

EPIGRAPH

“It is necessary that the Brothers take for the foundation and support of their observance of the Rule what Saint Augustine says at the beginning of his Rule: that those who live in community should, before all else, love God and next their neighbour because these are the principal commandments given to us by God and because any observance of the Rule is useless if separated from the observance of these two commandments and is quite useless for salvation because it is established in communities only for the purpose of giving the members facility to observe with exactness the commandments of God.”

(From Chapter XVI, “De la Régularité”;
Règles communes, 1718)