

The Occasional Wallop.

The extracts which follow are from a letter written by a prominent priest in St. Louis:

"Dear Father:

Let me thank you at this late hour for the booklet on the spiritual survey. A week ago Sunday I made use of it in an instruction to the girls at Webster College, reading the remarks of the students on the effects of frequent Communion.

"You have been using to advantage sound psychological principles in your frequent Communion education. But don't you feel that so far you haven't been able to get the young men to take soul exercise in proportion to soul nourishment? In our diocesan mission movement here in St. Louis we intend to make of the senior crusaders to form nuclei of promoters in each parish and to perfect our organization among the children.

"Last year I urged Bob Riordan to try to get the students of Notre Dame and St. Mary's to cooperate in producing the "Dreamer Awakes". Of course I don't know local conditions, yet it strikes me that the joint production of this pageant would be a great educator in the mission spirit."

This distinguished observer is quite right in assuming that the students do not take soul exercise in proportion to soul nourishment. It was this conviction that inspired the dedication of this year to the idea of sacrifice, that made this a penitential year. And although it is a penitential year, and you have been frequently reminded of the fact, no great fruits of penance are yet in evidence.

What Are You Doing for the Poor Souls?

Devotion to the Poor Souls in Purgatory has very little appeal here. The reason for this is evident, but it is not a valid excuse. The reason is that young people think very little of death. It seems very far away to them; and they think very little of those for whom it is a practical proposition. If you can examine your conscience honestly and find that you are doing your duty towards the Poor Souls, you have made a good start for a year of sacrifice; But if you, an intelligent, reasoning being, can excuse yourself from such devotion, from a duty of charity to the poorest of God's poor, you need not expect to derive a great deal of benefit out of this year.

The Mission Spirit.

What have you done to spread the Faith? Seven students have reported conversions to the Faith of persons whose names were handed in for the last Church Unity Octave. If there are others the fact should be made known. And if you haven't done anything to spread the Faith, you should bluntly accuse yourself of neglecting another duty of charity imposed upon you by Our Blessed Lord.

Holy Name Sunday.

Tomorrow, the second Sunday of the month, members of the Holy Name Society may gain a plenary indulgence with their Holy Communion. Prayers: Maurice Hedderman, of Carroll Hall, asks prayers for his father, who died Thursday, and Prof. McAuliffe for his brother who was killed a few days ago.

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Prefect of Religion.