

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
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These Last Two Bucks May Save Two Souls.

"Dear Father: It seems terrible to me that the Bengal Mission should be forced to relax its efforts in India just because Americans, rich Americans, do not wish to support the missionaries. I think every Notre Dame man should give generously to this most worthy of causes - the spread of the Faith. I've been thinking it over since this morning - in fact, since that Bulletin came out Friday - and it seems almost incredible that Notre Dame men are not more generous.

"I do not say 'other' Notre Dame, for I am not a Notre Dame man, save for my physical presence here. I'm the type of fellow that you talked about in the "twenty-five bucks" Bulletin of Saturday. And you don't have to go to the Mexican border for material; just drop over to my room at almost any time.

"I was bad before I came to Notre Dame, but I am worse now. It is not Notre Dame's fault, however. Notre Dame has shown me the advantages of good Catholic life, but I do not want them. Perhaps it is because I am intuitively bad. -- But this is all raving.

"I certainly believe in the Church, in its principles, in its firm practitioners, and - what's more - in the zeal of its missionaries. Why should they be forced to curtail their weary labors when we, living in the lap of luxury, could, by a little sacrifice, help them greatly? I can't see it.

"The enclosure is my last two bucks, but -- no, your missionaries need it more than I do - wretched victim of my passions as I am. May God help them and me.

-- "A Bad Catholic."

God bless you, boy, you're not bad; you're only weak. The bad boy is proud; you are humbling yourself to the dust, and, as David told His Master: "A contrite and humble heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise." And you have Faith - which is all-important.

Our Blessed Lord was hard on only one class of sinners - the proud. He called them "whited sepulchers;" St. Stephen called them "stiff-necked." Magdalen He called back from a life of sin, and gave her the grace to stand at the foot of the Cross when the brave Apostles fled; to the woman taken in adultery He said: "Hath no man condemned thee? Neither will I condemn thee;" He drove a legion of devils out of the man tormented with impurity; He cured the man who had been thirty-eight years in his infirmity and said to him: "Sin no more, lest some worse thing happen to thee."

Your principal fault lies not in your passions but in your discouragement. St. Theresa of Avila used to say: "Theresa and two ducats are nothing, but Theresa and two ducats and God are everything." Your last two bucks may help some catechist keep going in Bengal, and the charity that gave them should win you the grace to make a good confession. Drop in today, with both hands raised in surrender. Give the grace of God a chance to operate in your soul. The fact that you have failed in the past means nothing. Why, even the alumnus who wrote, "Just Facts" several years ago is now practically a daily communicant. -- And just keep in mind that a priest's greatest earthly reward is in the joy of his penitents.

Filial Love and Affection.

On Father's Day the number of Holy Communions in the Sorin chapel was the lowest since February 14 (if we except the three days immediately following Easter Vacation.)

PRAYERS: Chas. Ryan's sister died a few days ago. Jack Mahoney's brother underwent an operation this week. Two deceased relatives of Vernon Knox; one of Ed. F. Cunningham. Four special intentions.