



# Pastor's Message

June 14, 2020

In Greek Mythology, there was a character named Narcissus. According to *Wikipedia*, “Narcissus was proud, in that he disdained those who loved him and had a fixation on his own physical appearance.” This Greek mythological character was all about an uninterrupted self-admiration.

From the character of Narcissus, comes the term “narcissism.” Essentially, a narcissistic person looks solely at oneself, but does not look at you. Why? Because you are not of any significant concern, except for one reason. The only reason is a twisted interest in the other person, based on what he/she can do for him/her.

Maybe one of the most sinful patterns of life for anyone claiming to be a Christian is being a habitual narcissist. Being so in love with thy self, with little or no true concern for anyone else, is very much unlike Christ.

But, we should not pray only for anyone you may know who is afflicted with such extreme egotistical behavior preventing him/her from living his/her faith as a Christian. In addition, we should pray and support the person living with a narcissist. Daily, he/she is victimized by the disordered individual. Residing with or trying to befriend a person who is so self-absorbed, is surely a painful experience for the victim.

In The First Book of Samuel, Chapter 25, there is a story about a narcissist. His name is Nabal. He refused to offer hospitality to King David and his men because he cannot see past his own self-importance, even when his life is on the line. And, part of the story is about someone who is victimized by his behavior- the wife, Abigail. I will leave you to read their story. It has a tragic conclusion for him; for her, it ended better.

May the Lord keep us humble, not absorbed in extreme self-importance. For we know who is the One to whom we should turn for what we need and thank for all we have. Also, we should remember, it's in the image of God we have been created. Not, in an image of perfection and flawlessness maybe lingering in our thoughts.

Peace,  
Fr. Marc