

## *Fire vs. Light*

Fire is the source;  
light is emanation.  
Fire is conflagration;  
light is illumination.

Light dazzles the intellect,  
and delights in  
knowledge;  
fire consumes the will,  
and ravishes by  
love.

Light follows teaching,  
and seeks understanding;  
fire favors fervor,  
and savors ardor.

Light is the  
brightness of the day  
and heads for clarity;  
fire is the  
darkness of the night,  
for it immerses in mystery.

Light delights in  
explanation and research;  
fire delves into  
prayer and longing.

Light points out  
the path;  
fire fuels  
the pursuit.

Since, therefore,  
St. Bonaventure  
reminds us that  
our spiritual journey  
is not merely  
*towards* God,  
but radically  
*into* God,  
we should be guided  
by the light,  
but the goal is  
consummation  
in His fire.

© *Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*  
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[Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com)  
[www.fatherwaltersparish.org](http://www.fatherwaltersparish.org)