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Christ-Child First

A pious lady ran into the parish house in a great dither. "Someone has stolen the Christ-Child out of the Crib!" she gasped. Pastor set down his Breviary (or his pipe), put on his rubbers, and undertook a search for the kidnapper. Half a block away he found him: little Johnny solemnly pulling the Christ-Child around the block in a red wagon. "Johnny", Pastor said, "what is the meaning of this unseemly behavior?" "Father, you see I wanted a wagon for Christmas awful bad. I asked the Christ-Child to get it for me. Promised Him if He did He would get the first ride."

See that the Christ-Child "gets the first ride" from you this Christmas. Visit Him in the Crib. That's not pious piffle by any means, but real Catholic piety. You are not worshipping a doll-baby-Christ, lying on a wisp of straw in a papier-mache cave, surrounded by plaster sheep and shepherds. You will be honoring the Son of God, God Himself: a helpless Baby, yes, in His Humanity, but in His Divinity, of Infinite, Divine, Eternal Knowledge. If you visit Him in the Crib at Saint Giles' Oak Park, or Sacred Heart, Pittsburgh, it will be exactly the same as if you were there, at Bethlehem, in the long ago. HE SAW YOU THEN, AND THANKED YOU FOR YOUR VISIT.

Parents Second.

You will be dearer to your parents this Christmas than you have ever been before. They will want to look at you, talk to you, fuss over you a little, maybe. Let them. Pave the way for happy memories of this Christmas -- you may not be at home for Christmas, 1943.

Others Third ...  
But Where do You Come in?

All your life people have been telling you that you should be unselfish. That sounds all right, but no doubt it seems a little drab to you: always sacrificing, always giving in. But the fact remains that you will never be happier than when you are thinking least of yourself. We are so put together that we can never find ourselves completely except in giving ourselves completely. That is what Our Lord meant when He said, "He that saves his life shall lose it, and He that loses his life for My sake (in the love and sacrifice of others) shall find it unto life everlasting." Good practical psychology -- and the deepest realization of Christian living.

Reminders - For Tonight

- 1 - Give old clothes to St. Vincent de Paul members when they stop at the room.  
"What you did to one of these, my least brethren, you did unto me."
- 2 - Get N.D. medal and Blessing for Service men in Dillon Chapel at 7:00 p.m.
- 3 - That confession. Why do I put it off?

PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of Harry McKnight (A1); aunt of Ruth McInerny; grandfather of Jorge Valez (BP); father of Jack Finnegan; grandfather of Paul Roach (Z); Patrick De Wasle; father of Bob Benes (BP); mother of Chaplain Joseph Corcoran, C.S.C., (Ill) mother of Paul Stokely; grandmother of Jake Kunz, '35; Brother James Edwin, C.S.C. (anointed); mother of Father Michael and Gene Mulcaire. 4 Special Intentions.