

(FOR THE CATHOLIC STUDENT AT NOTRE DAME)

No Adoration Saturday.
Sunday Collection for
War Relief. It's Easter
Duty time.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
March 17, 1944

(Deceased) Sister of Fr. Matt
Walsh, C.S.C. (Ill) Prof.
Hamill, operation; Bill Carey,
former editor of Scholastic,
serious.

Now Is The Time To Prepare For Marriage.

When the serviceman was asked how he thought military life was developing him for marriage he replied, "By taking orders." That response indicates a misconception of marriage. A wife is not to be a non-cum, but the Queen of the home. And the husband is not to be Milquetoast incarnate. Better wait a century for a bride than to pick a tyrant.

The war has not stopped young men of marriageable age from thinking about matrimony. The present status of most men in uniform makes marriage impossible, or at least impracticable. It would be disastrous to individuals and to the family if life in the camp and station is overlooked as a training ground for future marriage. The Sacrament of Matrimony does not create in a man the good qualities needed for his wedded life. The Sacrament helps tremendously once it has something to work on. Marriage fails without patience, charity, perseverance and common sense. Military life offers the opportunity for the cultivating of all these virtues. It will be a happy bride who finds a man who comes to marriage equipped with these good habits.

i. Patience.

The common life of the Service offers the chance for self-control. It is not pleasant to human nature to be constantly on the receiving end of commands. Sudden changes of orders without explanation is not a seed of happiness. Difficult classes, thoughtless mates who turn savage at times in their talk and manners require a man to take a strong hold of himself. Weathering these trials in a Christ-like fashion is ideal for marriage.

The antics of five or six children, or even one, calls for large doses of patience. There are evenings when the expected hot and delicious dinner will not come and yet nothing must be said tho the food does remind the former patriot of what the Yanks called GI cooking. Measles, mumps and adenoids have a habit of visiting most homes, and every wife is bound to have an off day in doing things to meet hubby's taste. Patience takes care of all inconveniences and prevents the kids from betting on mother in a family row.

ii. Charity.

This paragraph is an excerpt from the Instruction read by the priest to Catholic couples immediately before they exchange their marriage consents. It stresses the importance of charity in marriage... "Henceforth, you will belong entirely to each other; you will be one in mind, one in heart, and one in affections. And whatever sacrifices you may hereafter be required to make to preserve this common life, always make them generously. Sacrifice is usually difficult and irksome. Only love can make it easy; and perfect love can make it a joy. We are willing to give in proportion as we love. And when love is perfect the sacrifice is complete."

The practice of generosity towards roommates and shipmates is a certain step towards the growth of charity which is the prop of all virtues in or out of the marriage state. (Read the BULLETIN Tuesday for a treatment of the other virtues required for a happy marriage.)

WHY BRING UP MARRIAGE NOW? BECAUSE SUNDAY IS THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH, A MAN'S MAN IF THERE EVER WAS ONE. ST. JOSEPH IS THE PATRON OF A HAPPY MARRIAGE. RECITE HIS LITANY TODAY, (Litany in N.D. Prayerbook under Wednesday). SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AS A TRIDUUM FOR THE GRACE OF BECOMING A PERFECT FAMILY MAN.