

Religious Bulletin

January 19, 1927

-----  
Kick In.

Yesterday's donations, \$22.70, brought Father Finner's Fund up to \$203.34. Those who are bashful about coming in with the money can leave it in the pamphlet rack, in a section of the collection box marked "Fr. Finner." You shouldn't feel easy at the Palace this week if you have failed to kick in two bits; and as for the Palais -- that's out. "My first self-respecting dollar this year," was the tag on a gift last year for Fr. Brooks.

Shall We Put Your Name In the Octave?

Fallen-away Catholics, as much as non-Catholics (or even more so) are the object of the prayer of the Church Unity Octave. Students who do not go to the Sacraments while they are at Notre Dame are heading towards the class of fallen-away Catholics. They may not land there, but they are on a very dangerous road. Another of the boys who neglected the Sacraments while he lived down town a few years ago got married outside the Church during the holidays. Prayers during the Octave that year might have saved him.

Unkink Your Mind.

Laziness accounts for very few of the students who stay away from the Sacraments for more than one month. Nine times out of ten there is a kink in the mind of the fellow who neglects this great Source of Grace.

If your mind is kinked up, there is only one reasonable thing for you to do: see a priest and tell him all about it. You can't tell him anything new; you can't tell him anything that he can't absolve you from, if you are willing to fulfil whatever conditions the Church lays down for your case. These amateur theologians you talk the matter over with may have the best intentions in the world, but if they tell you there is no hope for you they are doing just what the devil did to Judas.

There is no real peace in the heart when the conscience is not straight; and the fellow who stays away from the priest because of some vain fear about what the priest will tell him, is laying himself down on a bed of coals.

Long experience shows the priest that most of the things that keep people away from the Sacraments are in no way calculated to harm the penitent except through his own exaggerated idea of their importance, an idea that warps his judgment in more ways than one.

Go to a priest. You may suffer a few moments of embarrassment, but he will soon put you at ease. Stay away and your endless arguments with your conscience go on and on and on until you take to drink or dope or infidelity to silence that little voice.

Unkink your mind. You may know a lot, and think you know a whole lot more, but the priest, with unbiased mind, with the assistance of the Holy Ghost for dealing with the penitent, and with long experience with human nature knows a lot more about your case than you do.

Be at peace with God and the sun shines every day in your heart; be estranged from Him and the clouds hover ever closer.

If you know that you were to die tonight you would have no fears, no doubts, no misgivings. You don't know that you are not going to die tonight. Be always prepared.

-----  
PRAYERS are requested for two special intentions and for two persons who are ill. John Golden's grandmother is not expected to live.