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That Scapular Medal And Chain You Wear.

Don't ever get the funny idea that it works by magic. Nothing in the Catholic Church works by magic. Catholics enjoy many extra helps to Heaven, like the sacramentals (and that's what a medal is), but it's also true and always true: the road to Heaven's hard; you've got to work.

God must work. You must work. Or the medal and chain won't work. Just because you sport a St. Christopher's medal doesn't mean you can't wind up in a wreck. No, keep your eyes open when you're in traffic. Just because you don't Our Lady's scapular doesn't mean she guarantees you a string of miracles. No, you've got to work--to pray and to watch against temptation.

God has to work with us we know, for once when He walked this earth he said: "Without Me you can do nothing." And you have to work because you're no different from the Philippians to whom St. Paul wrote: "With fear and trembling work out your salvation." Besides, it is written: "Faith without works is dead." Your medal and chain are no fetish, no charm.

Now, God always works if you do. Ask yourself: "Well, what about that medal?" Look it over now and then, Mary on one side, her Son on the other--the grandest portraits you could bear with you. Mary, your mother and queen. Her Son, your God.

That medal is one of the sacramentals, a visible sign introduced by the Church to produce a spiritual effect: a holier, happier, manlier life in you. And it works only if you work. Stir up the grace and develop the strength that is in you. Get busy and work hand-in-hand with Jesus and Mary. If you miss this point, wearing a medal till doomsday will do you no good. If you think it's a charm, lighten the load on your neck. It's only a piece of metal then, an ornament. Others may see it when you're on the beach. It may help by making them think of God and His Mother. It won't help you. They'll say: "What a fine fellow!" But what they see is only pretense, only veneer. Far better to

be a true son of Christ and Mary than merely look the part.

Get it straight. That blessed medal can and will definitely help you--to be chaste and upright, if you try. If you make an honest-to-goodness effort at sweeping out bad thoughts, then Our Lady will give you her hand (and what a strong hand, look at Lourdes!). If you really try to be kind, the Sacred Heart will help melt-low your heart. Day by day you'll be kinder. Try and see if you won't.

It's all so worthwhile to do this thing right, to be a genuine Catholic inside and out, and so to win happiness, peace in this life and, in the next, the Eternal Vision of God. Every little act of love, every stroke of sacrifice, every brave "No" now in the face of temptation wins for you the approval of Mary and new strength, new life, new hope from your God. Try hard. Try hard. Then your medal will help you.

About St. Christopher.

He's on that medal, too. The stalwart ferryman who carried the Christ-Child across the flood-swollen stream. You carry Christ too, if you live in the state of grace, carry Him onto the football field and around the golf course, across city streets, into the shows, everywhere you go as long as you live in the state of grace.

God within you! Keep it always in mind. If you die of a sudden you won't have to go far to meet God. He's been with you all along. Carry Christ like Christopher did and everything will be O.K.

For The Asking

Most of the upperclassmen already have the scapular-St. Christopher medal. If some of them haven't they can get one any evening from Father Lynch at 117 Dillon, or from Father Grimm in his office near the chapel in Howard. Father Gartland at 107 Cavanaugh has a large supply for Freshmen.



RAYERS; (deceased) friend of Bob Heywood (Dillon). Ill, Sister Bernadette C.S.C.; James Bresnahan; Veronica Hunt; Mrs. J.J. Flaherty; Mr. Giles Kavanaugh; father and friend of Tom Kavanaugh(al.); friend of Larry Larkin. 5 special intentions.