

PEACE

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

(First given on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, 1992 A.D.)

The Abbey of Christ the King (in Alabama) has been established in order to preserve the traditional practices of the monastic life under the Holy Rule of St. Benedict and is bound to the observance of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass solely according to the form ordained by the Council of Trent. In all rites, ceremonies and usages, the Abbey shall adhere without exception to the established forms of Holy Tradition, cherishing the ancient and venerable as fitting for Divine worship, and shunning novel and strange forms as alien to Catholic Tradition and unworthy in the expression of the Catholic Faith.

The *Speculum (Benedictinum)* shall be dedicated to the task of helping create an atmosphere, amongst all Latin Rite Roman Catholic people, that is commonly referred to as the *sensus Catholicus*. The *Speculum* shall not engage itself in debate, nor shall it attempt to prove anything to anybody. It shall respectfully leave all the proving and all the debating to those who feel the necessity to prove and to debate something.

We wish only to be Catholic – we wish only to be Benedictine monks – the kind of monks that our venerable forefathers taught us to be; the kind of monks that the holy monks and nuns of yesteryear inspired us to be. By the holy grace of God, it is only for that that we are here! We cannot – INDEED WE WILL NOT – allow the disturbance of argument or debate or idle gossip and speculation to enter our lives and disrupt the atmosphere of peace and serenity that prevails in our Abbey. We wish to spend our valuable time in prayer and contemplation and hard work, and we humbly suggest that you do the same. May God bless you!

It is the hope of the Abbey of Christ the King that these few pages, to be distributed from time to time during the year, shall be a source of edification, and a cause of deeper spirituality and love of God, and the reinvigoration of traditional Benedictine monasticism.

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