

(FOR THE CATHOLIC STUDENT AT NOTRE DAME)

Only 17 more Masses
and Communions as
preparation for Xmas.

University of Notre Dame
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December 8, 1943

Confession always brings
the Peace of Christ.
Why wait longer????

On The Battlefield.

It has not happened yet, but it will happen. As December 25 approaches, small groups of men here and there on the fighting fronts, on the Pacific Islands, on the hills of Italy, in the Russian line, will put aside, for a while, their weapons of war, for what they are about to do does not require the bullet nor the sword. Their buddies observe them at work, but now with a new kind of sparkle in their eyes and a new brightness on their countenances.

On Christmas day they will present to their inquiring pals the product of their hours of happy labor -- the crib of Bethlehem, with its important characters, the Infant Jesus and His holy Mother and Joseph. It may be pretty rough, the creation of these war-trained hands, but it is there -- the scene that makes Christmas Christmas for them, the recollection of the birth of their Savior in the stable at Bethlehem.

It is Christ that makes Christmas, so there can be Christmas in a foxhole, behind a sandbag embattlement, in a sick bed.

Christmas is the birthday of the Savior of the world, of the King of Kings who promises peace to men of good will. Without Him there can be no peace.

There is a big job ahead of every student, the biggest job young Catholics have had in centuries, that of spreading the knowledge and Peace of Christ among their associates, after performing that apostolate in their own souls. Those soldiers at the front will do untold good. They will warm their own hearts at the Source of true love and they will bring new life and calm to troubled souls.

Yes, as a soldier of Jesus Christ, you have a big assignment, that of bringing the World to His feet. This Christmas, form a solid front in telling others where peace and happiness truly lies. Briefly, send Christian Christmas cards to your friends. Don't buy a card unless it carries the Spirit of Christmas: Christ and the crib. Read the message. Make certain that it mentions Christ. It rests with you to bring Christ to the home and battle fronts, the Peace of Christ; all else is tinsel.

Coming: Christmas Novena For Parents

The exact date of the beginning of this Novena will be announced next week. The Chaplain will distribute an attractive Spiritual Bouquet card to each student. On this card the student can tally the number of spiritual works he performed as a Christmas gift for his folks. There is no reason why the Bouquet cannot be started immediately. It consists of Masses Heard, Holy Communions, Rosaries, Visits to the Grotto and to the Blessed Sacrament. This is one gift that will warm the heart of your parents. It will be the cold and thankless heart that remains away from Mass and Holy Communion these days before Christmas.

Visit the Grotto Tonight

The Grotto behind the Church is a replica of the Grotto at Lourdes where our Blessed Lady appeared eighteen times to Bernadette. On one occasion Our Lady announced to the young girl that she was "The Immaculate Conception", the words which are suspended above the statue at the Notre Dame Grotto. Our Lady has a special grace for those who visit her shrine, and an extra special grace on her feast day.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Rev. Chas. Malay: Leo A. Schneider '28 (1st Anniv. Nov. 29): Ensign Edward A. O'Malley (formerly of N.D. V-7); Friend of Bob Keenan (Bron); father of Lieut. Neil Geary (Student Mgr. football '39); mother of Dick '28 and Ed '29 Phelan. (Ill) grandfather (serious) and aunt of Bob Purcell (Sorin); friend of Chas. Wieher (Sorin). Missing in action: brother of Fred Krantz. 2 Spec. Int