

What Are You Taking Home To The Folks?

The reference is not to pennants or pillows, diamonds or jade, but to the spiritual gems you have gathered here this fall to show ^{to} your parents as a return on their investment in your Catholic education. Take stock of yourself. What have you to offer that will please them? Examine yourself under the following heads:

1. Faith. Have you a stronger spirit of faith than you had when you came here in September? Has it meant anything to you that the material resources of this school can in no way account for its growth and its influence? Did the circumstances of Jack Gleason's death impress upon you the value of prayer and the necessity of living in the state of grace? Are you a better Catholic for having witnessed the open practices of piety on the part of those around you?
2. Self-respect. Has it increased or lessened? Are you too proud to commit certain sins? Have you felt that there are certain things beneath you -- more things than when you came here? Have you walked out of any show rather than sully your mind by remaining? Do you think as well of yourself as those do who appeal to "your better nature?"
3. Family honor. Have you given others the impression that you come of a God-fearing family? Have other people said of you, "That boy has a good mother?" Has the thought of your mother kept you from any sins? Have you spoken of your parents with respect?
4. Respect for women. Have you raised your eyes often to that statue on the Dome? Has it taught you anything? Have you learned any secrets at the Grotto?
5. Charity. Have you learned more about what it means to love God? Has your interest in your fellow-man developed? Have you been impressed by the prayers others say for the sick, the dying, the deceased friends and relatives of students? Have you learned to give others credit for being sincere until the contrary is proved? Have you learned to hold your tongue? Do you pray for others as much as for yourself?
6. Gratitude. Do you appreciate your parents more than you did while you were with them? Have you learned to recognize God's favors and thank Him for them? Have you thanked God that we were spared the flu epidemic?

On these and many other scores the folks have a right to look for improvement -- not that you were bad before, but that education should bring growth. If you are a credit to your school you will make your parents happy. If you have failed, you still have a chance for a good confession before you leave for home.

Prayers.

Edmund Hogan still shows improvement, and for the first time the doctors will admit that he has a chance to live. This is great news. Brownson Hall is sending him 150 cards for Christmas with Spiritual Bouquet offerings. Meanwhile, another boy is quite ill: Andrew Shiebler, of Freshman Hall, is in the Hospital with pneumonia, and is in dangerous condition. The rest of the boys in the Hospital and the three left in the Infirmary are all doing well. Three special intentions are recommended.

Old Clothes.

Leave them with the rector. The K.C.'s will gather them for the poor,