
The Social Season Ends Today.

Purple vestments are used in the Mass tomorrow. Flowers are removed from the altar. Advent begins. Four Sundays before the great feast of the Nativity of Our Blessed Lord, the Catholic Church commands penance.

Our Lord was born in poverty, in cold, -- not in a hospital, but in a cave.

Check shows, dances, candy, liquor, late sleeps, comforts, smokes. Do penance.

You cannot call yourself a Christian if you refuse to bear the cross.

Be a Good Sport: Help the Team.

Your laying down on the team wouldn't be so bad if you were not so hypocritical about it. You pat these fellows on the back and tell them how wonderful they are; you tell them you're with them to the last ditch -- and you ditch them after the Army game. The season isn't over yet. They have said time and again that what they appreciate most is your prayers. Dig out your beads. If you've forgotten how to say them, ask your neighbor. Four out of five know how. Drop in for a medal of St. Patrick and St. Bridget to wear to the gridgraph.

The Vanderbilt Annulment.

A letter nine days old comes to attention. A student signing himself "Morrissey Hall" encloses a clipping containing some of the premature remarks of Bishop Manning and others on the action of the Church in declaring null the marriage of Consuelo Vanderbilt and the Duke of Marlborough. The letter adds: "The arguments presented seem very strong and I am inclined to believe them. What is your opinion in regard to this action on the part of the Catholic Church? I would like to see it expressed in the Bulletin. Until that time I am forced to accept the arguments as they have been brought out by the Protestant ministers mentioned in the enclosed article."

The writer cannot be a practical Catholic, no matter what he thinks he is. When the Catholic Church settles a matter, Catholics accept the decision and cease to have "opinions." And the Catholic Church knows her business. While the Church is not bound to give reasons behind any decision, in this case she has chosen to do so because of the publicity attending the case.

The Catholic Church has not changed her position on divorce, and Bishop Manning knows it. The same Church that gave birth to his schism and heresy by refusing to grant an annulment to Henry VIII when the facts did not warrant such a decree, has always opposed the sale of daughters in marriage and declared such marriages null no matter what king or prince or duke was behind the sale. Free will of the contracting parties is essential to any contract; such is the law of nature. The Catholic Church will always uphold this law, hurt when it may.

The Great Novena.

Monday is the day for beginning the Novena to the Immaculate Conception, the Novena for Purity. Cancel all engagements that might interfere with your attendance at Holy Communion Monday morning and the succeeding nine mornings.

Do You Wash Your Face Mornings?

Doesn't it seem silly to be so careful to shine up your face and leave your soul dirty. Men see your face, but God sees your soul.