Prayers: father of Dick University of Notre Dame More ushers and bell (not Donahue, '41, deceased; also Dr. J.B. McMeel.

Religious Bulletin March 27, 1952

belle) ringers wanted.

Fools!

There are three great classifications of fools in the world: wise fools, stupid fools, "damn" fools. Which agrees with what someone has said: "I may fool others (wise fool), but what a fool am I if I fool myself (stupid fool); and what a sinful fool ("damn" fool), if I imagine I can fool my God."

Our Lord called the economist who was more interested in economic security by storing up in his newly built barns "all things that are grown to me" than in laying up to himself treasures in heaven -- a fool: "Thou fool, this night do they require thy soul of thee."

There is another category of FOOLS in a class by themselves. St. Paul in his first Epistle to the Corinthians tells them that in the eyes of the worldling "we are fools for Christ's sake." The only kind of foolhardiness that pays eternal dividends. The worldly and the fruitless repentance of the wicked in hell will say of the follower of Christ:

These are they, whom we held some time in aerision, and for a parable of reproach. We fools (the damned) esteemed their life madness, and their end without honor. Behold how they are numbered among the children of God, and their lot is among the saints. --Wisdom V; 3,4,5.

We finally get down to the freshmen. . . This weekend their retreat.

Man With Two Minds.

We have two hands, feet, ears, eyes, but only one mind. Yet St. James says: "A man who is in two minds will find no rest wherever he goes." (James 1,8.)

What St. James probably is referring to here could well be what the Bishops of the United States called the "double standard of morality." They condemned it. There is only one standard because there is only one will of God; there is only ONE WAY to eternal life, and Christ said, "I am the Way."

Take the boob who does not use profane language around his home but after walking down the front steps uses it almost every place else. The presence of his family is a deterrent more than the Presence of God, from whose Presence he can never escape, and who on the day of judgment will require a rigorous accounting of "every idle word."

Or take the promoter who is nice to the "nice" girls but nasty with the fallen angels. His double standard will land him in hell. There's dry rot under the veneer of his kind of "culture." Christ called such men "whited sepulchres, which outwardly appear to men beautiful, but within are full of dead men's bones, and of all filthiness."

Or take the punctilius: the early birds on time for every movie, basketball game or dance but drag their feet for Sunday Mass: "Ch, I was there before the Offertory." Washington Hall! Not a seat left before Terry Tune. But be on time for the drama of Calvary? Once this year everyone was on time for the 10 o'clock, the Sunday it was delayed twenty minutes.

It's a funny world, someone has said. That depends on your sense of humor and how wise we are. One thing Our Lord advised us to be dead serious about -- the salvation of our soul. There is no laughter in hell but there is happiness in heaven.

Maxim for the day: "Our neighbor's defects of character we carry before our eyes, but our own are carried out of sight in a sack on our backs."--Bishop Sheen. (For Jim Acki: \$10 from the Washington, Maryland and Virginia Club; \$25 from a Mr. Arthur F. Klee; \$5 and \$1 anonymous donations -- received with thanks.)