

A Senior Examines His Conscience.

"Lord, in another week my college days will be over, and I'll be off to serve You elsewhere. I have left many things undone. Lest I fail You in the future and offend You again, I am going to bring my weaknesses into the open to look at them and to plan a way of avoiding them in the life ahead of me.

"Have I used all my intellectual opportunities? After all, I came to Notre Dame to be a student, to study. I'm receiving my degree, that's true. But that is not proof that I've done my best. How flimsy were those excuses I devised to draw myself away from study! I thought I was wise in taking shortcuts to learning, shortcuts like getting ideas from others and reading only the minimum. Now that I must 'go it on my own' I see how much I lost by leaning too much on others and not trying to use my initiative. Funny, Lord, isn't it, how so many of us forget that we must earn our heaven by developing our minds as well as our souls. 'There's no fool like an old fool'. Whoever said that said it about me. I'm the wiser now, Lord. I promise that the seed of opportunity won't fall on barren soil again.

"Have I used my chances to better my soul? I wonder. I used to receive Holy Communion on Sunday, and occasionally on weekdays. But is that what You offered me, only that? I'm afraid not. There were Masses I should have assisted at for the sick, for the team, for the deceased parents of hallmates. And Adoration in the Church. Why was I afraid to put on the cassock and surplice? Now I see the good example I could have given if I, an older man, had vested and knelt in the sanctuary. But one thing, Lord, I must say in my defense, I did visit the Grotto nearly every day. I sort of feel You will forgive me my other faults because of my steady devotion to Your Mother.

"Am I ready to be a leader? Maybe the question should be, 'Am I willing to be a leader?' Somehow or other, I think the parable of the Good Shepherd refers to me and not to priests alone. In the past year I have rubbed elbows with ambitious students and have noticed their power to make converts to their way of thinking. I have listened to my father tell how one factory laborer was able to influence a whole group. So I do see that sheep follow a shepherd. I'm convinced that I must be a Good Shepherd in the field of my endeavors. I may not be as rugged as St.Paul, but I'll be an apostle. So help me."

PRAYERS: (deceased) relative of Dick Freije (Wal); Mrs.H. Doyle, friend of Bill Griffin (Dil) and Jim Clifford (Z). (Hospital) Ben Sheeran (Morr) and Tom O'Donoghue

(Wal). Three Special Intentions. One Thanksgiving.

....ONLY 13 DAYS LEFT TO MAKE EASTER DUTY
LEAVE CLOTHING FOR THE POOR IN THE

DILLON HALL PAMPHLET ROOM