

(FOR THE CATHOLIC STUDENT AT NOTRE DAME)

Don't be a groundhog University of Notre Dame
afraid of your shadow. Religious Bulletin
If you need confession..... February 2, 1944

see a priest tonight.
It's cold in a hole of
sin. Come out and warm
yourself in God's grace.

A Reply To The Rev. Mr. Stewart.

A recent issue of LIFE magazine contains a letter in which this clergyman deplores the burial of the dead, giving as his opinion that "the best burial is a simple coffin and cremation. I have buried too many scores of people in swampy ground or in expensive lots which cost money needed for the living to think highly of any cemetery."

The action of the American army on the Italian front is a sharp rebuke to the Rev. Mr. Stewart: "Most of the burial parties came under fire on this hillside, and they too were killed." This line of news from the war correspondent stands as a manifestation of Christian heroism prompted by respect for the human body.

Annihilation of the body is opposed to human instincts. The sorrowing mother cannot forget that this is the body of her son, the disconsolate wife cannot forget that this is the body of her husband. Nature abhors the destruction of that which housed a life which was dear.

Few will agree that the burial of the body "has no spiritual significance." Should men show respect towards the body which is the creation of God, the temple of the soul, which in turn is the temple of God the Holy Spirit? Should that body be given honor after it has assisted the soul in gaining Eternal Life by its fasting, denials and sufferings, the body that loaned its lips that the soul might speak and sing the praises of God? The body is deserving of that glorious resurrection promised it by God after the Last Judgment, and there is no more significant manner of transmitting the idea of laying the body down to wait and to rest for this day of reward than by Christian burial.

The gravebed tells a story to the young child: the body is asleep for the moment and a day is coming when it will leave its bed in the open earth. Destroy every trace of the body and young minds will grow up with the notion that after death - nothing, no after life for the body, no better realm of happiness. We must retain the cemetery. For young and old, it tells a story of the Life to come.

Graves and caskets and cemeteries are not "nonsense". Our Blessed Lord permitted the holy women to bring their best spices to anoint his body, and He allowed His body to rest in the tomb of the wealthy Joseph of Arimathea.

Burying the dead is a Corporal Work of Mercy. Remember that when you are at home and at the front.

Blessing Of Throats.

Tomorrow, Thursday, is the feast of St. Blase. The best manner in which to prepare for this blessing is by attendance at Mass and Holy Communion. The blessing will be given after the morning and afternoon Masses, and again at night prayer. Call at the Chaplain's office, if you are not able to receive it at the scheduled hours. The blessing will be given after the evening meal: 6:30 P.M. in Alumni, Dillon, and Walsh, and at 6:40 P.M. in Cavanaugh and Zahm.

First Friday Confessions.

There is always a big turnout on First Friday. It is a wise move to receive the Sacrament of Penance earlier in the week thereby avoiding a long wait during Mass time. Confessions are heard every evening at 6:30 in the Basement Chapel and after 7:30 until 10:00 P.M. in Sorin and B-P Chapels.

NOVENA FOR SICK BEGINS TODAY.