

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)
(Formerly 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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #951

September 3, 2006 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Holy Trinity

MAY THE HOUSE OF GOD BE WISELY RULED BY THE WISE

Too much of today's traditionalist "Catholicism" is dominated by improperly and oftentimes erroneously documented opinion and instruction. Most of such instruction is given credibility and acceptability simply because of the amount of noise that is generated in its defense: lots of noise, lots of argument, lots of debate, lots of propaganda, lots of punctuated name-calling, lots of disruption of the peace and serenity of good people whose desire it is to be left alone for prayer. The full thrust of such information is not aimed at the salvation of souls, even though use of prestigious names gives the impression that its purpose is genuine. Rather, the atmosphere created by such erroneous opinions of individuals, individuals who in most cases lack any theological credentials, can be seen to be false, tyrannical, arrogant, arbitrary, overbearing, and full of prohibitions. Instead of giving assistance to a suffering soul, such an approach withholds the channels of salvation and assistance. In this way of living, God Almighty is no more than a heartless tyrant who carries a whip in his hands at all times, always ready to strike and beat down, rather than to lift up and help.

This approach to the living of the spiritual life has produced a very defective and privately interpreted kind of "Catholicism". We do not here suggest that the answer lies in the modernist, liberal "Catholic" ideal of handing out salvation willy-nilly to almost everybody. At the same time, the answer does not lie in the "traditionalist", Jansenistic ideal of withholding salvation willy-nilly from almost everybody! Neither one of these propositions is even borderline Truth. The world needs Truth. Indeed, the Catholic Church needs Truth, and it is up to those who have been taught the Truth, and who have a God-given realization of the value of TRUTH, to maintain it. By means of strong prayer and a willingness to offer sacrifice to an offended God, we must put a stop to the encroachments of those whose intentions are difficult to fathom. When good willed faithful people are subjected to needlessly fearsome directives and embarrassing situations, it should be plain to see that there is something wrong with the program. When honest minded people are driven away by oppressive and impossible advice or counsel, it should be plain to see that there is something wrong with the method. Good and sincere souls, honestly seeking ways to achieve salvation and union with God, are especially sensitive to the impropriety of such an atmosphere. Reckless ordinances are quite inappropriate. In like manner, good and sincere souls, honestly seeking ways to achieve salvation, are not impressed by the comic approach to religion and religious worship of our present day modernist "Catholic" Churches.

There have always been crusaders of evil in the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, but there was always a well organized One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ to stop them. Without a working and functioning Church, such present day crusaders have open range, and without the slightest hindrance they go about "like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."

TRUTH is the foundation upon which the Church of Jesus Christ has been built, but black and noxious smoke has so clouded TRUTH nowadays that the average person of good will simply does not know who to trust.

The priests and monks of Christ the King Abbey and the nuns of St. Joseph's Monastery are very much aware of this difficulty and are very sensitive to the problem. People say that there is no recognized director of things religious anymore. But there is! The director is a book: *THE CATECHISM OF THE COUNCIL OF TRENT*. Difficult to read for the average faithful layperson, our forefathers brought this most valuable document to **usable form** for the benefit of the average faithful layperson in *THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM*. This is the book which clearly spells out what has to be believed and done by a conscientious Catholic – lay or religious – if salvation is to be gained. However, it has to be said, and it has to be accepted as *a sine qua non* (as an absolute necessity), that a Catholic is one who subscribes to **"these and ALL the truths which the Roman Catholic Church teaches" and not one who BELIEVES SELECTIVELY**. A true Catholic – one in good standing – is one who does not twist truth round and round until it accommodates him or his protestantized way of thinking and of setting his own standards. Private interpretation is not one of the holy marks of the Roman Catholic Church! When all is said and done, it remains an indisputable fact that anyone who does not subscribe completely to the above definition of a Roman Catholic is **not a Roman Catholic!**

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