

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

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
First Sunday
of each month only.

St Pius V Chapel
Birmingham, Alabama
9:30 AM
Second, Fourth, and Fifth
Sundays of each month only.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 5, 2010 – Green

Mass of Sunday GI; Cr; Preface Holy Trinity

Weekly Bulletin #1164

THE POWER OF PRAYER

RICHARD GRÄF, CS.Sp.

Part 40

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Many words will be needed at the beginning of our prayer, for it is then we are chiefly active. When, however, through the exercise of faith love begins to quicken, we become progressively more silent, recollected and inward. God then begins to act. He speaks, and man is silent. “Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth” (1 Kings 3, 9). The soul is now less concerned with itself than with “the things that are Jesus Christ's” (Phil. 2, 21). The Cure of Ars once asked a peasant who for hours long could kneel before the Tabernacle, never using a prayer book, what exactly he was doing. “I look at Him, he replied, and He looks at me.” Or, as a Negro child once said to a missionary who asked him what he was doing so long before the Blessed Sacrament: “I let God bathe my soul in His light.”

Language can assume countless refinements and nuances of meaning; it can sparkle with a myriad facets; it can throw back minute and subtle pulsations of soul and heart, and this perhaps not so much through the words themselves as through the accompanying echoes and undertones which a sensitive ear can detect in speech. It is the organist's artistry to touch the right stops at a given moment. Human language, too, like a mighty organ has scores of stops which can generally be touched inadvertently, as it were. We talk to a dignitary in a quite different way than to a little child, to our mother than to one who is our brother, or again to a friend than to one to whom we may not warm. We adjust ourselves quite unconsciously to circumstances. From the tone-colour and “register” in which we speak can be accurately gauged how we stand in relation to our conversation partner. From the atmosphere prevailing between two people conversing with each other we can know without more ado the degrees of intimacy with which they talk. Here, also, we can apply the phrase, “Thy speech doth discover thee” (Matt. 26, 73). It is only with strangers with whom we have had no previous contact that we speak in a factual, colourless manner.

What holds for speech with our fellow men holds, too, when we speak with God. In what manner do we address Him? Many people adopt the factual, sober way they employ when conversing with strangers. God is for them the great “Unknown God” (Acts 17, 23). Did not the Saviour himself complain to the apostles: “Have I been so long a time with you, and have you not known Me?” (John 14, 9). If our relations with God, with our Saviour, were on terms of intimacy the way we converse with them in prayer would show it. It is not possible to set down rules as regards what “register” should be adopted when praying.

From the atmosphere prevailing between speakers we can conclude to the manner, the “tone” of their talk. As soon as that atmosphere changes, immediately the tone changes also. A boy will make a request of his father in a very different tone when he brings home a good school report from the form he uses when he is the bearer of a bad one. In the latter case he will hardly venture to make the request himself; he will invite his sister or his mother to act as go-between. So in approaching God, if we are conscious of having offended him we adopt a different attitude to that we would adopt after gaining some signal victory over ourselves. In many cases we will not venture to approach Him direct but will look out for intercessors to plead our cause, asking our Lady or some saint to act for us.

Happy Labor Day

THE DISCIPLE

Lord, how often will I resign myself, and in what?

JESUS CHRIST

Always and at all times, in small things as well as in great.

I make no exceptions; I wish to find you
detached from all things. Otherwise,
how can you be Mine and I yours,
unless you be detached both inwardly and outwardly
from all self-will? The sooner you do this, so much the better it will be
with you; and the more fully and sincerely you do it, so much the better
will you please Me and gain greater merit.

From the Following of Christ

Special Notice:

Abbot Leonard, O.S.B. is making great progress at a rehab center in Birmingham. One of the monks continues to be always with him. Early this week we hope to receive a prognosis as to when he will be able to return to the monastery. We monks and the sisters are truly grateful by the overwhelming response to our request for prayers. We thank each and every one of you and are very grateful for the help that has been given us; in food, time and work. In thanksgiving to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, be assured of our special prayers to her for you and your intentions. May Almighty God bless each one of you. Please continue your prayers.

Fr. Sebastian, O.S.B., Prior

1. There will be **NO** Catechism classes after 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. **Oblates:** The monthly oblate meeting is being transferred to the third Sunday of each month beginning this month. There is **NO** oblate meeting today. The oblate meeting will take place Sunday, September 19th.
3. *Please be reminded of the new Mass Schedule for the Birmingham Chapel.*
4. Monday, September 6, 2010, is Labor Day. May everyone have a safe and happy and relaxing Labor Day!
5. Wednesday, September 8, 2010, is the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us all thank Almighty God for the most precious gift of His and our Blessed Mother!
6. 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.
7. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (6:00 AM High Altar Mass only)
 - SUNDAY: 6:00 AM : Prayer promises and benefactors
10:00 AM : For all the Faithful people of our Chapels
 - MONDAY: For Vincent McDonnell
 - TUESDAY: Dec. Valentina Peterka
 - WEDNESDAY: Poor Souls in Purgatory
 - THURSDAY: Special Int. Geraldine Venuto
 - FRIDAY: Welfare of Abbot Leonard Giardina, O.S.B.
 - SATURDAY: Dec. Chansy Hang

A Thought To Remember ...

The day has arrived where men have become so accustomed to the darkness all around them that they feel the darkness to be normal. Man has wandered far from the rock of faith and truth, building new houses on the deceitful sands of pleasure, wealth, greed, unbelief, and untruth.