

On Friday, the twenty-first day of April, 2006, in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary in Monroe, Connecticut, his Excellency, the Most Reverend Robert F. McKenna, O.P., will ordain to the Holy Priesthood Reverend Frater Bernard Uttley, O.S.B. and Reverend Frater Joseph Ramsey, O.S.B..

These ordinations are not an act of insubordination to anyone. Rather it is an act of profound humility, prompted only by the alarmingly urgent needs of our day. The chaotic condition of Catholicity today is indeed most frightening. The emergency of this need has no precedent in any part of the entire Christian Era. These extraordinary times demand extraordinary measures. The prayers of all are most sincerely requested for these men.

Father Bernard and Father Joseph will celebrate their first Masses in our Abbey Church at 8:30 AM on Wednesday morning, April 26, 2006. Father Bernard will celebrate his Mass in Our Lady's Chapel and Father Joseph will celebrate his Mass in Saint Joseph's Chapel. Both of them will give their first Priestly Blessing to all in attendance after Mass on that day and on the following Sunday (April 30, 2006) at the 10:00 AM Mass.

### *THE HANDS OF THE PRIEST*

The hands of the priest are in a very special way "set aside" because of their sacred functions. At a certain point in the ceremony of ordination, the one to be ordained to the priesthood extends his hands, palms upward, with the sides of the palms and little fingers touching each other. The bishop dips his thumb into the holy oil (Oil of Catechumens) and draws a line from the thumb of the right hand to the index finger of the left hand and from the thumb of the left hand to the index finger of the right hand. He then anoints the whole of both palms. The palms of the priest-to-be are then placed together and a specially made strip of linen cloth is draped over them. In a very old custom followed in some areas of the world and also here at Christ the King Abbey, the young man goes down to the communion rail where his mother is waiting for him. His mother then ties together the hands of her now priest-son with the binding cloth. This cloth is kept and later it is cut lengthwise into two strips, each of which is used to tie the hands of the priest's mother and father at the time of their deaths.

Later in the ceremony the binding cloth is removed and the hands are cleansed with lemon juice. The hands of the new priest are then consecrated:

"Deign, O Lord, to sanctify and consecrate these hands by this anointing, that whatsoever they bless shall indeed be blessed, and whatsoever they shall consecrate shall indeed be consecrated, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1. There will be NO Catechism class until April 30, 2006 (the Second Sunday after Easter).
2. There will be NO 5:00 Sunday Vespers and Benediction this afternoon.
3. Next Sunday, April 23, 2006, is the Anniversary of the Dedication of our Abbey Church (1995).
4. **EARLY NOTICE:** We will have First Communion for children during the 10:00 Mass in the Abbey Church on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, 2006. Anyone wishing more information, please see Father Francis. **First Confessions** will be heard on the Sunday before Mother's Day (**May 7, 2006**).
5. 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.
6. **DUE TO THE UNUSUAL NATURE OF THINGS THIS WEEK, FATHER ABBOT'S EASTER WEEK MASS SCHEDULE WILL NOT PERMIT ADDITIONAL INTENTIONS. THEREFORE, FATHER FRANCIS WILL OFFER HIS FIRST EASTER SUNDAY MASS (IN BIRMINGHAM) FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR CHAPELS. HIS SECOND EASTER SUNDAY MASS (IN MONTGOMERY) WILL BE OFFERED FOR ALL OF OUR OBLATES, BENEFACTORS, AND FRIENDS.**
7. **MASSSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
  - SUNDAY: Welfare of our Abbey and Convent
  - MONDAY: Protection from accident for our monks and people driving to Connecticut
  - TUESDAY: Protection from accident for our monks and people driving to Connecticut
  - WEDNESDAY: Welfare of Rev. Frater Bernard and Rev. Frater Joseph
  - THURSDAY: For Peter Schmitz-Hille (*Birthday*)
  - FRIDAY: Welfare of our monks ordained to Priesthood today
  - SATURDAY: Deceased Anthony Satori