



*Mr. Forney Roy, (Montgomery, Alabama) recently visited the Abbey and is chatting with Father Michael, O.S.B.*

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## SOUTHLAND HISTORY

Recently, a national publication reported the following statement on its front cover: "IN THE HEART OF DIXIE, THE LATIN MASS RISES AGAIN." We beg the indulgence of the author of those words, and ask that he permit us to present some interesting points of Southland History.

The Tridentine Mass (Latin Mass) was celebrated in Birmingham, Alabama on September 12, 1977; it was celebrated in Atlanta, Georgia on October 25, 1978; it was celebrated in Montgomery, Alabama on August 19, 1980 and it was celebrated in Cullman, Alabama at what is now Christ the King Abbey on March 1, 1981. The Tridentine Mass (Latin Mass) was celebrated in these various places by priests whose ordination to the priesthood is certainly above question. It was celebrated by priests who had, and still have, a thorough understanding of their vocation. The Tridentine Mass (Latin Mass) has been celebrated in these places on a regular schedule for the past nineteen years. In the interest of the accurate historical record, we pray that the spirit of traditionalist exclusivism not continue to spread the dark clouds of doubt and disaffection over the monumental work that has been done by the many good priests who put hands to the plow a long time ago! Francis Thompson once spoke of the amaranthine weed. He said of it: "suffering no flowers except its own to mount."

It is always wonderful to learn that the tough roots of the Tridentine Mass — the Immemorial Mass — continue to spread and spread in spite of parched, infertile and rocky ground. □