



## SAINT LOUIS ABBEY



SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY -- SOLEMN SECOND VESPERS

THANKSGIVING FOR THE JUBILEES OF SAINT LOUIS ABBEY,  
SAINT LOUIS PRIORY SCHOOL, AND SAINT ANSELM PARISH

June 3, 2007

Abbot Thomas Frerking's Homily

O the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How incomprehensible are his judgments and beyond investigation his ways!  
For from him and through him and in him are all things.  
To him be glory forever. Amen.

In this last service of prayer and praise of our Jubilee years for Saint Louis Abbey, Saint Louis Priory School, and Saint Anselm Parish, we give thanks to the Lord for all the graces and blessings he has given us during the Jubilees, and during all the fifty years which led up to them. How innumerable and how incomprehensible these graces and blessings are. We can only point toward the communities which are their context, only intimate, in the words of revelation, their deepest meaning.

From a monastery of three on the day of its foundation, he has brought us to be an abbey of thirty, among whose younger members are those who will surely see the celebrations of its one hundredth anniversary. From a little group of teachers and boys in four temporarily partitioned rooms in a barn he has brought the school to be a nationally recognized institution which numbers among its alumni men of leadership and service in all the vocations of Christian life. From its beginnings as a handful of worshippers in a little chapel in the old monastery building, he has brought the parish to be the spiritual home of a thousand families, among whom are many of the lay leaders of the Church of Saint Louis, in whom are so many marked by an intense Eucharistic devotion and a dedicated service of the poor, from whom have come some twelve vocations to the Church in the past few years.

Yet these institutions, I say, are only the context of the lives of the now tens of thousands of human beings who have made them up over these fifty years, and to whom the Lord's blessings have been given and in whose souls his graces have been worked. Before the images in our minds and hearts of all these men and women, of all these children of God, our inner and our outer voice fall silent. Who in this life can comprehend the immense tapestry of their lives and journeys? Who can search out the meaning of their joys and sorrows, their hopes and fears, their sufferings and exultations, the secret whisperings of Almighty God in their hearts, and their turning to him? "O the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How incomprehensible are his judgments and beyond investigation his ways!"

Yet this we know, that on the Last Day, when all is revealed, there shall have been worked out in these lives, in response to the call of the Lord, at the intercession of Saint Louis, of Saint Anselm, for all of Saint Benedict, and for all of their mother Saint



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Mary, Mother and Mediatrix of Grace -- there shall have been worked out in these lives, in these children of God, according to the predestination of the Lord and the measure of the gift of his grace, the pattern of Christian holiness. This too we know, that on that Day, we shall see that holiness to be nothing less than this: each one of them, with whose lives our lives were intertwined here, each one of them, and each of us, now definitively caught up, each in a unique way, into the Mystery of the Most Holy Trinity, into the triune life of God, into communion with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and through them, with one another, that communion which is glory, and eternal life, and boundless joy forever:

Laus tibi Domine! Praise to you, O Lord!

What else have I in heaven but you?  
Apart from you I want nothing on earth.  
My body and my heart faint for joy;  
God is my possession forever.

For: From him, and through him, and in him are all things.  
To him be glory forever.