

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

SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY

January 30, 2005 – Purple

Mass of Sunday; No GI; Cr; Pref. Trinity

Weekly Bulletin #868

SEPTUAGESIMA

CALVARY ~ YES OR NO?

The matter concerning the salvation of our immortal souls has to be given the most serious consideration that we are capable of. As children of God, in full awareness of our purpose, we must come to a full realization that all matters not directly associated with the salvation of our souls must be given secondary importance and value. In this presentation, therefore, let us focus our attention only on affairs of religious significance. In so doing we must conscientiously strive to arrive at a precise understanding of the difference between the externalisms of the law which pertain to Catholic observance (the fulfillment of the ten thousand different rules that have come to govern liturgical ceremonial and the various rules and laws that govern Catholic conduct), and the salvation that comes through faith in Christ and through the good works born of that faith. This is not to say that regulatory precepts are of no importance. They are, but they, in themselves, do not bring about salvation. Salvation is not in a book. Salvation is not caused by rules. Salvation is not in repetitious argument or in theological and legalistic speculations – which accomplish nothing.

Salvation comes through faith – LOVE AND CONFIDENCE – in Christ and Christ crucified. Love and confidence in God, our loving Father (not theological and legalistic force of argument), are the wings with which the soul undertakes the most daring flights and victoriously gains every height. Argumentation is like a heavy anvil weighing down the soul, forcing it into frustration and confusion. Trust and confidence in God are the life of the soul. If confidence wanes, then love also languishes, and the soul then merely drags itself along a murky road, gradually losing sight of its purpose. Outside of self-seeking, lack of faith is the greatest obstacle to the divine working in a soul. A love which does not trust is not love at all. It is fear! Salvation comes through faith – trust and love – in Christ and Christ crucified, and through the interior change that faith in Christ Crucified together with the prudent good works born of that faith bring about in the soul. Interior change is a matter of the supreme most importance. If there is no interior change – no interior turning away from self and sin, no serious effort at CONVERSIO – it is idle to speak any further about salvation.

If we fail to reach a clear and unquestionable understanding of these differences, and the way these differences in motive and purpose affect the soul, all that took place on the hillside of Calvary – as far as we are individually concerned – will have been for naught.