

Pray for the return to the Sacraments of lapsed Catholics.

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Invite your non-Catholic friends to attend Mass with you.

Retreat To Advance.

Those signed up for the campus between-semester retreat--others are welcome--will assemble Friday night at 7:30 in Dillon chapel. It won't hurt anyone to make this retreat. To put the world in proper perspective we have to stand back from it to observe who's who and what's what.

During retreat is a good time to search one's conscience that first things are really in first place. We so easily get tangled up with the business of living that the "one thing necessary", the Great Reality, gets lost in the wild underbrush.

The Sacrament Of Thanksgiving.

One has only to observe the swinging doors of the chapels to know examinations are going in full swing. Our Lord is a V.I.P. toward the end of each semester. That's what we like about examinations--they help thresh out the buzzards.

Let's see what happens after exams. What Christ looks for from us--always--is gratitude. The Gospel story of the ten lepers brings this to our attention. Only one had the courtesy to return and thank Him for the miracle.

Thanksgiving is an act of worship, one of the four ends of sacrifice. Being grateful to God for His blessings and graces gives the thoughtful added rights to beg for future needs. We will never in this life be in a position where we no longer need God, so it behooves us all to give thanks.

How many times have you attended Mass and received Holy Communion in thanksgiving? The very word "Eucharist" means to give thanks. Keep this in mind. Priests, as a rule, receive twenty to one more stipends for Masses begging favors than Masses of thanksgiving.

Down With The Iron Curtain!

Graduating seniors are asking questions about general confessions. But these are not restricted to seniors; they may be made by anyone either out of devotion or necessity; usually they are made during retreats or before important changes in life.

A general confession is one good way to make a complete break with a sinful past. It's like a burial ceremony for past mistakes; or it's like pulling down an "iron curtain" between the past and the present.

No matter how filthy or treacherous our past sins may have been, never, never should they be considered as insurmountable obstacles between us and God. No matter how messed up our life has been, we must in no way doubt Christ's love or be afraid to approach Him in absolute confidence. He never rejects a truly repentant sinner.

God goes all out for prodigal sons. And when He forgives sins, He forgives them good and proper. Their guilt is blotted out, and He will not throw them back into our teeth to reproach us. . . But He may remind us of them to keep us humble and vigilant.

The Collect in the Mass for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost is consolation for the fearful who fuss and fret that their sins are too scarlet to be made white as snow: "O God Who doest show forth Thy omnipotence most of all, by sparing and by exercising Thy Mercy." And in Psalm 144: "The Lord is sweet to all; and his tender mercies are over all his works." Think of that! God's revelation of His mercy is greater even than the showing forth of His power in creation. (If you need help in making your general confession - just say the word. Take your time. Easy does it.)

Prayers: Appendectomy, wife of Jim Frick, '51; Ill, Sr. M. Aurelius, B.V.M.