

May 15, 1926

Prayers.

Sister Alexander died at the local convent yesterday morning. She devoted a long life to the service of the students, and deserves a rich tribute in their prayers. Father Farley, known to your fathers and big brothers for years back, when he played football or preformed in Corby and Walsh, asks prayers for his mother who died Wednesday. Adam Walsh, before leaving for California yesterday, requested prayers and Communion for a special intention. Three students ask prayers for deceased relatives and five for sick relatives and friends. Three other students ask prayers for special intention. Monsignor O'Hern, rector of the American College in Rome, died Wednesday. Leo Scheider asks prayers for his mother who is sick.

Life's Tragic Disappointments.

A Priest has disappointments as tragic as any mother's---only he has more of them. If he doesn't become a complete cynic it is only because by faith he can always see hope ahead, and by the grace of God beautiful lilies and roses grow up in the midst of ragweed and thistles. It may help you spiritually to see some of these disappointments:

1. You swear your life away to help a poor boy get a job that will give him a Catholic education; and he becomes a campus bootlegger.
2. You waste four after hour of time and patience for four years, trying to implant Christian ideals into a spoiled child; and he brings to the senior ball, to associate with the sisters and future wives of decent young men a girl so tough that she would poison any rattlesnake who would make bold enough to bite her.
3. You honor and trust a lad with good horse training; and when the senior ball comes around the common strain comes out, and his conduct under the influence of liquor is such that his girl has to take the next train home.
4. You spend weeks instructing a fellow in the Catholic faith, preparing him for Baptism and First Communion; then he falls for a pretty face, marries outside the Church and joins the Masons.
5. You squander a perfectly good year trying to show a freshman why he should honor his mother instead of disgracing her; and you find him circulating a book that would turn his mother's hair gray.

George Bernard Shaw and L. G. Wells have both stated recently that the near future will see a great revival of Catholicity, and a terrific struggle between infidelity and Catholicism. They are right. Modernism is disintegrating Protestantism, which is losing its character of a "Church" to work out logically its principle of private interpretation, resulting in as many "Churches" as there are individual interpreters. Christianity ceases to be a religion and becomes a foolish philosophy if Christ is not divine; and the main attack of modernism is against the divinity of Christ.

In the struggle there will possibly be more Catholics depart from the faith than did during the Reformation. But it will be a purge, and the Church will be better off without the unworthy members; and the faith they lose will go to those who are best disposed. Let us pray, pray earnestly, ceaselessly, that we will not lose the faith when the struggle comes.

The Knights of the Blessed Sacrament.

The students in each hall acting as agents for the knights of the knights are requested to make a final report before the end of this week, turning in any funds they may have collected, together with the pins, which will be held for next year's students.

John J. O'Hara, C.S.C.,
Prefect of Hallion.