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Did You Notice Any Streaks of Gray?

Has the depression got into your father's hair? Is he turning gray around the temples? It's a good thing to ask that question now, for your memories of the tougher side of vacation seem to fade very quickly - at least, it seemed that way after Christmas.

Father's Day is May 3 this year. The day kept locally is the feast of the Solemnity of St. Joseph, which is always the third Wednesday after Easter. The suggestion for a Novena for Father's Day fell on deaf ears during Lent, so we repeat it now. A novena begun tomorrow will end on April 29; that will leave April 30 free for President's Day.

Why don't boys give their fathers a break? A novena for Mother's Day brings 400 or 500 more Communion a day than a novena for Father's Day. You don't ever expect to be a mother, do you? Do you look forward to having ungrateful children - sons who will regard you merely as a checking account, as a hewer of wood and drawer of water?

Don't get the notion that because your mother taught you your prayers your father does not appreciate prayers. Most men of your father's generation were brought up under false standards of human respect which regarded religion as a minor evidence of weakness; they are ashamed to be caught saying prayers or shedding tears, even though they know they need prayers, and suspect that tears would restore emotional equilibrium under severe strain.

But even supposing that your father doesn't appreciate prayers, is that any reason why he shouldn't have them? The less he appreciates them the more he needs them - you have instruction enough to know that. "Without faith it is impossible to please God. For he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and is a rewarder to them that seek Him." (Heb., 11:6) If your father has been good enough to give you far more than he received in the way of religious instruction, you should certainly be grateful enough to give him back a tithe of what he has given you.

Before Easter the University gave your parents the spiritual benefits of nine Masses offered for their intentions. Don't let it be said that the University thinks more of your parents than you do. At the pamphlet rack there are cards for your spiritual bouquet for Father's Day. Fill them out. Ask God to relieve the worries that cause those streaks of silver. Don't let him go off the gold standard if you can help it.

64,326 and 264,566.

Those are the respective totals for Lent and for the year thus far in the student receptions of Holy Communion. They compare with 71,381 and 285,265 a year ago. The drop in the daily average for the year is 108. The decrease in student attendance during the first semester was approximately 400; the second semester began with a drop of 250, and probably 100 students have left school since February 1.

In spite of the depression, week-end trips are still numerous, and are the largest single factor disturbing the regularity of daily Communion. Every Saturday of Lent showed a decline from Friday in the number of Communion received. The drops on the six Saturdays were as follows: -99; -90; -111; -160; -186; -213. (The first and last of these Saturdays followed First Fridays.)

THANKS: A student's sister contributes \$10 for the Bulletin charities.

PRAYERS: H.F. Gildea is still down with pneumonia. Louis Giragi's brother is missing since Monday, when he took off from Winslow, Ariz., in an airplane for Phoenix. Hugh Gallagher, '30, asks prayers for his father who is very ill. A friend of Ed Collins, '29, is quite ill. Four special intentions. A Depression Thanksgiving (No. 16).