

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

FEAST OF ALL BENEDICTINE SAINTS

Weekly Bulletin #909

Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost (6th Sunday after Epiphany)

November 13, 2005 – White / Gold

Mass of Feast; Gl; Cr; Pref. Saint Benedict; Comm. Sunday

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Please refer back to Bulletin #907 and give sober thought to the two crowns – one of gold and one of thorns. Each of us is given both of them and **both** WILL be worn. We may freely choose which one to wear first. If we wear the crown of thorns first, the crown of gold awaits. If we choose to wear the crown of gold first, the crown of thorns awaits!

With the season of Advent fast approaching, the following words from *The Following of Christ* should be given serious thought (*Book 1, Chapter 24*):

17. Be now solicitous and repent for your sins, that in the day of Judgment you may stand secure and without fear in the company of the Blessed.
18. For then shall the just stand with great constancy against those who have afflicted and oppressed them. (Wis. V,1)
19. Then will he who now humbly submits himself to the judgment of men stand to judge others.
20. Then will the poor and humble have great confidence; while the proud will be taken with great fear on every side.
21. Then will it be seen that he was wise in this world, who had learned to be a fool and to be despised for God's sake. (Wis. V,3,5)
22. Then will every affliction patiently undergone delight us, "and all iniquity shall stop her mouth." (Ps. CVI,42)
23. Then will every devout man rejoice; and the ungodly will mourn.
24. Then will the mortified flesh rejoice more than if it had always been bathed in delights.
25. Then will the despised garment shine brightly; and the costly robe be vile.
26. Then a poor little cottage will be commended more than a great gilded place.
27. Then will constant patience avail more than all worldly power.
28. Then will simple obedience be exalted above all worldly cunning.
29. Then will a pure conscience cause greater joy than learned philosophy.
30. Then will the contempt of riches have more weight, and will profit more than all the treasures of the earth.
31. Then will a devout prayer give more comfort and joy than dainty eating and drinking.
32. Then will you rejoice more in having kept silence than in having held long conversations.
33. Then will good and holy deeds be of more avail than fine words.
34. Then will a hard life spent in severe penance be worth more than all earthly delights.
35. Learn now to suffer a little, so that you may be delivered from more grievous pain.
36. Prove first here what you can endure hereafter.
37. If now you can endure so little, how will you then be able to bear eternal torments?
38. If now a little inconvenience makes you so impatient, what will the pain of hell do then?
39. **Truly, you cannot have both joys, namely, to live here in delight, and hereafter to reign with Christ.**
40. If up to this very day, you had always lived in luxury and honors, what would all that profit you, if you were to die this instant?
41. All therefore is vanity, unless you love God and serve Him alone. (Deut. X,20)
42. For he who loves God with all his heart fears neither death nor hell nor punishment; for perfect love gives a sure access to God.
43. But he who takes delight in sin, what wonder is it if he be afraid both of death and of God's judgment.
44. Nevertheless, it is a good thing, if the love of God does not withhold you from evil, that at least the fear of hell should restrain you.
45. But he who puts aside the fear of God can never continue long in a good life, but will quickly fall into the snares of the devil. ☐

ADVENT PREPARATIONS

The ever beautiful Season of Advent is well on its way and will soon be here. As always, certain preparations must be made for the holy Feast of the Birth of our Lord. The strategic importance of the home must now be brought into full focus. The home must be a humble copy of the House of Nazareth. In the home, the father is the patriarch. In the absence of the father, the mother is the matriarch. In normal conditions the father and mother together must strive to raise Christian living in our day to its highest and noblest expression.

From the very beginning it must be kept in mind by everyone that the father of the family, being the patriarch, gets his authority from God Himself. The father of the family holds the place of Christ in the family, and is always first in the structure of the family. The mother's place is also most important in the structure, and her support of the authority of the father gives proper example to the children, thereby giving Christian expression to the life in the world of our day.

In the House of Nazareth, even though Mary was the mother of Jesus, Whom she knew to be God, she was subject to the authority of Joseph, her husband. The two working together in harmony governed the Child Jesus, Who "went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them." (St. Luke)

There are many, many wonderful Advent customs, too many to speak of. We advocate just a few of them, such as the Advent Wreath, the Blessed Wheat, and St. Nicholas. We now wish to introduce another wonderful family custom, perhaps new to some of us. This is the custom of Blessing Bread on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, which the father of the family, immediately before dinner that day, personally distributes to each member of his family.

A day or two before the Fourth Sunday of Advent, the mother herself bakes a loaf of bread, leaving it unsliced. After it has cooled, she, together with the children, wraps the loaf in attractive paper or cloth. A Christmassy look about the wrapping would be quite appropriate. On the Fourth Sunday of Advent (this year, December 18), the bread is brought to the Church and placed on the table provided for it. The Celebrant will then bless the bread after the 10:00 Mass.

The bread is then taken home. After all are seated at the dinner table, before beginning the meal, the mother presents the loaf of bread to the father, who, following the instructions which will be attached to next week's Bulletin, places his blessing upon it. He unwraps the unsliced loaf, and **breaking** off pieces of it, personally hands a piece to each member of his family, beginning with the mother, in love and respect and gratitude, and continuing with the children, from the eldest down to the youngest. After the bread has been distributed, the father stands, and with his right hand extended, blesses his family. Wherever the circumstances permit, it is most appropriate to have understanding friends or relatives over for the ceremony and dinner. The father, in his own home and at his own table, always sits at the head of the table.

If ever good Christian order is to be restored to Christian living, it has to begin in the family, and as intended by God Himself. Just as His plan was perfectly lived out and clearly understood in the House of Nazareth, so must His plan be lived out as perfectly as possible and clearly understood within the household of each of us. Let us never allow the distorted mentality of the world to deform family living in our own homes. The husband and the wife – the father and the mother – each working together and understanding the Will of the Supreme God, will thus give physical and spiritual growth to the children God has given them, and, they will raise Christian living in their household to its highest and noblest expression, in spite of the rampant evil and Godlessness of our day.



1. There will be Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass today.
2. There will be **NO** Benediction after Vespers today, due to the fact that we have double Vespers today: Second Vespers of Benedictine All Saints, followed immediately by First Vespers of Benedictine All Souls.
3. November is the Month of the Poor Souls in Purgatory. Remember them in your prayers and good works.
4. The very beautiful 2006 Calendars are now available at the usual price of \$6.00 each. At Christ the King Abbey in Cullman, see Father Francis, OSB. At Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery, see Mrs. Pam Olson. At Saint Pius V Chapel in Birmingham, see Father Sebastian, OSB.
5. 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.
6. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 - SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
 - TUESDAY: Deceased Margaret and Anton Satori
 - WEDNESDAY: Deceased Zeke Saccarett
 - THURSDAY: Deceased Cora Segura Cousin
 - FRIDAY: Deceased Marguerite Roden
 - SATURDAY: Deceased Arthur and Mark Moser