

Prayer is a speaking with a personal, living friend. Not therefore with some lifeless impersonal thing, some hazy undefined object. It is specially important to stress that the intimate friend in this case is present to us; He does not dwell in regions far removed and inaccessible; nor do we need to seek without to find him; He is within our very selves. "Too late have I loved Thee, O Thou Beauty of ancient days, yet ever new! Too late have I loved Thee! And behold Thou wert within me, and I abroad, and there I searched for Thee" (St Augustine, *Confessions* x, 27). We do not stand alone; we live in God, and He in us (John 15, 4). "In all your difficulties and troubles are there not two of us to bear them?" The Lord Himself will watch over us (Gen. 28, 15). He who tries to serve God faithfully can apply to himself that gospel text: "Thou art always with me, and all I have is thine" (Luke 15, 31).

To pray is to stand in conscious relationship with the intimate friend we are addressing. As long as this consciousness is alive we are praying. In prayer there is always involved a going out of self and an entering into contact with the person in question. Whereas if we remain within the closed circle of our own ego, instead of reaching outwards away from self, there can be no polarity, no mutual relationship between us and the person; hence no question of prayer, for a monologue is not prayer. □

1. The Annual Abbey Church picnic is being held TODAY. May God bless you, and have a lovely time.
2. Remain mindful that May is the month for DAILY ROSARY: both in the home as HERE in the Monastery. Rosary begins daily at 7:20 P.M. in the Abbey Church.
3. Please pray for our Sick and Shut-Inns. Let us pray for everyone.
4. N.B.: There will be no Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Montgomery on June 6 (First Sunday). There will be Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes in Montgomery on June 13 (Second Sunday). The Chapel Picnic will take place after Mass, June 13, (Second Sunday). There will be no Mass at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham on June 6, nor on June 13, we return to our regular schedule of Mass at St. Pius V Chapel on Sunday June 20.
5. Corpus Christi Assignments (Consult the Abbot if you cannot be available for that day.)

Celebrant:	Father Prior Sebastian OSB
Master of Ceremonies for Mass:	Father Michael OSB
Master of Ceremonies for Procession:	Father Bernard OSB & Father Michael OSB
Acolytes for the Mass:	Mr. Ronald Roberts & Mr. Danny Henderson
Censor Bearers:	Brother Louis OSB & Frater Dominic OSB
Eucharistic Standard Bearer	Mr. Danny Henderson
Torch Bearers:	Mr. Bernard Morin and Mr. Isaac Olsen
Cross Bearer	Mr. Ronald Roberts
Baldachin Bearers	Mr. Thomas Girardi, Mr. Sam Liburdi Mr. Danny Meilleur, Mr. Irwin LeBlanc
Flowers	Master John Patterson and Miss Nancy Patterson

6. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)
 

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels	FRIDAY:	Rev Mother Marie de Montfort CMSS
MONDAY:	Dec. Valentina Peterka	SATURDAY:	For the Poor Souls
TUESDAY:	For Father Martin Stepanich OFM (69 <sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary)		God Bless you,
WEDNESDAY:	Dec. Mary Rademacher		dear Father Martin
THURSDAY:	Special Int. of the Donor		

### *A Thought To Remember ...*

#### JUST WHAT IS THE PREEMINENT PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL READING?

Certainly not to satisfy one's vain spiritual curiosity! Certainly not to accumulate spiritual trivia and religious information! Certainly not to authenticate our spiritual sophistication! Unless there is real honesty of mind and heart, spiritual reading is no satisfactory way to apply any degree of effective discipline to the polluted and barren use of anyone's private leisure time!

Spiritual Reading applies FORCE on us -- A PRESSING FORCE -- a force strong enough to bring about courageous and pious change in the spiritual dimension of our souls. If Spiritual Reading fails to bring about an abiding desire for a determined effort to improve the spiritual structure of our religious way of living; if spiritual reading fails to beget a noticeable reformation of our mental attitude concerning the things that pertain to the activity of grace in our souls; if spiritual reading fails to bring us closer to sanctity;

**It would be better for us never to Spiritual read at all!!!**