University of Notre Dame

Religious Bulletin

God never makes a mistake ...

... Even when you flunk exame!

January 15, 1951

## Is Your Father A Non-Catholic?

If he is, what have you been doing to interest him in the Church? to win for him the grace of faith? You have a responsibility, you know, to work towards that end. We single our your father instead of your mother; because non-Catholic fathers of students outnumber non-Catholic mothers about 5 to 1. From this ratio it seems to indicate that Catholic men are more determined to marry Catholic wives than Catholic women to marry Catholic husbands.

If your father has been good enough to send you to Notre Dame, even though he is not a Catholic (or has fallen away from the practice of religion), the finest way you can show your gratitude is by personal prayer and good works.

He is not blind. If he sees you, when home, saying grace before and after meals, on your knees saying your night prayers (if he's still up), hurrying to get to Sunday Mass on time, or getting up now and then during the week for frequent Communion--if he observes all this, he will have sense enough to give credit where credit is due. Good example backed by prayer, especially by the prayer of Christ at Mass, is one of the most powerful means of interesting non-Catholics in the Church.

As far as you and God are concerned, prayer that is accompanied by personal sacrifices is a very effective way of telling Him you mean business. Begin with such sacrifices as rising early, fasting from this or that, restraining impulses to do as you please whenever you please, putting up with the selfishness of others. Your father may never learn of the countless little sacrifices you have made to move God to grant him the grace of the one true faith. Some day, please God, he will.

## Is Your Girl-Friend A non-Catholic?

How many times have you wished she were a Catholic. You know that at best mixed marriages are a risk. Of course you know of such marriages that have not been disasterous, but for every one that has not, how many have you heard of that have? You reallize that if she does not turn Catholic she is going to be put on the spot when the youngsters come along. Suppose your young son asks her some day why she doesn't go to his church? why she doesn't go to confession? why she never receives Holy Communion? What answer is she going to give him? That she doesn't bolieve his church is the true Church? If she's truthful she must, or tell him a lie. Then what?

## The Chair Of Unity Octavo.

The universal Church celebrates--January 18 to January 25--this eight-day prayer for unity, which was started by Father Paul and his Anglican community at Graymoor, near Garrison, N.Y., and which resulted, first in the conversion of his whole community, and then in thousands of conversions throughout the world.

## Hand In The Names.

During the Chair of Unity Octave Masses will be said for all the persons whose names are turned in. These names will be placed on the altar where these Masses will be celebrated. If you have a non-Catholic father or mother or girl friend or relative or friend, for whom you wish the grace of faith, place their names in the boxes provided for that purpose at the Dillon and Cavanaugh pamphlet racks. Tomorrow the <u>Bulletin</u> will tell you how to make the Chair of Unity Octave, and will outline the <u>intentions for each day of the Octave.</u> <u>Prayers</u> (deceased) mother of John Kelly (How); friend of Ed Van Tassel (Dil); cousin of Bud (Dil) and Dick (O-C) Burke killed in train accident; sister-in-law of Dan

Coleman (Za); Elizabeth O'Brien. <u>Ill</u>, aunt of Miko Tucci (Mo); god-son of <sup>M</sup>att Malison (Za); mothor of Mary Rita Hellmuth; Father Francis Butler, CSC. Sp. Int. 10,