

Religious Bulletin.
February 21, 1924.

Don't Break Your Novena Tomorrow.

The sick need your prayers. Come to the Walsh Hall chapel any time after 8:15 and you can receive Holy Communion. Your prayers are requested for a relative of Father Lahey and for a deceased relative of Willard and Herbert Jones.

Why God Loves America

I.

George Washington is called "Father of his country." He earned the title. He led a man's fight against a tyranny: he didn't quit when it got cold; he didn't quit when money ran out; he didn't quit when his men were underfed -- in fact, he wasn't a quitter. He stuck to the job and won a real war. Then by popular voice he was voted in the job of giving our Country a good start.

II.

His birthday recalls the reason for honoring great men in both orders, the natural and supernatural. We can overcome environment only by having ideals to raise us above environment. An ideal is most effective when it is concrete. You get a thousand times more resolution out of a brief description of the winter at Valley Forge than you do out of hours of abstract meditation on grit.

III.

Why did the goodness of God give us Washington, Hamilton, Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Abraham Lincoln and the host of other "men's men"? Because God needed America for us -- to give us existence and keep faith alive in us. Although the seventy millions of pagans in this country make it look like a graveyard of religion, the Church is better off here than anywhere else in the world today.

IV.

The world looks to America for economic salvation. The Catholic world looks to Notre Dame for spiritual impetus. Archbishop Harty in a recent sermon declared that the students at Notre Dame had done more than any other agency to popularize daily Communion in the United States. The editor of the Osservatore Romano, the official organ of the Vatican, has asked for a long time article on devotion to the Blessed Sacrament at Notre Dame. Damon Runyon some time ago published interesting comment on the devotion of the football players to the Blessed Virgin and the Holy Eucharist.

V.

It is good to be known for something that will win you a name in heaven. We share the glory of Washington if we live up to his principles. We share the glory of Notre Dame if we partake of her spiritual life.
