper and healthy Catholic atmosphere is to be achieved and preserved in the family circle. The entire house – apartment, room – should demonstrate a religious character, but it must not create a saturation point that will do more harm than good. We repeat: even though the home should have a modified monastic religious character about it, it is NOT a monastery, and the life lived in it must accommodate the religious needs of the laity, not the ascetical life lived by those who live in monasteries. The entire house must remain inviting, first of all to all the members of the family circle, and then to all who enter as visitors. It must not be frighteningly or discouragingly austere, and its decor should not be all cluttered up with every possible religious picture or symbolic religious item imaginable. The religious character of the house must be, in every area, simple, beautiful, tasteful, attractive, and refreshing. It must not smother or stifle the feelings or the sensitivities of anybody. It must show welcome and warmth and charm and the presence of God! It must show genuine and proper Catholicism, not a rigorous, unbending, letter-of-the-law severity. It must show Nazareth. →

The soft strains of Gregorian Chant, constantly wafting throughout the house is not at all desirable. The milieu produced by the constant sounds of the chant can soon become distressful and productive of a revulsion for it that will last a lifetime. It should not be permitted, even for brief periods of time. Besides, such a practice cheapens the religious importance of the very beautiful Gregorian Chant. The use of music of any sort should never be forced or abused.

Even though our children are usually submissive to the practices and usages put upon them by their parents, any improper or incorrect formation of their impressionable young minds will very often manifest itself in complete resistance, rebellion, and counter-action as they grow older. Fitness and normality and propriety must always be the rule in our Catholic homes, whether located in the desert or on the busiest street in the marketplace.

The Temple of Solomon in all of its gold and glory will not have been more acceptable to our Infinite God than will be the tiny Holy of Holies in our home, in our apartment, in our room, in our sick room – in our isolation – built out of the precious sticks we have so arduously and so lovingly gathered in the desert wilderness. Isolated though we may be, we will not suffer isolation. We will not suffer isolation because God in His mercy and love will send flights of angels to be with us. He will send as many angels as the love in our hearts will make room for, angels who will be constantly offering, in the peace and quite of our home, incense to the Infinite God; they will offer the incense of our faith, our love, our hope, and our prayer. Therefore, from the very start, because of the true holiness of our little Chapel, we must learn to bow profoundly upon entering and upon leaving this hallowed spot. At first this will seem awkward and not quite proper; soon, however, we will come to understand that it is quite proper and we will not be satisfied with less. Since the Sacramental Presence is not there, we do **not** genuflect – we make only a pronounced bow.

(To be continued)



1. There will be NO Catechism class this morning.
2. **Remember** that today, the Sunday following All Souls Day, the “Toties Quoties” Indulgence can be gained for the Poor Souls in Purgatory the same as on All Souls Day itself, as long as the necessary requirements are met.
3. Tuesday, November 9, 2004, is the Feast of the Dedication of the Archbasilica of the Most Holy Savior.
4. Saturday, November 13, 2004, is the Feast of All the Benedictine Saints. Let us pray especially to all the Benedictine Saints to help and bless us, their brothers and sisters, as we struggle to keep the Benedictine Order alive and well in these so very evil, dangerous, and frightful times.
5. Because November 14 this year falls on a Sunday, the Commemoration of the Benedictine Poor Souls is transferred to Monday, November 15. Let us remember these Poor Souls in their sufferings and they in turn will help us in our sufferings.
6. **N.B.:** On the ground on either side of the front steps of the Abbey Church (and elsewhere), can be seen what appear to be large green disks made of plastic. Please do not attempt to pick them up, as they are part of a new termite protection program we now using. They are **NOT** harmful to humans or animals (only termites), but please instruct your children not to bother them or attempt to pull them up. Thank you.
7. The 2005 Calendars are now available at the usual price of \$6.00 each. Please see Mrs. Pam Olson in Montgomery; Mrs. Laurie Niebuhr in Birmingham; Fr. Abbot or Fr. Francis in Cullman.
8. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Diane Calandra (our Frater Joseph’s mother). **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. Any sifting to be done will be done by God alone.
9. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard’s schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: In thanksgiving, for the Poor Souls in Purgatory
 - TUESDAY: Special intention Marguerite McGill
 - WEDNESDAY: For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
 - THURSDAY: For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
 - FRIDAY: Special intention Olga Milczarek
 - SATURDAY: In thanksgiving, in honor of the Blessed Mother



LOVE SERVES! HATE DOES NOT!

