### Meeting 10 July

Farrell, Walter and Martin Healy, OP. *My Way of Life: the Summa Simplified for Everyone.* New York: Confraternity of the Precious Blood, 1952. Part IIa. Ch 1-6, pp. 155-233

"Meditation on the Gospel of Beatitudes" by Msgr. Charles Pope <a href="http://blog.adw.org/2011/01/description-more-than-presecription-a-meditation-on-the-gospel-of-the-beatitudes-from-the-4th-sunday-of-the-year/">http://blog.adw.org/2011/01/description-more-than-presecription-a-meditation-on-the-gospel-of-the-beatitudes-from-the-4th-sunday-of-the-year/</a>

Saint: <a href="http://www.nashvilledominican.org/community/our-dominican-heritage/our-saints-and-blesseds/bl-margaret-castello/">http://www.nashvilledominican.org/community/our-dominican-heritage/our-saints-and-blesseds/bl-margaret-castello/</a>

### Guided Reading Questions for My Way of Life

(Background: This section on happiness and the passions follows Aristotelian thought which St. Thomas Aquinas built upon in his tract on the virtues in the <u>Summa Theologiae</u>. It will be useful for the reader to understand that the authors of <u>My Way of Life</u> are summarizing several articles of the <u>Summa</u> in a single paragraph. The readings for Meetings 10 and 11 were selected as preparation for later studies on the theological and moral virtues, and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Man is a substantial union of body and soul. The powers of the rational soul (according to Thomas) are intellect and will. These two powers make us most like God. The body is necessary to man in his search for God).

#### Ch 1. The Nature of Happiness

1. How does Thomas define happiness? (p. 156)

2. Describe the "universal good" in your own words. (p 158)

3.	Why is the vision of God beyond man's natural capacities? (p.158)
4.	What does the intellect seek in attaining happiness? (p. 158-169)
5.	Describe the role of the will in attaining happiness. (p. 161)
6.	Thomas asserts that perfect happiness can only be attained in eternity. Why? (p. 158-159)
Chapter II. Human Acts: Steps to Happiness (This section describes the interaction of the intellect and will in choosing the means for attaining some goal.)	
7.	The bird may 'select' this tree or that tree in which to build its nest, but it will never choose NOT to build its nest. Discuss how a truly human act differs from the acts of animals. (p. 165)

8.	List the "really dangerous enemies" to man's freedom. (p. 167)
9.	If the will always seeks what is good, how is it possible for one to choose something harmful to himself or herself? Is there any sense in which the will is not free? (pp. 171-172)
10.	Where does man especially exercise freedomin his selection of the end (goal) or in the selection of the means to the end? Discuss. (pp. 172-173)
11.	The command to perform an action proceeds from both the intellect and will. What does each power contribute? (p. 173)
12.	Review together the four important points in considering the morality of the human act. (p. 170)

13. Describe the difference between the concupiscible and the irascible passions (p. pp. 193-194)
14. Why is it important to recognize that love is the source of all the other passions? (pp. 194)
15. How does the love of friendship differ from selfish love? Is selfish love always bad? (pp. 197)
16. List the qualities of love. (pp. 199-200)
17. How is Little Margaret of Castello imbued with the gifts of the Beatitudes as described by Msgr. Charles Pope?