

Religious Bulletin.  
May 20, 1924.

Things Taken for Granted.

Among friends things are frequently taken for granted. Too much protestation of affection sounds insincere. But sometimes too much is taken for granted. The phrase "on good behavior" is used to describe our conduct in the presence of distinguished strangers. Should "good behaviour" be absent when the distinguished people happen to be friends instead of strangers?

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How much thought do you give to your father? And how much do you take for granted? He has been a faithful old horse in providing for the needs of the family, and for your needs, and you take it for granted that he will go on doing so indefinitely. Did you ever notice any lines of care in his face? Do you look for lines of sickness, of dissolution of his physical framework?

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Are you sure that he knows how much you love him? Few fathers enjoy the complete confidence of their sons -- a great deal is taken for granted. Whenever a son grows very affectionate father expects to hear him say: "Dad, I've just got to have twenty-five dollars." Many a father knows that the affection of his son only when death draws near, and unsuspected feeling is brought to the surface.

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Mothers know more about the affectionate regard of their sons than fathers do. Mothers can understand, and mothers have imagination enough to interpret affection into places where it really was never put. But mothers don't get more than their share. Only 650 mothers of Notre Dame were, for instance, the recipients of spiritual Bequets for Mother's Day. (Not one of the 650 sons has reported that his mother was displeased at knowing that her son had not forgotten his prayers.)

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We are Notre Dame Men -- sons of the greatest Mothers of all time, -- The mother of God and Holy Mother Church. We take it for granted that both mothers are proud of us. We have done nothing in particular to show that both mothers are proud of us. We have done nothing in particular to show that we are proud of them. The daily Communion average has dropped from 800 to 700: you did better during January. Last Wednesday night the U-Drive-Its, the Niles Road and the beer gardens east of Mishawaka broke up May devotions. Over the week-end the distractions of the Derby, the K.K.'s, the K.C.'s, the Glee Club and the various athletic etceteras reduced devotion to a little below zero. Perhaps we take too much for granted. The Blessed Virgin will appreciate your devotion.

Prayers.

John Courtney asks prayers for a deceased relative.  
Another student requests prayers for a friend who is dying.