

1. There will be Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. Thursday, March 3, 2005, is the first Thursday of March, with the usual Holy Hours and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Abbey Church from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM.
3. Friday, March 4, 2005, is the First Friday of March, with Masses in the Abbey Church at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM, and all-day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10:00 AM until 5:30 PM.
4. Saturday, March 5, 2005, is the First Saturday of March, with Masses in the Abbey Church at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM.
5. Next Sunday, March 6, 2005, is the first Sunday of March. **Therefore there will be NO Mass at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham next Sunday. There will also be NO Catechism class next Sunday.**
6. The 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.
7. It is understood that many of the people in attendance at our Chapels are unable to attend the Stations of the Cross at the Abbey. In such cases, the Home Chapel should be used. The head of the family should lead the devotion. In the place of Benediction, the Holy Rosary can be said by all. The proper example of the parents in this matter is most important. Wise, prudent, and gentle instruction should be used to motivate the children as to what is taking place. Force or strong discipline must never be used to bear upon children in this matter. Do not fatigue the children with lengthy devotions.
8. **N.B. 1:** Once again, for reasons that are totally beyond our control and which are known to all of us, the usual Holy Week Ceremonies will not be observed in our Abbey Church this year. However, everyone is urged to offer special prayers during those most holy days. ***On Good Friday (March 25, 2005), from 12:00 Noon until 3:00 PM, we will have our usual Good Friday services and the Stations of the Cross in the Abbey Church.***
9. **N.B. 2:** Palm Sunday this year is March 20. Because of the usual Palm Sunday Ceremonies held before the 10:00 Mass at the Abbey Church, **there will be NO Mass at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham on Sunday, March 20, 2005.**
10. **N.B. 3: EASTER SUNDAY (March 27, 2005) MASS SCHEDULE:**
 - ABBEY CHURCH, CULLMAN: **6:00** AM and **10:00** AM.
 - ST. PIUS V CHAPEL, BIRMINGHAM: **9:00** AM. *(Please note time carefully.)*
 - OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHAPEL, MONTGOMERY: **10:45** AM. *(Please note time carefully.)*
11. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. 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. While Our Blessed Lord was hanging on the Cross He did not look around and pick and choose those for whom He was dying. He did not exclude a single member of the Human Race – even His enemies – from the wounded Love that came forth from Him during those momentous moments. 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. Our only duty is to pray for **souls**. We 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.
12. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)**
 - SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: Deceased John Carroll
 - TUESDAY: For the dead of the tsunami
 - WEDNESDAY: Special intention Gordon Keane
 - THURSDAY: Welfare Anne Kilpatrick
 - FRIDAY: Special intention Blas Zlatunich
 - SATURDAY: Special intention Paul Roy Family

ABOUT DEVOTION

We must be careful not to confound devotional practices with true devotion. Devotional practices are merely the instruments of true devotion. Therefore, one should adopt them as they seem to be spiritually helpful. Private devotional practices and special prayer practices are important, and it is wrong to neglect them through sloth, inconstancy, or whim. At the same time it would be a serious mistake to undertake too many devotions to the detriment of the needs of our family or the requirements put upon us by obedience or charity. Anyone who makes devotion consist in vocal prayers, fasting, or unusual practices of penance, without at the same time carefully guarding the senses and without exercising the spirit of true sacrifice or accomplishing faithfully all the duties needed for the welfare of others, labors under a fatal illusion. Devotion is a spirit of love which dedicates itself to God without reserve. It yields to the inspirations of grace and submits prayerfully to all the dispositions of Divine Providence. This is the spirit which we should never cease to ask of God and which we should ever seek to obtain by our practices of true devotion.