Charity

Is the virtue of Charity important? Is it preferable to all other gifts and virtues? Listen to these inspired passages from the classic chapter on Charity (I Cor. XIII) written by the great St. Paul:

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not Charity, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.

And if I should have prophecy and should know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I should have all faith so that I could remove mountains, and have not Charity, I am nothing.

And if I should distribute all my goods to feed the poor, and if I should deliver my body to be burned, and have not Charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Charity is patient, is kind; Charity envieth not, dealeth not perversely, is not puffed up.

Is not ambitious, seeketh not her own, is not provoked to anger.

Thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceith with the truth;

Bearoth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Charity never falleth away whether prophesies be made void or tongues shall cease or knowledge shall be destroyed.

And now there remain Faith, Hope, and Charity, these three; but the greatest of these is Charity.