

He Always Gave Sinners A Break

If you are free at eight o'clock this morning drop into the church for Father Scheier's funeral. You may not have known him, you may never have seen him, but that makes no difference. You, the students of today, should be in the church to pray for the soul of the priest who did most for the students of a non-distant yesterday. Father Scheier was Prefect of Religion here for a good many years, was pastor of the church until about four years ago, and was a professor of the University for long enough to have taught most of the priests here now.

Father Scheier always gave sinners a break. He probably heard more confessions during his lifetime than any other priest at Notre Dame, and he was never too tired or too busy to hear more. In the old days when the First Friday Communion was the limit of the Eucharistic devotion of most of the students, the line at Fr. Scheier's confessional on Thursday evening reached half-way down the Church. He always made infinite allowance for human frailty and good will, and he took a lot of penances on himself. His "Three Hail Marys" penance was spoken of from coast to coast wherever Notre Dame men foregathered.

He heard confessions at St. Mary's and at the various community houses at Notre Dame, and for years he heard all the confessions of his own parish. When daily Communion came into its own, he heard nightly in the basement chapel for the convenience of the students. He brought many a man out of the depths of sin and gave him the start of a good life; he set many another on the high road of virtue and guided his steps to greater perfection. He could always be found for confessions; and when a call came he dropped everything else for his priestly work.

He was also a Latin scholar of no mean ability. He published a distinguished treatise on the Roman pronunciation of Latin, and it is said that he left many manuscripts which humility prevented him from publishing during his lifetime. And it was a delight to hear him say Mass. His enunciation was clear, and full of meaning, and those who knew Latin could follow the Mass perfectly without a Kissal if they were close enough to hear his words.

His favorite feast, Our Lady of Loreto, comes tomorrow. Twice since his first stroke, a few years ago, he was cured through her intercession sufficiently to be able to say Mass without assistance after he had lain helpless in bed. Include him in your Intentions for Holy Communion tomorrow, and if you can find time, drop into Church this morning for his funeral. You can thus pay the debt of the old boys, who owe a lot to Father Scheier.

The Christmas Novena.

It began this morning, but if you failed to heed its call you can start tomorrow and end on Sunday.

Yesterday's Bulletin.

A thousand copies of yesterday's Bulletin were printed in the hope that you would call for them to make this beautiful picture of the Blessed Virgin the center of the decorations in your room--and make the rest of the decorations conform. You will find them on top of the filing cabinet in the alcove outside of 141 Sorin.

Prayers:

Fr. McGarry's sister died recently; Ray Doyle's mother is very ill; four students ask prayers for special intentions and for relatives deceased or seriously ill.