

A Plea for Your Prayers.

Wm. V. Lawler reports a case that merits the charity of your prayers. A cousin of his, a little girl of fourteen, has been paralyzed now for a year and a half as a result of an automobile accident. She was thought to be dead when she was first taken to the hospital, but signs of life appeared, and with the help of oxygen she was revived; oxygen was used then for many weeks. Since that time there has been a gradual improvement that makes her parents feel that she may eventually, with the aid of prayer, entirely recover.

The case recalls that of Van Wallace, which should be recapitulated at this time for the benefit of the freshmen. Van was here as a freshman member of the present senior class. During the summer vacation, on July 4, he broke his neck in an attempt to dive in two feet of water. Prayer alone saved him. For some fifteen months the doctors offered him no hope of even living. He fooled them. For a long time the paralysis affected his whole body from the neck down. Gradually life has returned to his arms and chest; faint flickers seem to promise that his legs and fingers will some time be restored to him. -- When students were more generous with their prayers his improvement came more rapidly. He typewrites now, a great deal, using pegs attached to his lifeless fingers. He has never been anything but cheerful through his endless ordeal, and he has confidence that the students here will see him through. Pray.

Jos. Shanley and Carl Weigand are both seriously ill in St. Joseph's Hospital, and both need your prayers. When you take a vacation from God, He reminds you in one way or another that you need to pray and to receive Holy Communion. A year ago the terrible shock of death was the reminder. We don't want to have to go through that again. Pray.

Tom Cavanaugh, of Chicago, a brilliant alumnus and very popular fellow, died two days ago. You owe him a place in your prayers.

The Sinner.

Why does God love sinners? It seems, humanly speaking, strange that He should, since the malice of sin consists in that the sinner, knowing that God is his last end, deliberately turns away from God for the sake of some created thing that seems to him preferable to God. We know that God hates sin, and that He loves sinners. Why?

Can a father forget his son? "As a father hath compassion on his children, so hath the Lord compassion on them that fear Him." Ps. 102, 13. "The number of the days of man are at the most a hundred years: as a drop of water of the sea they are esteemed; and as a pebble of the sand, so are a few years compared to eternity. Therefore God is patient in them and poureth forth His mercy upon them." Eclus. 18, 7-8.

Can God forget what the sinner has cost Him? "God so loved the world as to give His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him may not perish, but may have everlasting life." John, 3, 16. "I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore have I drawn thee, taking pity on thee." Jer. 31, 3.

Christ was impatient and harsh only with the hypocrites who denied the manifest works of God. "You have wearied the Lord with your words, and you said: Wherein have we wearied Him? In that you say: Everyone that doeth evil, in the sight of the Lord, and such please Him: or surely where is the God of judgment?" Mal. 2, 17. "Woe to you Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you make clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but within you are filled with rapine and uncleanness." Matt. 23, 25.

If God loves sinners, why should not we? We have a duty to pray for them, to do all in our power to bring them back to God. "God willeth not the death of a sinner."