

Religious Bulletin  
January 23, 1931

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A Clean Smile Wins Many Friends.

A thousand mourners filled the Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul, in Indianapolis, last Monday morning, for the funeral Mass for Joe Ford. It is years since such a thing has happened. A very long line of cars went to the cemetery. Business men, professional men, clerks, stenographers, housewives, left their duties to pay a last tribute to the boy whose smile had won their hearts when they saw him at play on the football field and the basketball court.

Bishop Chartrand preached and pronounced the last absolution over the mortal remains of this boy over whose soul he had watched for nineteen years and a day. He had baptized him on the feast of St. Agnes, 1912. Five years later he had admitted him to First Holy Communion and had confirmed him. During the intervening years he had seen the growth in this soul of the life of the Blessed Trinity, the supernatural life which the Holy Ghost infuses in the Sacrament of Baptism, the life of grace. In his beautiful sermon the Bishop described this life of grace, and he concluded with this striking statement:

"The Devil is so powerful by his own nature that if God did not restrain him he could reduce this whole universe and ten more like it to ashes in an instant.... and yet when he looked into the face of this boy he was baffled. Such is the power of the grace of God in a soul that lives the supernatural life."

Joe's manner was easy, and he led a simple, but persistent, life of grace. We thank God that He sent him to us for the few short months that he was here, for in that time he taught us how much better it is to love God. Pray for his parents, and for his only brother, John. Their faith sustains them, but it is very hard to give up a son and brother who is so full of promise in this life, even when you know that he is in the only life for which God intends any of us.

The Encyclical on Marriage.

A thousand copies of this recent Encyclical have been placed at the pamphlet rack. Read it, and then ask questions if you wish. Reasonable questions will be answered on the Bulletin; diatribes have no place.

For The Sick.

The report from the hospital yesterday morning was very cheerful - everyone doing well. This includes Richard Delaney, who is decidedly on the mend, and Currier Holman, who underwent an operation for appendicitis Monday. A novena for the Sick will begin next Monday, Feb. 2, the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin; it will be addressed to Our Lady of Lourdes, who has cured so many "incurables." But don't wait until then to pray for the sick. They need it now - here and at home.

For the Next One To Die.

Monday's Bulletin called your attention to the Mass to be said tomorrow for the next one of us to die. Keep this intention in your Holy Communion tomorrow morning.

Prayers.

Frank Sowa's sister died Saturday. Maurice Mathews, who left school recently for an operation on a broken arm, is still seriously troubled and will be unable to return to school this year. Fred Lower's father underwent an operation last week; so did Robert Swann's brother. Henry and Ed Hopok ask prayers for their brother who is ill. George Potts, old student, '03, died recently. Louis McCarthy, '15, lost his mother not long ago. Six special intentions. F. Mary's grandfather died Sunday.