

The Novena for Mothers

The official Novena closes today. Private Novenas will keep on until the nine days are completed.

Flower Girls.

Not many mothers will prefer flowers to spiritual bouquets. If you "thought it would be nice" you still have time to change your mind. Start your Novena tomorrow and send her a spiritual bouquet.

Lay Leadership.

The popular conception of Catholic leadership would appear to be social leadership. The woods is full of dance executives, but how many students have we who can talk intelligently, from the Catholic viewpoint, on the topics that fill the newspapers and magazines?

The Catholic Sense is Lacking

Only a small proportion of students in their questionnaires have stated that the imperishable authority of the Church appeals to them; and a great many students, in practice at least, haven't the remotest conception of that authority. They defy authority. They can see no sense in law. Luther's theory of personal liberty has deep roots in American life.

Copy Down This Proposition.

One of the strongest arguments for the divinity of the Church is the fact of her existence. For 2000 years she has withstood her enemies -- and her friends, for bad Catholics are more dangerous to her than all the external assaults she has suffered. She stands today as strong and vigorous a spiritual force, a champion of right and an enemy of evil, as she did when St. Peter defied Nero, when St. Ambrose humbled Theodosius, when Gregory VII brought Henry IV to Canossa, when Clement VII thundered out to Henry VIII: "What God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

The Source of Her Strength.

The Catholic Church has no corner on brains. She can use them, but she can get along without them. Our Lord told his Apostles not to be troubled when they were brought before earthly powers: "It shall be given to you in that hour what you shall say." The Apostles are dead, but their lawful successors live on in His promise: "Behold I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world!"

The Desolation of Notre Dame.

Notre Dame realizes that her high vocation is to turn out strong spiritual leaders; and she knows that she is not turning them out in due proportion, and that she will not turn them out so long as students do their expediting along other lines than character building.