

# Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

Cullman, Alabama

Every Sunday:

6:00 AM and 10:00 AM

6:00 AM Daily

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

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TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Weekly Bulletin #906

October 23, 2005 – Green

Mass of Sunday; Gl; Cr; Pref. Trinity

## **PURGATORY**

The reward or punishment appointed for us after the particular Judgment is Heaven, Purgatory, or Hell.

Since November has been set aside by the Church for the Souls in Purgatory, our meditation today shall be on Purgatory.

Those who die in the State of Grace but are guilty of venial sin or have not fully satisfied the temporal punishment due to their sins of previous times, are punished for a time in Purgatory, forgiven though they may be. There is a certain amount of satisfaction that must be rendered for every sin committed, even though forgiven in confession. This satisfaction is rendered by suffering either in this life or in Purgatory.

Purgatory is God's "hospital" for souls, where those who do not love Him enough in this life must go to before entering Heaven. There they will be cured through great suffering, though they do have the consolation of the assurance of eventually entering Heaven.

Only those who love God perfectly can enter Heaven. But even many good people die with only a weak love of God. They have more interest in the people and things of this earth than they do in God. They do not love Him with their whole heart and soul. They waste many opportunities to please Him.

Love is purified, increased, and perfected by suffering. This means not only bodily pain, but crosses of every kind. God sends everyone the sufferings they need on earth to cleanse, strengthen, and perfect their love. But most people waste their sufferings. They do not want them, they complain about them, and they work to escape them in every manner possible, even by committing sin. Because of this attitude, the fires of their earthly suffering are unable to burn away the selfishness of their love. Consequently their love of God remains very imperfect.

Such souls must then spend time in Purgatory, where they will suffer much more intensely than they would have if only they had accepted the sufferings God sent them while yet on earth. The purification of their love for God which did not take place on this earth will be completed in Purgatory. It must be remembered that love in Purgatory is only purified – it no longer enjoys increase or growth. The amount of love that is in the heart at the moment of death will not increase in Purgatory. Love increases only while we are alive on this earth. After the moment of death, all increase ends.

In Purgatory, God's cleansing fires burn away the soul's selfishness. After all selfishness is burned away, after all tarnish is scrubbed away, the soul is then perfect, and it is then that flights of angels come to take that soul to the Presence of God.

The punishment of Purgatory is God's loving, corrective medicament. It is like the bitter medicine a loving mother gives her sick child. The punishment for sin is measured out – measure for measure – either on this earth or in Purgatory. Every sin ever committed has a "price tag" attached to it. The sin is forgiven, but the cost of it has to be paid in full, either in this life or in Purgatory. The payment of the sins of the just will be finally paid, and all temporal punishment will come to an end. Eternal punishment (Hell) is God's angry punishment, which balances out the scales of Justice upset by un-repentant grievous sin. This punishment (Hell) is Reserved for those who refuse to let God correct them on earth – for those who place no importance on *CONVERSIO*! This punishment has no end, and it is known to those in Hell that this punishment has no end, and this is a punishment all in itself. The knowledge that there is no hope of ever getting out of Hell is one of Hell's worst punishments.

Those who die in a state of un-repentant mortal sin are punished forever in Hell; they are deprived of the Vision of God and they suffer dreadful torments, especially the knowledge that they can never leave and that they are there through their own fault – through their own choice!

1. There will be Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass today.
2. There will be the usual Sunday Vespers and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 5:00 PM today.
3. Friday, October 27, 2005, is the Feast of Saint Simon and Saint Jude, Apostles.
4. Next Sunday, October 30, 2005, is the magnificent Feast of Christ the King, and is especially significant for us since it is the Patronal Feast of Christ the King Abbey. Until the Kingship of Christ becomes acknowledged by all mankind, we can expect every sort of violence and war and sickness and disease. We can expect every manifestation of immorality, with the unborn and the elderly at the mercy of whoever. As is now being witnessed by the entire family of Man, nature is reacting, with thousands upon thousands of the population of the earth killed, maimed, and dispossessed.
5. ***Next Sunday, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament will immediately follow the 10:00 AM Mass. Also, Solemn Sunday Vespers and Benediction at 5:00 PM next Sunday afternoon.***
6. Next Sunday, because of Benediction after Mass, there will be NO Catechism class.
7. **NB: NEXT SUNDAY IS THE LAST SUNDAY OF OCTOBER AND DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS – REMEMBER TO SET ALL CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR.**
8. Tuesday, November 1, 2005 is the Feast of All Saints, and is a **Holyday of Obligation**. Masses in the Abbey Church will be at 6:00 AM, 8:00 AM, and 7:00 PM. This Feast is very important as we seek the assistance of the Saints in Heaven. There will be those who will not be able to attend Mass on that day. In which case, all such ones should try to spend about one hour in special prayer in their Home Chapels. The “Mass of St. John” can be used as a guide, with the readings and orations of the day being inserted in their proper places.
9. Wednesday, November 2, 2005, is All Souls Day. It is NOT a Holyday of Obligation. The importance of this day cannot be over estimated. For everyone it should be a day of profound prayer, penance, and mortification. The reading in today’s Bulletin should be read carefully and pondered seriously. **Masses in the Abbey Church will be at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM ONLY.**
10. November is the Month of the Poor Souls in Purgatory. DO NOT FORGET THE TOTIES QUOTIES INDULGENCE for the Poor Souls. Each and every time a visit to a Church or Chapel is made during the time between 12:00 Noon of All Saints Day and midnight of All Souls Day, reciting the usual 5 Our Fathers and 5 Hail Marys and 5 Glory Be’s, with an added one of each for the intention of the Pontiff, one gains a plenary indulgence for the Poor Souls. Where it is impossible to enter a Church or Chapel, one’s Home Chapel can with right and safe reason be used, leaving it up to God to decide whether or not the indulgence is thereby gained or not. The needs of the Poor Suffering Souls and the crumbled circumstances of the present time come before the opinions and the academic pronouncements of theological technicians. The words “toties quoties” means “as many times as.”
11. Please return the All Souls Day envelopes **BEFORE** November 1, 2005.
12. The Rosary is recited each evening of the month of October in the Abbey Church at 7:10 PM.
13. As a group of serious and concerned People of God, let us offer serious prayer for the welfare of the countless thousands of people suffering injury and death from the many recent and world wide natural disasters. Is all of this just a freakish coincidence of nature – or is there a POWER at work? Let us be warned!
14. 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.
15. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard’s schedule only)
 

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels
MONDAY:	Thanksgiving Ella Soileau
TUESDAY:	Deceased George Arthur Bolton
WEDNESDAY:	Special intention Jennifer Hill
THURSDAY:	For all the victims of the recent natural disasters
FRIDAY:	Special intention Gordon Keane
SATURDAY:	Special intention Anna Rita Huelskamp