

# Humility

We gather with humble and discerning hearts,

People who share in God's mission.

People who rejoice in the giftedness of others.

Humility is nothing but truth, and pride is nothing but lying.

*Saint Vincent de Paul.*

Humility is Benedict's word for wisdom. Benedictine humility accepts the reality of the day-to-day world - nature, events, other people - and our true place within it. This practical realism demands honesty and accountability of everyone in a Benedictine house.

Each one seeks to acknowledge his or her faults and weaknesses. Each strives to recognise their own gifts and the gifts of others with gratitude, seeking to contribute as much as possible to the good of the whole and accepting the care of others.

From: *Education Within the Benedictine Wisdom Tradition*.

Any requests should be made with all humility and respectful submission

RB 6:7

We are all gifted.  
How do I recognise and rejoice in the giftedness of others?

Loving God, give us the humility which realises its ignorance, admits its mistakes, recognises its need, welcomes advice, accepts rebuke.

Help us always to praise rather than to criticise, to sympathise rather than to discourage, to build rather than to destroy, and to think of people at their best rather than at their worst.

This we ask in your name. Amen.

*William Barclay*