

The warning of St. Paul in his second Epistle to Timothy rings out with clarion tones: "For there shall be a time when they will heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears, and will indeed turn away their hearing from the truth, but will be turned unto fables."

With every bit of strength in us we must continuously cling to Jesus Christ. We must let no one, whether bishop, priest, religious superior, family member, relative, friend, employer, leader, business associate, or whoever, separate us from Him – destroy our faith. We must not let anything whatever, whether money, power, prestige, business affairs, or social standing separate us from Him. He alone, by His Precious Blood, can wash away our sins. He alone can give us help, comfort, and consolation when we are poor, sick, desolate, or lonely. He alone can give us courage and assurance in the hour of trial. He alone can give us victory in temptation. He alone can give us help in the awful hour of death. When all else deserts us, He will stand by us and keep us from harm – if we cling to Him unwaveringly as our Savior and Friend.

Undaunted, we must cover ourselves with the shield of faith when danger threatens. We must be glad, indeed, we must be grateful, that we have been given the most precious grace to be children of the never changing ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC, AND APOSTOLIC FAITH as handed down through the ages – the eminently holy, solid, and reasonable faith handed down to us from Jesus Christ Himself. We must be grateful that we have been preserved from the ignorance and disbelief which we meet with at every turn. We must be grateful for the grace to be able to recognize the mischievous mechanisms which by evil design are taking Jesus Christ out of the hearts and minds and lives of so many of us and our loved ones. We must continuously pray for protection from all those who seek feverishly to make of Jesus Christ that which He most certainly is NOT – thereby disturbing the peace and tranquility and serenity of conscience of so many innocent and trusting children of God. With great joy and confidence we must repeat over and over as did Peter and Martha: "Thou art Christ, the Son of the Living God!" We must not ever be afraid to profess our faith boldly and confidently – but accurately and with humility, before anyone and everyone **without any equivocation!**

By our reverence for His Presence in the Tabernacle; by our sincere and frequent Confessions; by the fervor of our Holy Communions; by our holiness of life; by the humble simplicity of our living standards; by our correct observance of God's Commandments; by our respect for and observance of what is in fact the approved official interpretation of all the laws and teachings of the True Church; by our GOOD EXAMPLE; thus do we confess our faith in God.

If showing ourselves to be followers of Jesus Christ costs us greatly, as it most certainly will, we must look forward to that all important day when He in His turn will confess us before the whole world! Remember that Jesus, Who has been taken up from us by His Ascension into Heaven, is to come again. We must look forward to meeting Him with unbounded joy at His Second Coming. We must so live as to hopefully expect without fear of disappointment the totally profound happiness of being truly ONE with Him for all eternity, as He promised: "He that shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father Who is in Heaven and before the Angels of God."

And so, good and holy people of God, let us not be filled with timidity, but rather let us be thankful to God for the graces He has bestowed upon us. Let us with profound humility read the following words of our Savior himself as recorded by St. Matthew: "**You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but upon a candlestick, that it may shine to all that are in the house; so let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Who is in Heaven.**" In the end, let us all say: "THANKS BE TO GOD!"

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1. There WILL be Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass this morning. **The younger children (ages 6 through 12 only), will please wait for Father Joseph in the vestibule of the Abbey Church right after Mass.** *Father Francis will meet with the older children (age 13 and up) outdoors, as the weather permits.*
 2. There WILL be 5:00 PM Sunday Vespers and Benediction this afternoon.
 3. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week are Rogation Days, with the Litany of the Saints recited in procession (outdoors, weather permitting) before Mass on all three days, beginning at 5:30 AM. *Late arrivals, please drive slowly and watch out for the procession on the Abbey's driveway all three mornings.*
 4. Wednesday, May 24, 2006, is also the Vigil of the Ascension, but is **NOT** a day of fast or abstinence.
 5. Thursday, May 25, 2006, is the Feast of the Ascension, and is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. Masses in the Abbey Church will be at 6:00 AM, 8:00 AM, and 7:00 PM.
 6. Friday, May 26, 2006, the Novena to the Holy Spirit begins.
 7. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. LET US ALSO PRAY FOR EVERYONE.
 8. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels
MONDAY:	Special intention Eddie Moser
TUESDAY:	For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
WEDNESDAY:	Deceased Norbert Lax
THURSDAY:	Welfare of our religious Communities
FRIDAY:	For Richard Brueggemann
SATURDAY:	For James Hoban (80 th Birthday)