

Easter Duty  
Saturday

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
March 5, 1931.

First Friday tomorrow  
Confessions tonight

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The Carry-On.

Preparations are under way for the conduct this year of a Religious Survey of the alumni of the University. So far as we know, no such attempt has been made previously; and what the outcome of it will be, no man can say. However, the mail of the past few days has been full of lovely little sentiments from alumni, and if they will all answer questionnaires as well as they write letters, the results will be excellent. Here are a few paragraphs for your edification:

From an alumnus who asks prayers for three special intentions: "A word about our marriage. You were surprised that I was married, and that I had married a convert. My wife and I have tried to receive the Sacraments frequently. I have missed but one Sunday morning since our marriage last year, and that was because I broke my fast accidentally; she has missed twice, through illness. Our prayers are always said together. I agree with you that this is no more than we should do, but I am happy to be able to say that we are doing it. And the foremost intention in our prayers is our future family."

From another, who has been ill for some time: "I have longed to get back to Notre Dame ever since I left. There seems to be something nagging at me constantly, telling me, 'that's where you belong.' I get that feeling, but I am not able to return. The Religious Bulletins are such a consolation. It is just like school. I used to read them every morning, and now the mailman brings them right to the door. The fellows at school do not realize the full value of the Bulletin. They are slovenly about their religion - but there are always laggards in everything...."

"There are a few special intentions which I wish to have remembered in the prayers at Notre Dame. I had intended to go to Mass and Communion this year, but the hospital knocked out the Mass, and twice I had to miss Holy Communion. Now I will have to miss off and on when I go to the city for treatments. I only wish it were like dear old Sorin, where one could receive at any time. Do you remember the book you once gave me - "The Following of Christ," by Thomas a Kempis? It has kept me company every day so far, for a long time."

A third, who writes to facilitate the entrance of a young friend who wants to study for the priesthood, protests that he is probably forgotten at Notre Dame, where he spent only one year. He isn't forgotten. He was a good student, but very slow on religious duties. That he has thought more deeply on this of late is shown by his keen interest in the young man he is sending on for the priesthood, and by this humble protest:

"I only wish I could get another chance to go to school myself, Father, but I guess I am one of the fellows who are 'broken down and old, and just past twenty-three!' Remember the little poem of 1926? I shall never forget it."

For his consolation and encouragement he should know that the author of that little poem has only recently revealed himself, and that frequent Communion has brought him out of the pessimism he showed in the poem (which is still at the rack).

A fourth, in medical school, writes to ask prayers for a special intention, "not with regard to scholastic work, but a matter of far greater import." A fifth turns to prayer for the conversion of the girl he would like to marry; he adds that if this is not accomplished he must stop seeing her. -- And that's that. The work carries on.

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PRAYERS: Ed O'Brien, of Freshman Hall, asks prayers for a relative and a friend who are ill. Four special intentions.