

Two men went up to the Temple to pray

*One was a Pharisee - "O God, I give Thee thanks
that I am not as the rest of men!"*

*The other was a Publican - "Oh God, be merciful to
me, a sinner!"*

It is the mission of the Church of Jesus Christ - the purpose of the Religion of Jesus Christ - to make SAINTS of all her children. It is for this reason that, guided by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, our holy Catholic Religion places before us, in a very orderly fashion, the lessons of Holy Scripture. Our holy Catholic Religion is always placing before us, for our instruction, the various episodes parabolized by Christ. The parable of the Pharisee and the publican is one, and it is surely one of the very strongest in all of Sacred Scripture. This parable is the very stone out of which the foundation of spirituality is constructed; it lays before us the kind of attitude that is essential in anyone who wishes to become a saint. The lesson found in this parable is clear. It is full of force. It is pointed, direct, and completely simple.

However, it is clear, pointed, and simple only to those who are willing to be moved by the force of the inspiration this parable contains. Only those who seriously WANT to understand it - who seriously WANT to do what God expects of His sainted children, will understand it. Those who superficially desire to become saints of God will see only the beauty of the story and miss the message altogether. If our prayer is defective, the results that come from its use will also be defective. If our prayer is merely an external exhibition - of sorts - the results that come from its use will be wanting - if answered at all. Prayer, if it is to reach the ear of God, must

THE COVER

BROTHER CROW - The crow (or raven) has, from the very beginning, been associated with Benedictines. Legend has it that a crow brought bread every day to St. Benedict while he lived as a hermit in a cave. And later, it was a crow that removed the poisoned bread meant to end St. Benedict's life. Times have changed, and now the Benedictines feed the crows. After many attempts crows have been brought to within a few feet of the Monks who feed them, and when food is missing, Brother Crow lets the whole world know about it, usually from his favorite perch on the head of little St. Magdalene. The crow's intelligence has allowed it to survive the onslaughts of man.