
Prayers

Eugene Cavanagh's condition is very grave; only prayer can save him. Tom Magee's mother died Monday night. Jas. McFarlane's father is quite ill. Four special intentions. The father of Ward Lahey, '26, and Art ('26-'27) is dangerously ill.

The Communion of Saints.

The Ninth Article of the Apostles' Creed is commemorated by the Church tomorrow and Saturday: The Church Militant prays to the Church Triumphant, and for the Church Suffering. Holy Communion on these two days seems an essential to decent membership in the Church. Why? A union is always two-sided, and you are unworthy of the Communion of Saints if you do not appreciate what it means to be united to the friends of God. Honor the Saints tomorrow, especially the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph and your patron Saints; and don't be guilty of the cheap trick of neglecting the Poor Souls on Saturday.

"....I Would Crawl on my Hands and Knees...."

Some years ago a prominent bank president built a beautiful home in the neighborhood of a Catholic church in which daily Communion was the practice of a goodly portion of the congregation. He used to see the crowds going and coming in the morning, and he puzzled over the matter. Finally, as he was passing the church one morning he met three good business associates of his on the steps, and he stopped them.

"Tell me," he said, "if the question is proper, why do so many people come to this church on weekdays. I know the Commandments, and I can understand why people go to church on Sundays. But what bring them here every day in the week?"

One of the three, who was exceptionally well versed in his religion, explained to him, briefly but well, the doctrine of the Holy Eucharist. He voiced his satisfaction with the explanation, but had another question: he wanted to know if all Catholics received Holy Communion every morning. When they replied that they did not he expressed what might be called a beautiful contingent Act of Faith:

"If I believed that, you could not keep me away from the church any morning. I would get there if I had to crawl on my hands and knees."

Why can't we born Catholics have faith like that? When Our Lord refused a miracle to the woman of Canaan, saying it was "not meet to take the bread of the children and give it to the dogs," she humbled herself and replied: "But the whelps also eat of the crumbs that fall from the table." Who is the whelp in this case? Is it the man born blind who would crawl on his hands and knees to the Holy Table, or the child of the household who scorns the Sacred Banquet?

Speaking of Dogs....

another Catholic who places himself in that class is the fellow who has no regard for the Poor Souls. Did it ever occur to you that only Catholics are in a position to help the Poor Souls? True, some Protestants believe in Purgatory, but the denial of that doctrine was one of their first protests when they broke away from the Catholic Church. Job expressed the natural order of charity when he said: "Have pity on me, at least you my friends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched me." And don't we call a man a pup if he refuses to pay any attention to a friend in affliction? Also keep in mind this selfish motive for helping the Poor Souls: God is interested in them, and gives us a chance to help them; if we refuse, why should He not give the Faith we do not practice to others more worthy who will? Indulgences for the Poor Souls are gained for visits to the Blessed Sacrament tomorrow and Saturday. See yesterday's Bulletin for details.