Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel Montgomery, Alabama 10:45 A.M.

Only on first Sunday

of each month

(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.

Christ the King Abbey

St Pius V Chapel Birmingham, Alabama 9:30 A.M. Every Sunday except first Sunday of each month

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(Formerly Sunday within the Octave of the Sacred Heart)

June 5, 2005 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity; Comm. St. Boniface

Weekly Bulletin #886

BE THOU WITH ME

The Friday just past (June 3, 2005), was the wonderful Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. All the remembrances of Our Blessed Lord that are known to us, from the moment of His incomprehensible Conception to His most glorious Ascension, and everything from then to the present moment, are all brought together in this one single Feast. This Feast harvests every fruit of the Tree of Christ's Love and makes the gathering of the fruit one great festival of Divine Love. Of all the days of the year, the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is the day that brings the lover together with his Beloved – a union that is wonderful beyond understanding. However, this union exists only for those who seek after it and pursue it. Where it does exist, the Lord responds with all the warmth of His Divine Love.

It is a tragedy that the majority of God's Children do not express true love for their God. As a consequence it is an even greater tragedy that so few ever experience the fullness of the warmth of His Divine Love. Many are devoted to the Sacred Heart, but their love is self-serving. The love of such souls is given for their own interests and security - they want personal salvation without working on personal sanctification. The love that is looked for by our Blessed Lord is a love freely given to Him for His pleasure alone, not merely for purposes beneficial to the giver.

Our age is an age of nearly complete darkness, and men stumble around in this darkness as do the blind. Because of the continued darkness, their eyesight dims and eventually disappears altogether. They have become truly blind. In the nightmare of it all, such men blunder about seeking the light, but they fail to find the light because all is darkness for them. How does one describe color to a blind man? How can light be described to a blind man? How can the warmth of the love of God be explained to one who has never come into contact with It? How can one speak of life to one who is dead? Words concerning life can only be understood by the living, not by the dead. No amount of discussion, no amount of proving, no amount of debating, no amount of arguing can bring understanding to such a soul!

Spiritual deformity, indeed, spiritual death, can be found in a great number of families today. It can be found in families of every rank and file. It can be found in families of high religious standards following many religious devotions and observances. It can even be found, tragedy of tragedies, in Houses of Religion where souls dedicated to a religious life live! Broken hearted parents of children, as well as broken hearted children of parents are to be found everywhere. And let us be warned – let us not dare judge anybody in this matter. Loss of faith today is quite fashionable, not only in the so called "new" church, but even in many of our centers of Traditional Roman Catholicism, especially in those centers where bickering and backbiting are the call to action. Once a soul loses the Faith, it becomes almost impossible to bring it back to the Faith. Such souls become unbending, inflexible, obstinate, and disinterested in anything that does not pertain to their selfish, materialistic, and faithless point of view. Families are broken up and divided, and alienation between family members introduces hate!

Concerned people cry out: WHAT ARE WE TO DO? TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? And the darkness becomes ever more deep!

PRAYER, PENANCE, MORTIFICATION! Only God can deal with a perverted and obstinate person! No one has ever worked harder for the conversion of the sinner and the unbeliever than has Our Blessed Lord. No one has more interest in the conversion of the sinner than does Our Blessed Lord (and, of course, Our Blessed Mother). No one has ever offered such a safe sanctuary for the disconsolate sinner and unbeliever than has Our Beloved Lord. He offers us the safety of the Sanctuary of His Most Sacred Heart – and with our good will demonstrated, it is just for the asking!

Soon we will begin a series of "Thoughts" in our Weekly Bulletins which will pertain to the formation of proper dispositions for those of us who have been given the most fortunate grace to BELIEVE, to HOPE, to LOVE, and to ADORE the One True God. The presentations will point out ways that lead to a life of closer union with God. Many of us believe that so long as we have the Holy Mass and the Sacraments all is well. - NOT SO! (continued on back)