

Religious Bulletin  
April 10, 1929

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"Hours Of Study."

The dedication of one's work to God was crystallized into a formula by St. Paul when he said; "Whether you eat or drink, or whatsoever else you do, do all for the glory of God." The common Catholic practice of such dedication at the present time is the "Morning Offering" of all one's thoughts, words and actions of the day, an offering which wise Christians renew from time to time during the day (to ward off the bane of selfishness) by saying the aspiration, "All for the honor and glory of God."

John D. Rockefeller is reported to have distributed Easter cards containing a poem written by an English servant girl. The poem gives beautiful expression to this ancient Catholic practice, so we hand it on to you for your edification:

"Lord of all pots and pans and things, since I've no time to be  
A saint by doing lovely things or watching late with Thee,  
Or dreaming in the twilight or storming heaven's gates,  
Make me a saint by getting meals or washing up the plates.

"Although I must have Martha's hands I have a Mary mind,  
And when I black the boots and shoes, Thy sandals, Lord, I find.  
I think of how they trod the earth, what time I scrub the floor;  
Accept this meditation, Lord, I haven't time for more.

"Warm all the kitchen with Thy love and light it with Thy peace.  
Forgive me all my worrying and make all grumbling cease.  
Thou Who didst love to give men food in room or by the sea,  
Accept this service that I do -- I do it unto Thee."

Joyce Kilmer would have loved that. His grocer boy with his "overcoat of glory" must have been delivering groceries at John D.'s back door.

Your own wrestling with academic pots and pans is commemorated on the Spiritual Bouquet for Fathers' Day as "Hours of study." Let us hope these are all offered to God; they should be offered now for your father's intentions. How many "Hours of work" has he offered up for you this year? His cancelled checks tell that story.

An old couplet, attributed to Alfred the Great, is still remembered in this modernized form:

"Eight hours to work, to soothing slumber seven,  
Nine to the world allot -- and all for heaven."

If you have been forgetting this lesson, learn it again from Rockefeller's "English servant girl." Food isn't the only thing that can come from a kitchen in the course of your college education.

The Hard Way To Learn.

The news of the last couple of days give some drastic examples, some of them close to home, of the hard way to learn moral lessons:

1. South Bend learns that poison liquor leaves death in its wake.
2. South Bend learns that guns are sometimes used to avenge one's sister;
3. University of Vermont students learn that poison liquor may invade a campus.
4. University of Chicago students learn that a drunken driver may be a menace to life as well as to peace of mind.

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PRAYERS: Mrs. Berghoff, of Fort Wayne, mother of former students, died Tuesday.  
Three special intentions.