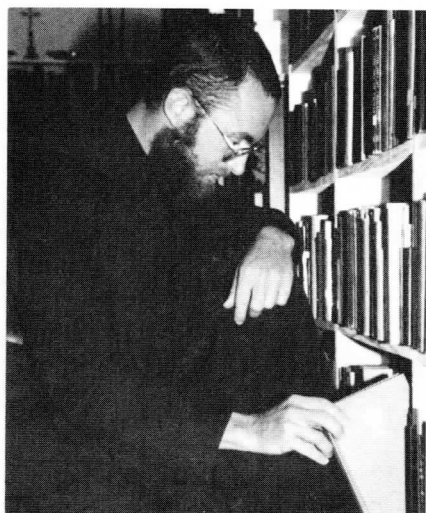


Frater Michael, O.S.B. at the stove.

The task of the priest is to spiritualize the world. He raises his consecrated hands and the Grace of Christ's resurrection goes out from him to enlighten the souls of the elect and of them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. Through his blessing material creation is raised up and sanctified and dedicated to the Glory of God. The priest prepares the coming of Christ by shedding upon the whole world the invisible light that enlightens every man that comes into the world. Through the priest, the glory of Christ seeps out into creation until all things are saturated in prayer, and the wine turned Blood is the only substance on this entire globe that can cleanse man of his imperfections and gloom.



Frater Francis, O.S.B. reading library shelves.

a withdrawal from or a separation from. True solitude is a participation in the solitariness of God — Who is in all things. The solitude of God is His Being! For us solitude means withdrawal from an artificial and fictional level of being which men, divided by original sin, have fabricated (and today promoted by the widespread use of the television and the computer) in order to keep peace and harmony with concupiscence, ambition, greed, and death. But solitude and society are formed and perfected in the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The priest has the whole church on his conscience and he not only gives up his own will in order to possess the virtue of obedience, he gives up his own will in order to become an instrument for the salvation of the world and for the pure Glory of God.

Enter into his gates
with thanksgiving,
and into his courts
with praise: be thankful
unto him and bless his
name.