

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

www.christthekingabbey.org

Cullman, Alabama

Every Sunday: 6:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Daily: 6:00 AM

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

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

May 14, 2006 – White

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Easter

Weekly Bulletin #935

Happy Mother's Day!

Mary

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the perfect model for the Catholic Christian! How seriously she stands up against our immodesty, our immorality, our sensuality, our greed, our luxurious way of life! What a rebuke she is to our false notions of Catholic Christianity. Yet, her silent admonition against every false standard of Catholic behavior is filled with eloquence.

She had the best endowed mind that ever lived on this earth;
She was enlightened as no prophet ever had been enlightened before her;

She has a power of intercession of which no one can determine the limit;
She had a zeal for her Son's glory and for her Son's work that burned more fiercely than the zeal of all the great Saints that have ever pillared the Holy Church of her Son.
She suffered a martyrdom that defies description;

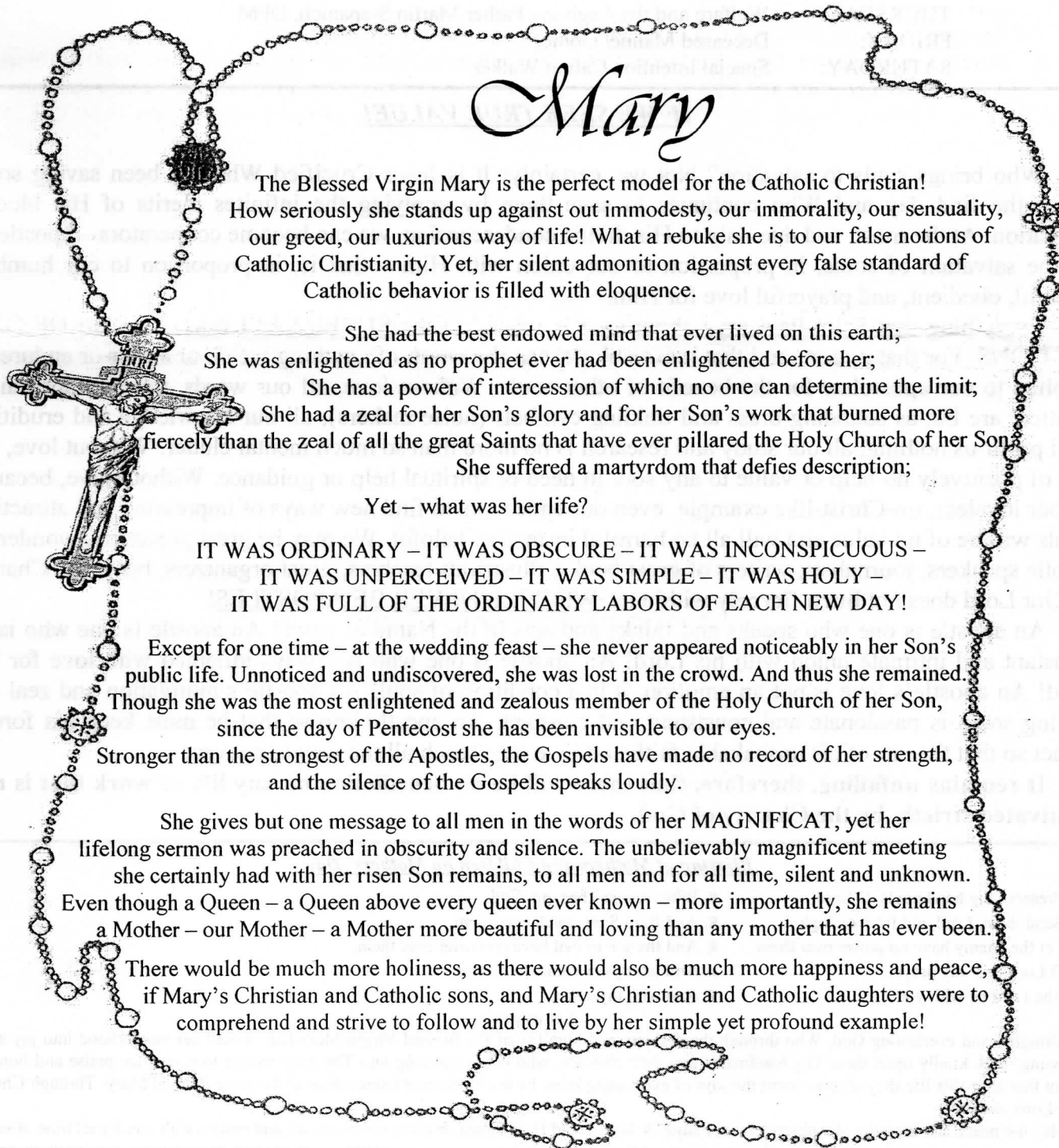
Yet – what was her life?

IT WAS ORDINARY – IT WAS OBSCURE – IT WAS INCONSPICUOUS –
IT WAS UNPERCEIVED – IT WAS SIMPLE – IT WAS HOLY –
IT WAS FULL OF THE ORDINARY LABORS OF EACH NEW DAY!

Except for one time – at the wedding feast – she never appeared noticeably in her Son's public life. Unnoticed and undiscovered, she was lost in the crowd. And thus she remained. Though she was the most enlightened and zealous member of the Holy Church of her Son, since the day of Pentecost she has been invisible to our eyes. Stronger than the strongest of the Apostles, the Gospels have made no record of her strength, and the silence of the Gospels speaks loudly.

She gives but one message to all men in the words of her MAGNIFICAT, yet her lifelong sermon was preached in obscurity and silence. The unbelievably magnificent meeting she certainly had with her risen Son remains, to all men and for all time, silent and unknown. Even though a Queen – a Queen above every queen ever known – more importantly, she remains a Mother – our Mother – a Mother more beautiful and loving than any mother that has ever been.

There would be much more holiness, as there would also be much more happiness and peace, if Mary's Christian and Catholic sons, and Mary's Christian and Catholic daughters were to comprehend and strive to follow and to live by her simple yet profound example!



This morning at the 10:00 AM Mass, Elizabeth Smith, Gregory Le Blanc, and Collin Potter will receive their First Communion. Please allow them to come up to the Communion Rail first and alone at Communion Time.

1. There will be NO Catechism class after Mass until next Sunday (May 21, 2006). When Catechism class does resume, it will be for the younger children, and Father Joseph will be the new teacher. This will leave Father Francis available for consultations with the older children or whoever may need special help or advice.
2. There WILL be 5:00 PM Sunday Vespers and Benediction this afternoon.
3. After the 10:00 AM Mass this morning we will have the ceremony of the Crowning of Our Lady. Miss Grace LeBlanc will crown Our Lady this morning.
4. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. LET US ALSO PRAY FOR EVERYONE.
5. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: Deceased Linda Birringer
 - TUESDAY: Special intention Angelica Bartlett
 - WEDNESDAY: For John and Rita Dumbacher and Ann Roberts
 - THURSDAY: Welfare and thanksgiving Father Martin Stepanich, OFM
 - FRIDAY: Deceased Manuel Gomez
 - SATURDAY: Special intention Calvin Walker

IF WE SEEK TRUE VALUE!

Who brings souls to salvation? Not we, certainly! It is Jesus Crucified Who has been saving souls since the first day and Who continues to save them by applying the infinites merits of His bloody expiation. At the most, and due only to His divine condescension, we can become cooperators – apostles – in the salvation of souls, in proportion to our union with Him – that is, in proportion to our humble, trustful, obedient, and prayerful love for Him.

Everything that Saint Paul says about love is related to the **SUPERNATURAL VALUE OF OUR ACTIONS**. For that reason, and that reason alone, can the worth of anything we do or suffer or endure be applied to our apostolate for the benefit of other souls. Without love, all our words, whether spoken or written, are but as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals (noise makers); all our knowledge and erudition will profit us nothing; all our study and research is no more than so much mental clutter. Without love, we are of positively no help or value to any soul in need of spiritual help or guidance. Without love, because of our loveless, un-Christ-like example, even our endeavors to find new ways of impressing and attracting souls will be of no value and will all be harmful instead of helpful. We may be great preachers, wonderful public speakers, journalists, writers of great books, illustrious teachers, great organizers, but if the Charity of Our Lord does not **burn fiercely** within us, **WE WILL NEVER BE APOSTLES!**

An apostle is one who speaks and thinks and acts in the Name of Jesus! An apostle is one who is in constant and intimate union with his Lord! An apostle is one who is always inflamed with love for his God! An apostle's love is not an emotion, it is a condition of soul! An apostle's motivation and zeal for saving souls is passionate and consistent and constant. An apostle knows that he must keep his forces intact so that the cry of his unshakable faith and love may reach all the way to heaven.

It remains unfailing, therefore, that there will be no benediction on any life or work that is not motivated strictly by the Charity of God.

Blessing of Mothers and Children on Mothers' Day

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| ∇. Preserve thy handmaids, O Lord. | ℟. Who trust in Thee, my God. |
| ∇. Send them, Lord, aid from on high. | ℟. And from Sion watch over them. |
| ∇. Let the enemy have no power over them. | ℟. And the son of evil have no power over them. |
| ∇. O Lord hear my prayer. | ℟. And let my cry come unto Thee. |
| ∇. The Lord be with you. | ℟. And with thy spirit. |

Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, Who through the delivery and humility of the Blessed Virgin Mary hath turned her motherhood into joy and blessing, look kindly upon these Thy handmaids and their children, who come rejoicing into Thy holy temple to give Thee praise and honor, grant that after this life they all may merit the joys of everlasting bliss, by the merits and intercession of the same Blessed Mary. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

May the peace and blessing of Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, ✠ and Holy Ghost, ✠ come upon you all, and remain with you for all time. *Amen.*