

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

Cullman, Alabama

Every Sunday:

6:00 AM and 10:00 AM

6:00 AM Daily

Holy Days of Obligation:

6:00 AM - 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel

Montgomery, Alabama

10:45 AM

Only on first Sunday
of each month

St Pius V Chapel

Birmingham, Alabama

9:30 AM

Every Sunday except
first Sunday of each month

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #900

September 11, 2005 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity; Comm. Ss. Protus and Hyacinth

Jesus, Mary, I Love You! Save Souls!

For those who want to believe, no argument is necessary.

For those who do not want to believe, no argument is possible.

(Part 5)

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart and with thy whole soul and with thy whole mind.”

For anything that concerns our conduct – for good or for evil – to have any substance, it must be stable. It must have structure. Our concern, of course, centers itself around that which is good, that which is from God. Therefore the structure of our conduct must be securely moored to a life of prayer, but a life of prayer built upon the solid foundation of our faith. Our prayer life and our faith should determine our conduct and way of living. In no way does this imply that our lives have to be regimented around a constant activity of prayer – of never ending recitation of prayers – which leaves us unable to conduct the normal demands of everyday living and our work obligations. We must not leave out necessary work – wherever – in order to take time out for prayers. Charity demands that we fulfill our obligations to others. What is here implied is that life, for it to be lived as intended by our Creator, must be motivated by a prayerful state of mind, and this state of mind must be motivated by love. The state of mind in prayer must be that all is ultimately determined according to the will of God. Such a state of mind in no way prevents us from working and of providing the necessities of a wholesome and comfortable life for ourselves and those who depend upon us. Properly regulated concerns about the necessities of life should in no way interfere with our spiritual needs – the spiritual health of our souls. Properly regulated concern about the necessities of life should in no way interfere with the love that is asked of us by our Blessed Lord. It is improperly regulated concerns that militates against our love for God. The life of a good Catholic, and all the affairs which concern him, must never be allowed to interfere with a life of continual love. It is the desire of continual love that must regulate our conduct throughout the day.

Of course, it is to be expected that the devil will pull out of his large bag of tricks everything he has to prevent us from living our life dominated by the love of God. It is certain that acts of continuous love for God go quite contrary to the workings of the devil. He knows that there is not a more profitable practice and no stronger a weapon in our possession against his temptations and maneuvers than the act of continuous love. His hostile interference is one of the heaviest crosses we have to bear during our lifetime. But there is no alternative lift us but to fight against his sabotaging tactics if we wish to love God with all our hearts and souls. Above all we must confide in God and trust in Him completely, while we go resolutely ahead doing that which glorifies God and is most profitable to our souls – our expressions of love. However, as stated above, whatever we set out to do must have about it the qualities of decision, determination, commitment, and a solid desire to carry out to its conclusion what we have decided upon.

Therefore we here present some specifics:

- ❖ It ill behooves us to have great devotion during the moment of prayer, if the rest of the day is not in harmony with that devotion.
- ❖ It ill behooves us to pray with a spirit of humility and with a contrite heart, if the rest of the day is cloaked with a scornful demeanor and our reactions are underscored with pride and self-defense.
- ❖ It ill behooves us to grant forgiveness to others at the moment of prayer, if the rest of the day is spent in remembering.
- ❖ It ill behooves us to seek the heights of contemplation during prayer, if during the rest of the day we plunge headlong into voluntary distractions.
- ❖ It ill behooves us to express a desire to live a mortified life at the moment of prayer, if the rest of the day is given to self-indulgence and self-gratification. *(continued on back)*