



Do you recall from the Christmas *SPECULUM*, how the monks replaced the plastic covering on the Abbey greenhouse? And do you recall how proud the monks were of the good job they had performed in the replacement of it, even after the wind had almost taken them into the clouds? Well, on January 30, 1997, we had a hail storm!!!! Now the beautiful job looks very much like it has the measles. Thank God, nothing serious, just a few pin holes.

---

It is generally estimated that our Most Holy Father Benedict died in the year 547 A.D. Therefore this year marks the 1450th anniversary of the Patriarch's death. Let us all join in prayer to St. Benedict, and ask him to obtain for us all the very special blessings of God.

---

As always, the Monastery was honored in January, when Bishop Robert McKenna, O.P. came down for the Ordination of Fraters Francis and Paul to the Sub-Diaconate.

---

The monks were certainly happy to welcome Mr. Robert De Piante and Father Kevin Vaillancourt, when they recently "popped" in for a quick visit.

---

We would be grateful if you would send us addresses of possible benefactors. Send, also, the addresses of persons who would like to receive this booklet.

---

Mailing address:  
Christ the King Abbey  
P. O. Box 1616  
Cullman, AL 35056-1616

Street address:  
Christ the King Abbey  
5060 County Road 1635  
Cullman, AL 35055-1227

Sister Monica is beginning to make vestments for the Abbey Church Sacristy. They are truly very well made, and representative of the Benedictine Touch. The monks are grateful to Sister for the many lovely things she is making.

---

Mr. Louis Glentz (Brother Anthony, O.S.B. Oblate) and Mr. Gary Petzinger (Brother Denis, O.S.B. Oblate) have certainly been a great help to Frater Francis in getting some of the "have-to-be-done" things out of the way.

---

Father Sebastian is busy with his Spring planting of day lilies. He has accumulated quite a number of varieties. He is also in the process of moving our books to the new library — quite a job! and — he is in charge of our growing mailing program. In his spare time he is the Abbey Procurator and Prior.

---

The monks have redesigned their monastic cowl (hood). The new design is more comfortable and more practical. In so doing the monks replaced the former European style, which, in the opinion of some, is the ideal model for monks to wear.

**BE ASSURED  
OF THE  
PERPETUAL PRAYERS  
OF THE MONKS OF  
CHRIST THE KING ABBEY.  
PLACE  
CHRIST THE KING ABBEY  
IN YOUR WILL.**

Please think about it.  
The Incorporated name of the  
Abbey is:  
**St. Francis of Assisi  
Roman Catholic Chapel, Inc.**  
P. O. Box 1616  
Cullman, AL 35056-1616  
(Tax Exempt)