

Beg Your Pardon!

The 8:15 High Mass last Sunday was offered for the repose of the soul of Joseph Weinlich, at the request of the Senior Class. Through an oversight notice of this was omitted from the Bulletin and from the Sunday announcements.

Do Better Than You Did for the Army Game.

On last Friday the number of Holy Communions was 842, and on Saturday it was 936. The football team had a generous share, to be sure, in the prayers of those who received; but the number of laggards was very large when you consider the football enthusiasm displayed in the gymnasium on Saturday afternoon. The conclusion forces itself that the interest is more centered on the game than on the players, who have asked your prayers that they may escape injury while they risk life and limb that you may have a Roman holiday.- the new Novena starts tomorrow.

The Fruits.

"Men do not gather grapes from thorns, nor figs from thistles."

No adequate estimate of the fruits of Catholic education can be made while the process is still going on, but an inspection of any senior class will give a very true idea of how the wind is blowing. More than that: a study of a very large number of cases proves that the moral effects not yet eradicated in the senior year are most likely to be nourished and exaggerated through the rest of one's mortal career.

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A senior collapse is never instantaneous -- no collapse is. You will find its germ long hidden in the system. If it goes through the freshman, sophomore and junior years undetected, it is the fault of the individual, because he has been constantly warned of the need for introspection. If it has been detected and allowed to grow, it is very much the fault of the individual. Resistance to grace carries with it peculiar penalties.

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Of the extent of guilt of the individual we cannot judge. We must not judge. Job and his friends were severely rebuked by God for inquiring into the ways of Divine Providence. We know that God gives grace where He will. But we know, too, that most of those who resist the atmosphere of religion at Notre Dame live to regret it; we know that many honest students have made very frank acknowledgments of their regret; we know that insofar as they realize their fault they are guilty of many other faults: cheating others out of an opportunity which their places at school would give, hurting the reputation of the school and their fellow-students, giving bad example, wasting time and money, etc.

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If introspection has been delayed until the senior year it should not be delayed any longer. A few books will aid: "The Following of Christ", "Collapses in Adult Life", "The Formation of Character", "Man's Great Concern", Newman's "Neglect of Divine Calls and Warnings", in his "Discourses to Mixed Congregations".

John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,  
Prefect of Religion.