

(James 1, 23 ). Hence it is that the very best sermons are almost profitless when they are merely listened to and not pondered over.

In order to work upon the word of God a little quiet and calm is necessary; but frequently this is not given the faithful... Where will you find to-day in the home a person who tries to have a little quiet about him or within his own heart so as to meditate on the word of God and pray about it? Alas, "No man layeth it to heart" (Is. 57, 1). Nowadays we can scarcely put up with silence or solitude; and, as an unbelieving doctor once said, as soon as a man finds a little quiet, someone turns on the radio so that there will be at least some noise going on. We have forgotten the art of silence and recollection.

Even were we to find in the church the necessary atmosphere of calm, or could create it for ourselves in the home, we would be little served. We lack in great part the necessary means to assimilate the word of God, namely interior prayer. He who has no digestive organs cannot assimilate or get value from food even of the best quality. He who does not meditate derives little profit from even the best sermons. **Only when we manage to pray inwardly may we hope for success from preaching. The listener must become a man of prayer again. The preacher must awaken in the listener the basic condition of a successful hearing of the word, inner prayer. Only he who knows how to pray understands how to recollect himself, how to assimilate what he has heard and make it his own.**

1. There will be Catechism classes after 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. Thursday, August 20, 2009 is the Feast of the very great St. Bernard. As we all know, St. Bernard was one of the greatest monastics since the beginning of our understanding of monasticism, and became one of the strongest pillars upon which the monasticism of St. Benedict has come to rest. He was a monk, and a true monk, one without equal; yet he was constrained, every day of his monastic life, to ask himself a simple but penetrating question: "**BERNARD, WHY DID YOU COME HERE?**" St. Bernard loved God with all of his heart and mind and soul. St. Bernard's spirituality was kind, stern, strict, tough, strictly honest and to the point, and very solid. With unflinching uprightness, he held on to that love he had for God and because of that love, he withstood the fiercest attacks and deceitful schemes of the devil. He feared no man! The truthfulness of the untarnished love he had for God stood tall before everybody who looked at him. He never excused himself for his failings or weaknesses, and was always true to his calling as a monk. He never, EVER, had to walk in the shadows of life because of dishonesty or untruthfulness. He loved God, and the work of God, and went about doing that work. His name ranks high among the names of men. The strength of his work was strong enough to reconstruct the face of the Europe of his day. Let us pray strongly to this man, and ask him to help us all, especially in our effort to keep the beautiful, *though flickering light*, of our monastic endeavor from going out of existence, in these our tragic days.
3. Thursday, August 20, 2009, is the Name day of our Father Bernard, OSB. Please ask the great St. Bernard to stand with Father Bernard in a very special way.
4. Saturday August 22, 2009 is the most consoling and soul-confronting Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, your prayers cannot be to strong the occasion of that Feast. In the end, Her Immaculate Heart shall triumph, but we must fulfill Her requests of prayer, penance and mortification.
5. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels.
6. **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
  - SUNDAY: For the People of our Chapels
  - MONDAY: Special Int. Catherine Maddux
  - TUESDAY: Dec. Howard Kelley
  - WEDNESDAY: For Robert Dumbacher
  - THURSDAY: For Father Bernard, OSB (*Name day*)
  - FRIDAY: Dec. Isaac Soileau
  - SATURDAY: For Sandra, Aleste Consbruck and Mary Stumpf

### A Thought To Remember...

There is something quite sacred about the quality of trustworthiness!

#### What is trust?

To begin with, TRUST has to be constructed on impeccable honesty! Trust is asked for by God, Himself, and He places profound emphasis on this request. Any RELATIONSHIP, that of one with another, is based on the quality of and honest trust that the one has for the other. Especially, since Trust is called for by God, Himself, trust is always estimated on scales of the most sensitive and delicate balance!