



SAINT LOUIS ABBEY



Father Michael Brunner, O.S.B. – Homily for the Last School Mass of 2010

What will this child turn out to be ?

A very good question, one which was probably asked about us at our birth, and about every other human being who was ever born.

What will this child turn out to be ?

Even Mary wondered about her child, pondering the contradictions of the angels lofty messages, the royal gifts of the magi with her humble reality, wedded to a lowly carpenter, giving birth in a stable.

And the adult John the Baptist wondered too, asking Jesus

Are you he who is to come or should we look for someone else ?

What will this child turn out to be ?

We can ask this about ourselves.

Will we turn out to be someone like....

the born Pharisee and Roman citizen Saul who persecuted Christ, who became the apostle Paul and was martyred in a Roman persecution; or the Apostle Judas, one of the 12 who shared every day and every experience of Jesus for his whole public life, yet who betrayed him to his death, and who despaired and killed himself; or the great theologian Tertullian, a loose living pagan who reviled the church, but who converted and brilliantly defended the church in his writings, yet who then turned to heresy and wrote against the church ?

What will this child turn out to be ?

Today we are here in this church worshiping God,

but where will we be a year from now, 5 years or 10 or 20 ?

We may have gone on to our eternal reward, or we may have allowed our faith to grow cold and rigid, or we may have lost it all together.

The future God wills for us is to share in the divinity of Christ and his offices of king, priest and prophet, but our own wills may get in the way of God's.



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We know what and who Jesus and John turned out to be.

What will we turn out to be ?

Trust in God and perseverance will make us turn out OK, make us turn out like Jesus Christ, and will make us turn out again worshiping God, next year, 5 years from now, 10 or even 20.

Let us always pray for the perseverance to keep our faith warm.