

Speeches +

Alumni Lesson
Mass

For many of you, the past few days at Notre Dame have been like a retreat. You have walked around these hallowed grounds, met old friends, imbibed the deep peace of the campus and relived ~~the~~ cherished memories. You may even have felt young again as the old days and old surroundings and old companions became more real. No doubt you remembered many hopes and dreams of days gone by. You may have even taken stock - to see how close you came to realizing those hopes & dreams & ambitions of student days. If you are like most human beings you felt that your life could have been better - but could have been worse too.

Now that a number of years have passed since graduation, you have a much more realistic view of the possibilities that life holds - for good + evil. You know better, your own strengths + weaknesses. And you see what you are up against in the real hurly-burly of everyday life. You realize more deeply than ever before the real help of God that we all need so constantly from ^{perpetual prayer +} Confession, Mass + Communion, from the ever present protection of Mary, the sweet mother of God.

~~I only wish to point up one modern problem today and something you care about it - while it is only one of many problems the world~~

for, it is a basic + feel problem.
If you ^{men + D.} can help solve it, you will be
taking a long step towards the solution
of many correlative problems.

I know you will be carrying
these impressions home with you,
and I know you will bear with me
if I add a few more.

It would be platitudinous to
say that the world today is in a
mess: the more important problem
is why. I'm sure you speak of
study here you have the answer. ~~to~~
Technically we call it secularism.
Actually, it means that men generally
have divorced God from the normal
affairs of human living so that for all
practical considerations, God is out.

out of education + recreation, out of literature ⁴
of politics, out of business, out of ^{part} ^{of man}
family life - out of everything that
matters. Some have even said that
God is out of religion which is focused
more today on man & his needs, ^{rather} than
on God and His glory.

One thing that has struck me
about what Dene has said is that many
of them are putting up a heroic
counter offensive in one of the most
important of all these areas - by
keeping God in marriage & family life.
They are working against tremendous
social pressures - but I think they
are winning despite the odds.

Witness the work of Fr. Leyton -
a holy Cross priest + W.D. priest who
has millions of families saying he

+

16

daily family rosary. Witness the
inspiring N.D. couples in Chicago,
who in a matter of some ten years
have organized more than 1000
families here & throughout the USA
in the Christian Family Movement.

There may be some legitimate
doubt in your mind as to what you
can do effectively beyond peeping -
to effect peace in marital relations.

But you are married in your own
marriage & family life and here
God & His peace can reign
as effectively as you allow Him to.

I would highlight this
morning the three points that
every N.D. man can follow for
a true & true man's family life.

+

6

There is no original about these
three pts. They were outlined by
St. Aug. some 1600 yrs ago in his
treatise on the ~~of~~ blessings of man.

1. The first is the blessing of
conjugal life:-

- love - security - seeing it - good ^{with} husband

2. The second is the blessing of
children: =

what is it in life -
- Whosoever receives

3. The third is the blessing of the

Sac. -

like path - provides ^{way}
for sanctity - way to love.

old pet - father.