

**OUR GREATEST “ENEMY”**

**Have you ever heard the saying “Think before you speak?” Unfortunately, most of us have great difficulty in following this wise advice. How often do we find ourselves regretting the harmful and, soometimes, hateful things we say to one another. If only we could control our tongue!**

**If we read the Letter of St. James in the New Testament, we see that the tongue has long been mankind’s greatest “enemy.” Listen to the words of this saintly Aposle concerning this: THE TONGUE IS A SMALL PART OF THE BODY, BUT IT MAKES GREAT BOASTS. CONSIDER HOW A GREAT FOREST IS SET ON FIRE BY A SMALL SPARK. THE TONGUE IS ALSO A FIRE - A WORLD OF EVIL AMONG THE PARTS OF THE BODY. WITH THE TONGUE WE PARISE OUR LORD AND FATHER, AND WITH IT WE CURSE MEN, WHO HAVE BEEN MADE IN GOD’S LIKENESS. OUT OF THE SAME MOUTH COMES PRAISE AND CURSING. MY BROTHERS, THIS SHOULD NOT BE (James 3:5-10)**

**It should be frightening for us to realize that one day we will be asked to account for every unkind word we have ever uttered. Rest assured, many of us will undoubtedly rendered speechless on the day of judgement.**

**Yes, “taming our tongue” should be a priority for all of us. If we can control what we say, we will, likewise, be able to control what we do. When the Apostle Peter was emphatically denying Christ, he was told: “YOUR SPEECH BETRAYS YOU.” Remember that the words we say reveal to the world exactly who we are.**