

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.

Jan. 21, 1925.

We Love Our Little Bed!

Yesterday the novena for examinations began with a decided upward trend in attendance at Holy Communion. This morning there was a painful drop. "Oh, how great is human frailty, which is ever prone to vice! Lose not, brother, thy confidence of making spiritual progress; thou hast yet time ---the hour is not yet passed.....Arise and begin this very instant, and say; now is the time to do, now is the time to fight."

(Imitation of Christ., Chap. 22.)

Prayer and Work....

Understand well that all this insistence upon prayerful preparation for the examinations is not so much that you may succeed in them...though that is very desirable...as it is to impress upon you the importance of forming the habit of invoking God's aid in every undertaking. "All whatsoever you do, whether in word or work, do all for the glory of God." (St. Paul) Christ Himself taught us to do this by example, as witness His fast and prayer of forty days, His prayer before entering upon His passion, etc.

But Especially Work.

It would, indeed, be presumptuous to think that prayer should take the place of work. Work and enthusiasm are the pinions upon which great deeds are borne. What we steadfastly will to do, we become. Merely cramming is in opposition to the method and purpose of forming good habits. The "daily dozen" in the matter of mental development and intellectual success is as important as the physical development. And prayer is the ointment we rub in to take out the kinks, to ease the sore spots.

To the Swift the Reward.

Have you noticed that Nurmi wants to get out in the open so he can run faster? The heated atmosphere of indoor tracks, the overhanging crowds, the dazzling lights, the fetid air seem "to cramp his style" so to speak. It is even more so with those who are in intellectual pursuits. Certainly it is easier to run after pleasures, to dream of riches or position, than to devote oneself to the up-building of one's being. Nevertheless a man's real worth is what he creates and fashions within his soul. Periodical spurts, occasional dabs, must in the end result in fragments of men, rather than in great and noble personalities. Labor and prayerful reflection, you will find, were ever joined in the lives of the truly great.

The Hand of God.

Adversity and sorrow are the strong food of the soul. Pity those in bonds. Vernon Rickard, '24 of Pocatello, Idaho, sends word that his father died yesterday. Several students show confidence in your prayers by recommending special intentions. "In as much as ye did it to the least of these my little ones, ye did it unto me."

John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,  
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