

Prayers: mother-in-law of University of Notre Dame
Dick Gillis died; ill, Terry Religious Bulletin
McAndrews; operations, Paul... October 19, 1951

..Burns & Robert Arrix. One
special intention. (Let's
get going on the missals!)

Notes And Adaptations From The Book: ASCENT TO TRUTH.

The grace of God is at work on this campus, at work in the souls of those who are taking advantage of their religious opportunities. These men do not present a problem. But there is a real problem in touching the "untouchables", men who evade the issue of grace. Their life is a constant evasion and compromise. They fluctuate in a no-man's land between God and Mammon, which is as good as belonging to Mammon because Christ said, "He that is not with me is against me."

Now that we have our tremendous capacities for evil staring us in the face, there should be more incentive than ever for men to follow Christ. Pope Pius XII has reminded us that our personal sanctity and union with Christ are the most important things of all.

Those outside the fold who as yet know nothing or very little about Christ have a perfect right to expect that we who do pretend to know Him should give evidence of the fact by the testimony of our lives.

It is terrible to know Christ and not love Him. It is terrible to have the faith without any corresponding sense of its practical, far-reaching implications. The Catholic who does not increase his faith is still in his infancy, and the tragedy is that in most cases his Catholicism does not get beyond the cradle stage. To put the finger on the basic cause of this arrested development is the immediate religious problem.

The grace of God is here. What powerful motive will arouse the will to accept it--effectively? Everything we do in the service of God must be vitalized by the supernatural power of His grace. But grace is granted us in proportion as we dispose ourselves to receive it. Our capacity to receive this grace is conditioned by our ability to remove the obstructions to its influence.

Attachment to sin is an obstruction: gross attachments to intemperance, impurity, avarice; subtle attachments to venial sins of laziness, anger, vanity, rash judgments, petty selfishness, dishonesty, lying, disobedience, and the rest.

Necessarily these must be attacked. This requires an active faith. There can exist a degree of faith, barely alive, which is essentially supernatural, yet not capable of establishing vital contact between the soul and God. Such faith is an assent to revealed truth, but it is weak, lacks vitality. It accepts the truth without any strong resolve to follow Christ wherever He may go.

Its submission to Christ is completely servile, as though it would have the unavoidable truth to be somehow other than it is. It receives the Gift of God without gratitude. It seeks to avoid all the consequences of this acceptance. It produces no fruit, little virtue, less love. It is faith; but more dead than alive.

Yet it can live and live effectively. One movement of will, in humble correspondence to God's powerful grace, can enkindle the breath of life in this faith and give it a vigorous soul, which could well be the soul of an apostle.

What motive will trigger the spiritual dynamite latent in faith? Where will this motive be found? Some say it must be discovered in prayer, nourished through sacrifice and increased by the grace of the Sacraments.

Prayers: (deceased) Mrs. Minnie Crowe, mother of 12 children, seven of whom are N.D. graduates; father of Bob Schampier (Wal); mother of Dick Tighe (Sor). Ill, Rev. Matthew Coyle, C.S.C.; operation, mother of Vincent Meyer (Cav.); critical, mother of Charles De Prekel (O-C). father of Bob Hunter (Wal). (Don Burkhart and Jack Peterson are grateful for blood donations: their conditions are much improved.)