

use the gift in order to appear distinguished. Also at such times we deem ourselves worthy of esteem and honor (above others) because of the particular gift we have been given.

There is little doubt that pride - excessive self-love and/or excessive desire for the esteem of others - is most difficult to conquer because of its subtlety. We may think we have conquered pride and to have driven it from our soul, but pride is so devious that when we oust it in one direction, we may become proud in another way. WE CAN EVEN BECOME PROUD OF OUR OWN HUMILITY. We can become proud of the virtues that are in us, thereby destroying any merit that would otherwise be ours. Self-derogation (self-detraction, self-belittlement) is most often motivated by an arrogant and burning pride. There can be no other way around the conquering of pride than to be convinced interiorly in our heart of hearts that of ourselves we are **nothing**; that of ourselves we can do **nothing**; that of ourselves we can know **nothing**; that of ourselves we are worth **NOTHING**. Therefore our efforts must be directed - always and always - to the imitation of the humility of Christ, of our Blessed Mother, and of St. Joseph - again focusing our attention on the ever-important HOUSE OF NAZARETH. If we really and truly wish to be humble, we must go to Nazareth. Nazareth is the only place on this earth where we will find the humility that our loving Father in Heaven is looking for.

An interesting (and enlightening) test might indicate to us the level of pride within us:

- (1) Am I easily offended when I feel slighted?
- (2) Are my feelings ruffled when criticism or suggestion is placed upon my work?
- (3) Am I envious of those who enjoy greater praise than I do?
- (4) Am I jealous of those who have greater talents, ability, or expertise than I have?
- (5) Is my joy and happiness genuine when others are successful in their works?
- (6) Is my praise and congratulation of others in their successes sincere and genuine?
- (7) Am I happily willing to play the proverbial "second fiddle" to anyone?
- (8) Do I pout when I hear something uncomplimentary said about my work or myself?
- (9) Do I have an exaltation of feeling when I notice that my neighbor's work is not successful?
- (10) Do I make light of my mistakes and blunders by turning them into matters of jocularity?
- (11) How persistent am I in defending my own personal thoughts and views and opinions?
- (12) Do I "explode" and/or defend and excuse myself when I am corrected?

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1. All Souls' Day envelopes are available. Please pick one up and return it before November 1, 2002. Never neglect the poor, suffering souls in Purgatory, who have only us to help them, as they cannot help themselves. Remember them and they will always remember us in our needs and difficulties, especially at the moment of death.
  2. Today is the Feast of OUR LADY OF FATIMA. Need it be said that our prayer to the Blessed Mother on this particular day should be totally serious and recollected. Things being as they are today, our devotion to Our Lady of Fatima is critical.
  3. Friday is the Feast of St. Luke, the Evangelist.
  4. It is October and time to rejuvenate our Monastic Home Chapels. Anyone who does not yet have one or our small Monastic Home Altars, or who needs another one, please pick one of in the vestibule of the Abbey Church, or ask for one. These should be finished and decorated as a Family project. Especially in these days are our little home chapels important, as places of closer devotion to our Father in Heaven, Who alone can help us.
  5. There will be Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
  6. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Manny Gomez and Miriam Roy. Pray, also, for all the sick and needy, the suffering and hungry, the oppressed of the world. Pray for all the children of the world. Pray earnestly for all Priests! Pray for sinners! Pray for all who have called upon us for prayer and help.
  7. MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY:	For the people of our Chapels
MONDAY:	Special intention Gerald Lutz
TUESDAY:	Deceased Ray Dugas
WEDNESDAY:	Special intention Gail Gergel
THURSDAY:	Deceased James Di Colo
FRIDAY:	Deceased Sister Margie Navano
SATURDAY:	Deceased Iolanda Censale