**The Virtue of Justice**

1. Definition
   1. Supernatural habit which inclines the will constantly and perpetually to render to each one what is due in the strict sense
      1. it perfects the will
      2. it always involves reference to another, strict obligation, and exact adequation
      3. it prepares the way for peace, the tranquility of order
2. Parts of Justice
   1. refraining from doing evil to one’s neighbor
   2. doing the required good to one’s neighbor
   3. religion – cult due to God
   4. piety – duties towards one’s parents
   5. observance, dulia, obedience – obligations towards a superior
   6. gratitude – benefits received
   7. vindication – just punishment
   8. truth, affability, liberality – with social relations
   9. equity – ability to depart from the letter of the law in order to preserve the law’s spirit
3. Means of Progressing in Justice
   1. Negative Means
      1. avoid all injustices, however slight
      2. avoid unnecessary debts and pay existing debts promptly
      3. treat another’s possessions as one’s own
      4. protect and defend the good name of others
      5. avoid any kind of preference of persons or human respect
   2. Positive Means
      1. rendering our neighbor his due – commutative justice
      2. judge in favor of society or organization, etc. as a whole in making decisions
      3. be solicitous to fulfill one’s obligations to the law of society
4. Am I a just person? In what ways have I been unjust? Have I stolen and justified it? Did I make restitution? Have I detracted? Gossiped? How do my actions affect others? Am I giving each one his or her due? Do I overemphasize “my rights” to the detriment of “my duties” and observing the rights of others? What needs to be “made right” in my life?