

Eight hundred and Sixty-nine To Go.

You are just that many dollars from the thousand set as a goal for the nine days of the Novena for Vocations. The intention of the fund, if you missed the announcement yesterday, is the support of the seminary for native clergy in the Holy Cross Mission in Bengal-- a very worthy cause. A native priest, Fr. De Rozario, was ordained at Notre Dame a year ago last summer, after completing his theological studies at the Bengalese Seminary in Washington.

Fr. Joseph Rick was ordained a couple of months ago in Washington. He was an engineering student at Notre Dame ten years ago when he decided to enter the seminary and prepare for the foreign missions. He now intends to introduce a novel feature in the Bengalese Mission. His father has presented him with an airplane, which he is learning to fly. This will be of inestimable value to him in Bengal, where swollen rivers and jungles paths are usually the best means of communication.

The Community is doing what it can to spread the faith in this remote section of the world, which has been entrusted to it by the Holy See as its particular mission-field. It has the worst climate in the world. It has thirty millions of pagans, and only a handful of priests and brothers to convert them-- and fevers of various kinds have half of these on their backs all the time. Fr. Delaunay, founder and superior of the native seminary, is very ill at present in a hospital in Washington; he came here in the fall to recuperate from a devastating attack of the fever.

Nearly all the religious working in this field are Notre Dame men-- old students and graduates. You are given an opportunity to back them up. A nickel a week for Lent will give them a thousand dollars-- a princely fortune in Bengal. You can bring in your offerings this week or leave them in the box at the pamphlet rack in the corridor near the Sorin Hall Chapel.

Your own Vocation.

Ember days are ordination days. Wednesday, Friday and Saturday of this week are Ember Days. (If you are fasting you are not allowed to eat meat on Wednesday and Saturday of this week). We choose the Ember week of Lent for our Novena for Vocations because Lent is a season for serious thought, and the choice of a state in life requires serious thought.

On the matter of vocation to the priesthood and religious life you will find a choice of pamphlets at the rack. Read on the matter if you feel so inclined; meditate on what you read; pray for guidance; and talk to a priest about the matter. You would not rush into another state of life without consulting someone who knows a thing or two about it; it would be more than foolish for you to make up your mind one way or the other regarding the priesthood without such advice.

Mailing Surveys.

There are envelopes at the pamphlet rack for the mailing of Religious Surveys. You may have all you want of these, but in mailing them keep in mind that they are sent from this office to the following persons and institutions: all the members of the hierarchy in the United States and Canada; all the alumni of the University; all the Catholic Colleges, seminaries and high schools; and all the pastors in the following dioceses: Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Harrisburg, Denver, Helena, ~~XXXXXX~~, Cleveland, Toledo, Baltimore, St. Paul, Portland (ore), San Antonio, Dallas, Los Angeles, Seattle, Lincoln, Nashville, Covington, Oklahoma City, Columbus, Philadelphia, Scranton, E. Louisville, Galveston, and Little Rock.

PRAYERS: Fr. Doherty, sister; mothers of Ed. Arthur and Maurice Feldman's brothers