

Religious Bulletin.

June 6, 1924.

First Friday.

The month of June is consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the symbol of His Humanity, of His sufferings, of His mercy, his overpowering love for sinners. The First Friday of each month is dedicated to the Sacred Heart as an act of universal reparation for sin.

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Where do sinners come from? Who are they? Sinners are just the dumb people of the world -- plain dumb. Sinners are the people who prefer the kick and headache in a pint of liquor to the pleasures that "eye hath not seen nor ear heard." Sinners are the people who prefer sixty minutes in bed on Sunday morning to eternal rest. Sinners are the people who prefer the stinking kiss of a harlot to the embrace of their Crucified Master, whose welcome is, "Come, ye blessed of my father."

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Poor fools that we are, God only knows how foolish! Fools and children we are, committed to His care. But even a fool can be wise if he repents of his folly. No one can deny that the prodigal son was a fool, but he showed sense when he came back to his father and asked for the meanest job on the farm. Perhaps he did some more foolish things before he closed his mortal career -- they are not chronicled, but in ourselves we know human nature -- but it is certain that for the time being he showed sense.

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It is good sense, and justice, and prudence, and charity, and manliness, and truthfulness, and nobleness, for us to be Catholics for today: to get down on our knees and tell God and His priest that we have been fools, big fools; to come to His banquet today in humility and love, decked out in our wedding garment of His grace; to go back to Him again and again during the day while He remains exposed on the altar to assure Him that we want to learn wisdom from Him.

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The only hope for a fool lies in the realization that he is a fool. We can get that realization at the foot of the altar.

First Friday Adoration.

Don't worry now about your exams. The time for worry is past. Collect your thoughts. Pray. Visit the Blessed Sacrament. This is your last chance for exposition before next October; and if you are going back to the farm, perhaps, it's the last chance forever. Say goodbye to Notre Dame in the church -- but don't say goodbye to God!

News Notes.

Columbia University has asked the alumni to make this year's commencement dry. Columbia stands preeminent among American universities for Godless education, but even the Godless know the wisdom of common decency.