

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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FIRST FRIDAY

God prepares all of us for our mission in life in His own way. Small things sometimes count for much. Seemingly little crosses and humiliations prepare the way for great graces. Take the example of St Margaret Mary, who is in great part responsible for the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Not all of her companions would believe that Our Lord was actually appearing to her. While some thought she was a saint, others thought she was some kind of nut; and they would throw holy water over her as they passed her. Yet, it was to her that Our Lord appeared and spoke those words that have, for three hundred years, inspired men to make acts of Reparation: "Behold this Heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing, but has been poured out totally and consumed as proof of its love; and for gratitude I receive from the greater part only ingratitude, by their acts of irreverence and sacrilege and by the coldness and the contempt they have for me in this Sacrament of love." Friday is our day of Reparation as we join millions across this country who will be receiving Holy Communion. Dedicate yourself to the Sacred Heart, promise to do always what will please Him, accept willingly all the crosses He sends you, and do this when you stop off for a few minutes in the Lady Chapel on Friday afternoon. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed there from Noon until 4:45. God is preparing you for your mission in life. Make the First Friday Communion of Reparation a part of your life. And begin now!

SEASON'S END

As the football season comes to an end, we're reminded that notwithstanding the shortcomings of locker-rooms everywhere--the lack of oxygen, the miasmatic mists, the hazards of acquiring athlete's foot--many good qualities are forged there. One athlete recently gave us this prayer he called his "favorite".

"Dear Lord, help me to be a good man, to be strong and willing in your service, neither too fearful or too lazy to do what You want. Help me to face the crowds with a cheerful smile, whether I'm hurting inside or enjoying your peace. Don't let me forget that I owe much to my fellowmen, while remembering that I owe all to You. Let me be neither proud nor boastful at the success You allow me, nor cowardly and faint at the slightest sign of adversity. Make me strong and brave. And in the years to come, if I am to be a husband, let me be a good husband, remembering that I am responsible for another soul and another body, which, with mine, I must preserve whole and intact. If I am to be a father, make sure I realize that my wife and I together are bringing a child into the world and are passing on a part of our life to it, while You are breathing into it a soul. Give me the wisdom to teach my children, by word and example, to know and love You, to surpass that toward which I have striven--and to become under my care and Your guidance, children of whom both You and I can be proud. Keep me in the path of virtue always. Bless and protect those whom I offer to You as my own. Please, God....don't ever let me build a selfish world around myself! "



THE "SLICKS"

Occasionally, I'm asked if there is a group here on campus organized to point out the danger in "Slicks". The answer is that several organizations --NFCCS, YCS, and the Knights of Columbus--have established committees for this purpose. At the moment, the most active of these committees seems to be the K of C committee. Mindful of the decline in circulation of all except very specialized magazines (as television continues to take over the service that was provided by news and picture magazines), the Knights' committee predicts an increase in titles and circulation of the "Slick" or so-called "men's entertainment magazines". In this connection, the Knights call attention to an article in Christianity Today that presents these conclusions:

"A virulent moral sickness is attacking American society. Its obvious symptoms may be seen at any newsstand - - - American society is becoming mentally, morally, and emotionally ill with an unrestrained sex mania.....The so-called men's entertainment magazines, led by Playboy, and its imitators....hide behind covers of innocuous sophisticated design, while they peddle article after article glorifying prostitution, sadism, orgies, and sexual perversion....The immorality of such magazines does not lie simply in the fact that there is...unadorned flesh and ...indecent language....Anyone who puts any stock in virtue, chastity, fidelity, or restraint is ridiculed. They are depicted as victims of outmoded hypocritical prudery. To have any scruples about free exotic indulgence is to be neurotically repressed....It has become the most sustained and insidious attack on the moral standards of this nation ever witnessed in the history of our Republic...."

The Knights' Decent Literature Committee is convinced that these magazines represent only a sophisticated wig covering bald immorality. The absence or limited number of four-letter exclamations and monosyllabic vulgarity is not the criterion for freedom from obscenity in print. An attempt to produce sophisticated dialogue in printed pages and demonstration of large sales to college students looking for smartness does not provide license for the practice of promoting perversion. An attempt to couch descriptions of barnyard immorality in terms of healthful satisfactions in an enlightened world is only a filter for barnyard stench.

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Mother of Erich Bredl of Alumni; mother of James Ansbro, '59; aunt of Joe Martella of Sorin; Robert Distad, Sr.; uncle of Gerry Gillotti, Off-Campus; Thomas L. Kennedy, Jr., '39; Mrs. Anna Garey. Ill: Grandmother of Paul Carroll of Dillon; brother of Coach Devore (heart attack); grandfather of Patricia Ast of the Foundation Office; Mrs. Scullin. One special intention.