

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

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

December 25, 2006 – White / Gold

Mass of Nativity; Gl; Cr; Pref. Nativity

Weekly Bulletin #968



Merry Christmas !

THERE IS NO REALITY OUTSIDE THE VISION
OF THIS ETERNALLY BLESSED CHILD.

Especially do we greet you, our loved ones of Christ the King Abbey,

Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel, and Saint Pius V Chapel.

*We greet those of you who usually travel great distances to be
with us and to attend Holy Mass with us. You are such a*

great part of our lives, of

One thing we hope for

we hope for it – and

our example of

understanding,

spirituality, and

courage, we might

for your greater Joy and

*Stability, Serenity, and Holiness. We wish this for you and those you love
most! In like manner, do we greet you, our most welcome friends and visitors.*

*We pray that because of your visit, your Christmas Joy and Peace
will be enlarged and will be made more Beautiful and Holy.*

God bless you. We invite you to return many times over.

our love, and of our prayer.

– with all our hearts

that is that by

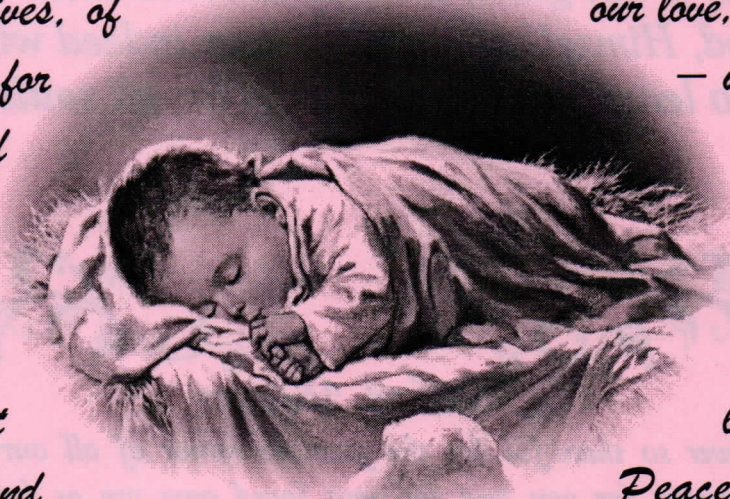
tolerance,

compassion,

by our faith and

be a small reason

Peace: for your greater



Merry Christmas!

May the peace and holiness and joy of our Infant Lord be with you and with your children this Christmas, and all the days of your lives!

Every single day, we, the Monks and Nuns, pray for all of you. We pray also for your loved ones, living and dead.

In your charity please pray for us. Pray that we will – always – be here for you, to stand by you, to help you, and to pray for you.

*The days before us are truly frightful ones. Let us, therefore, turn to God with all the strength we have in us, and let us “bother” Him to such an extent that He will soon come to the help of us all – whoever we are and wherever we are. Let us pray for **everybody** – for sinners and unbelievers alike. Let us pray for **all** priests – and for the priesthood itself. Let us not do any sifting. Let us be humble enough to allow God to be the One to do whatever sifting needs to be done. We are not the ones to declare the salvation or damnation of any human being, living or dead. When the Baby Jesus came to rest in the very humble manger, He most certainly left no man out of His Divine Vision. If there be those whose will is not good, then let us leave them and their problem in the hands of God, Himself alone. God does indeed will the salvation of all men. Let us also learn that we must pray for all souls.*



Cherished Visitors

We are ever so thankful for the gracious honor of all our visitors, and our prayers for you and for your loved ones are as fervent as is possible for us. We humbly ask, however, that you strive to understand that the gift of Holy Communion -

the gift of the Body of Christ -

is reserved only for the members of our Catholic Religion and Faith. Nevertheless, we do love you, and our hearts go out to meet your hearts.

Your presence here honors us profoundly.

May the best of Gods blessings be always upon you.

Please pray for us.

“This day you shall see His Glory”

Two thousand years ago there came into this world a Man whose Life of thirty-three years is the chief event in the world's history. Indeed, it was and is the chief and most important event in the history here and hereafter of every one of us all.

In His coming He gave to all mankind all that had been lost by the Fall of Adam and Eve. He gave us much more: He gave us Himself. Since His coming we no longer think of Him as far away in Heaven where we can hardly reach Him even by thought, but as one of ourselves. We see Him as one Who can be seen, as one Who can be heard, as One Who can be handled. We see Him as a Man with a country and Who lived in a family, with ancestors, good and bad, with a Mother and with a home. We see Him as a Man with friends and enemies, as a Man with a certain character and ways, as a Man with likes and dislikes. We see Him as a Man with sorrows and with joys. How wonderful for us, for we can see Him as our God, the God whom we adore and love.

He was promised four thousand years before He came into this world. The race, the tribe, the family, the time of His coming, the chief events of His life were all known. So much so were all these things known, that in the reign of the Emperor, Augustus Caesar, when the time foretold by the prophets had come, there was a widespread expectation of a great Deliverer, and many eyes were turned to the little country of Palestine where He was to appear. And there, in Bethlehem, in a tiny wind-blown shelter for animals – the ONLY place on this entire earth appropriate for the birth of the Lord, God Himself – on a cold winter's night, He came! Angels sang in the heavens and extended special invitation to the most unlikely first visitors of the Divine King: shepherds sitting on a hillside tending their sheep.

Is this not a marvel to outdo all marvels? Everything was appropriate and appropriately done for the One Whose Life was the chief event in the entire world's history! Later, a star shining out in the eastern sky brought wise men from great distances to adore at His feet. Then, suddenly all the marvels around Him ceased, He had to go into hiding in a land far distant – Egypt. While men were still expecting and wondering why the Promised One delayed so long, He was growing up from youth to manhood, and working at a carpenter's trade with His foster Father, Joseph, in a tiny shop in the despised village of Nazareth. At the age of thirty He left His cottage home and began to show Himself to men. His mother, Mary, stood in the doorway watching Him as He began to plod the streets of the world of man.

We have not seen Him exactly as the people of His day saw Him live out His every day life, but we have the story of His Life written by those who knew Him well. It was written, not so much for mankind in general, but for each one us, one by one, that we might know, and in knowing that we might become.

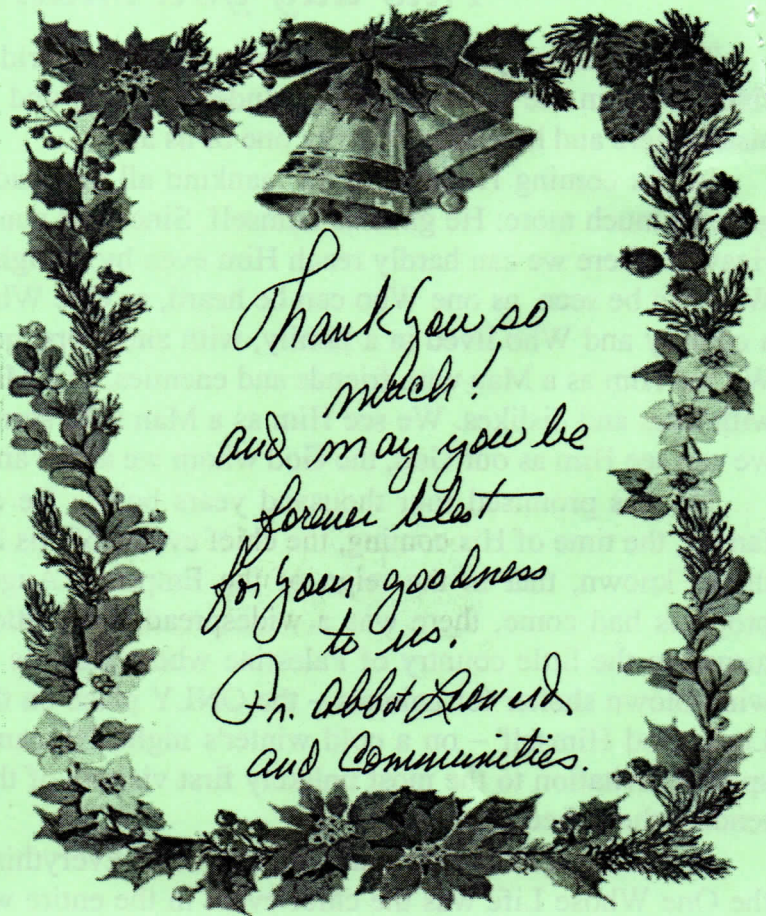
These are days in which our belief in Jesus Christ must be firmly rooted if it is to remain unshaken by the unbelief and the indifference and the forgetfulness and the hatred all around. Without ceasing we must work to preserve our Faith untarnished, as we behold the faithless work of those who have vowed faithful work! We must work without ceasing to bring home to ourselves in every possible way known to us the truth about Him – Who He is, What He is, what He came into this world to do. Indeed, “it is now the hour for us to rise from sleep,” to do what we must do that He may not have come in vain!



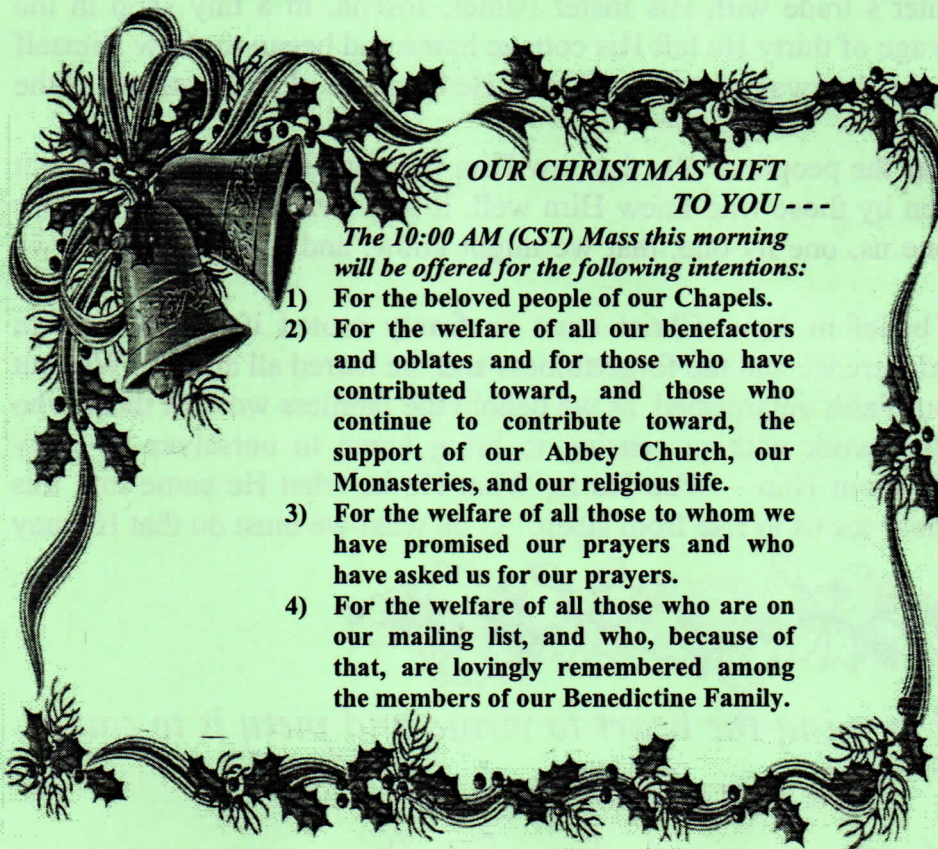
*The most efficient way of forming the heart to virtue and piety is to cause
the love of God
to predominate over the fear of God!*

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PEACE



Thank you so
much!
and may you be
forever blest
for your goodness
to us.
Fr. Abbot Leonard
and Communities.



**OUR CHRISTMAS GIFT
TO YOU ---**

*The 10:00 AM (CST) Mass this morning
will be offered for the following intentions:*

- 1) For the beloved people of our Chapels.
- 2) For the welfare of all our benefactors and oblates and for those who have contributed toward, and those who continue to contribute toward, the support of our Abbey Church, our Monasteries, and our religious life.
- 3) For the welfare of all those to whom we have promised our prayers and who have asked us for our prayers.
- 4) For the welfare of all those who are on our mailing list, and who, because of that, are lovingly remembered among the members of our Benedictine Family.

A blessed
and
happy
New Year
to
you
and those
you love most!