

check – that the Almighty does not come to man’s assistance? Not restoration, but the PRESERVATION of the little that is left is all that remains for us to hope for. The monk’s life must not be dedicated to the restoration of things. The monk’s main concern has to be the PRESERVATION of the few remaining breaths of FAITH left to us in this present age – revivifying breaths of that FAITH which Christ will be looking for when He returns. If ever there is to be a new beginning, it can only begin with Him Who has no beginning. As he stands before the world of concupiscence, of material wealth, and of complete spiritual disregard, the monk is burdened with a tremendous responsibility to go on being what he is called – a monk: one alone with God.

No more is the monastery a refuge for fake Gothic Architecture. No more is the monastery a home of classical learning. No more is the monastery a place for liturgical extravaganzas. If the monk of today has RESTORATION in mind and dedicates himself to the architecture, or to sophisticated learning, or to liturgical showiness, he will soon find that his life has not been dedicated to the service of God, but to the service of corruption, and regardless of his best efforts he will inevitably vanish along with all else that is passing. In reality it is not accurate to call a monk a “man of God”. The real meaning of “monk” is “one who is alone with God”.

In every way the monk must remain above every human faction and disagreement. It is not true that by his silence and aloofness from faction and disagreement the monk automatically demonstrates that he has taken sides. It sometimes happens that even in his silence the monk becomes a victim of faction, but he must never renounce his exclusively spiritual position in order to protect his own skin or to keep a roof over his head.

The monk has no choice but to be real, to remain real – but he cannot be real if he does not stay in contact with reality. Reality for the monk is God’s creation. Reality is all of the rest of mankind, in all of the sorrows, the battles, the perils of life, the temptations that are a constant torment. The monastic community lives by and for a charity that keeps the light of Christ burning in the darkness of an unbelieving world. The monastic community, if it has any truth in it at all, is obligated in one way or another to “LET NOT THE WINDS BLOW OUT THE LIGHT”! The monastic community, standing together with its Father in Christ, the Abbot, must remain an unflinching witness to the incomprehensible sacrament of the Existence of God.

Once again it must be stated that whatever is here said about monks, must be said with even greater emphasis about God’s Angels on earth – the nuns!

In the same way, it must also be stated that the life example given by the monastic way of life is well suited – with proper and appropriate adjustments – to the life of EVERYMAN. Any student of good history cannot but know that. As the Father Abbot is the strength and inspiration of his monastic family, so must the Father of the family be the strength and inspiration of his family. □



1. There **WILL** be Catechism class this morning.
2. **NB:** *We are having new metal roofs put on the Abbey buildings (both church and monastery). The job is estimated to last approximately two months. Please excuse any inconvenience this may cause. **Please beware of possible falling objects and other obstacles and hazards and debris as you enter and leave the Abbey buildings and grounds.** Please pray that all goes well and smoothly. Thank you for your patience.*
3. Friday, July 22, 2005, is the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene. Let us pray especially to this great penitent Saint for everyone, especially our loved ones, who have gone astray, that she will lead them all back to the Truth.
4. 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.
5. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard’s schedule only)
SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
MONDAY: Deceased Norbert Lax
TUESDAY: For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
WEDNESDAY: Welfare of Sue and Joe Stegman
THURSDAY: Deceased Lottie Wanzie
FRIDAY: Special intention Patricia Di Maggio
SATURDAY: Special intention of Phillip and Karen Webb

!! IMPORTANT NOTICE !!

ST. PIUS V CHAPEL — BIRMINGHAM

During the Month of August, 2005, we have been asked to vacate the Chapel
by 10:00 A.M. each Sunday.

Therefore, Mass will begin promptly at 9:00 A.M.

NO CONFESSIONS AFTER 8:50 A.M.