

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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Feast of the Hail Mary Tomorrow.

Wednesday is the feast of the Annunciation, which commemorates the Incarnation of the Divine Word. It is recalled daily by the Church in the Hail Mary and the Angelus. Renew your dedication to the Blessed Virgin in your Holy Communion tomorrow.

Resignation to God's Will.

The teaching of Christ on conformity to the Will of God is one of the most comforting features of the Catholic religion. He has stated it so beautifully:

"Be not solicitous for your life..... Is not the life more than the meat?.... Behold the birds of the air, for they neither sow, nor do they reap.... and your heavenly Father feedeth them.... Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? Yea, the very hairs on your head are numbered. Fear not therefore: you are of more value than many sparrows.... Consider the lilies.... not even Solomon in all his glory was clothed as one of these..... Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His justice, and all these things shall be added unto you.... Father, not My will but Thine be done."

The father dies. Is the family left helpless and alone? Has God been cruel? Not to the father. If he has been a good father, dutiful to his wife and children, why should they complain if God has taken him to Himself? He has shortened his time of trial; He has given him the promised reward before he thought to have it. Not to the wife and children. They may still make their way in the world; they may still save their souls. They may need, for their own development, the initiative that is now forced upon them. God's grace will supply when He takes the father.

The mother dies. The family is desolate. The sons need the mother's affectionate encouragement; the girls need her guiding hand. Again, the grace of God will supply. If you could only look into the faces upturned to receive Holy Communion at the Mass for deceased parents, you would never doubt this truth. The grace of God does supply when there is faith and good will. An ever-fresh memory of a loving mother may do more to keep a boy's heart clean than the tender embrace that comes with her living presence. And as for the mother herself - who would be so cruel as to want to deprive of her one moment of that eternity of joy she has earned for herself?

A child is crippled. Does that mean a living death? What a cruel judgment! You have not known many cripples if you can say that. Again, the grace of God will supply. What lessons of patience, of sweetness, of strength of character, of nobility of purpose, of cheerfulness, of charity, of chastity, of faith, we can learn from the blest of God who have known physical misfortune! Mary Merrick, Laetare medalist of 1915, has lived in a wheel chair since she was a little girl. She founded the Christ Child Society, and through it she has furnished milk and summer outings to unfortunate children, not only in Washington, but throughout our land.

"Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit, He will take away: and every one that beareth fruit, He will purge it, that it may bring forth more fruit."-- St. John, xv, 2. Truly, those who are in what the world calls misfortune are the blest of God!

Prayers.

Gerard Teevens and Jose Zabarto ask prayers for their father, who died last week. John O'Connor's grandfather died Monday. A relative of Jos. Golobowski died a few days ago. John Casazza's grandmother is very ill. A former student of Columbia University (C.S.C), Portland, Oregon, was electrocuted in an accident a few days ago. Seven special intentions.