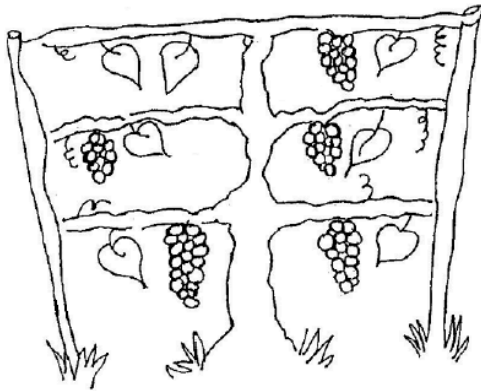


Virtues Booklet

White Cover (8 ½ x 5 ½) Cover page plus 4 page booklet. Titled: **The Virtues** (in red)

The Virtues

The Cardinal Virtues



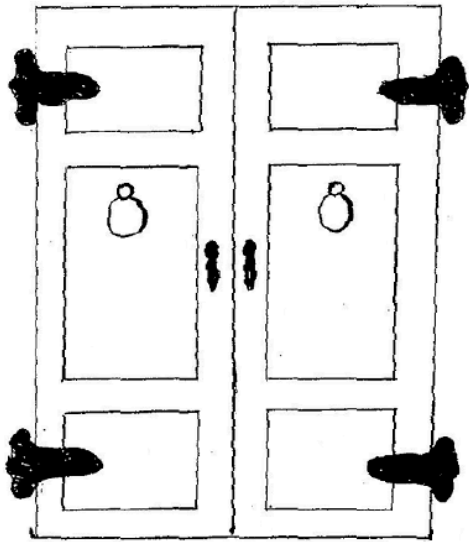
drawing of vine on back of
cover page

1

Here we see the True Vine. We know that in the gospel Jesus says he is the True Vine, we are the branches, and the "Father" is the vine grower.

This parable makes us "see" that we are united to the Risen Jesus, who is the source of our life and the life of all the branches.

In the branches we can "see" many persons: relatives, friends, classmates, those who are responsible for us, those for whom we are responsible, and our peers.



A whole network of relationships is created with these people. Since a very long time ago philosophers have taught that we should be guided in our behavior by the cardinal virtues in order for these relationships to be good ones.

“Virtue” means strength or love in action. “Cardinal” means that these virtues are necessary for daily life. In Italian the word “cardinal” comes from the root word “cardini,” which means “hinges,” like the hinges of a door. Just as the hinges enable the door to function as a door, the virtues enable the person to live life to the full as a human being.

The cardinal virtues are:

- prudence
- justice
- fortitude
- temperance

The first three of these virtues push us to do the right thing. The fourth one holds us back, preventing us from doing the wrong thing.

The virtues are acquired by practicing them day after day with God’s help and for the love of every creature.