

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 7, 1931.

The Red Carnation.

Yesterday's Bulletin announced the death of John F. Sullivan's mother. John was called home Sunday, and he had the satisfaction of a few hours with her before the end came. She died during a Novena of Masses for the mothers of Notre Dame men; it was almost the eve of Mother's Day and only a month before her son's graduation from Notre Dame. God called her to her reward: she will have her Mother's Day in heaven, with the Mother of all Notre Dame men.

There are probably one hundred and fifty students at Notre Dame who have lost their mothers. Among them one finds some of the sturdiest characters in the school. The reason is not so far to seek. In the first place, when God takes the mother from the family, His grace may be expected to supply in abundance for the guiding voice His Divine Providence has stilled. Secondly, thoughtlessness is one of the chief faults of youth, and a boy's beautiful memories of his mother may evoke inspirations unknown to the boy who takes her living presence too much for granted, may give pause to impulses which are often followed heedlessly by boys who reckon not the value of a mother's heart until it is broken.

Again, when God takes a mother, His Mother takes the son under her special protection; and if the boy's mother has taught him devotion to the Mother of God, it will be intensified now by the very need he has of consolation and guidance. And what better protection can a boy have in these days of contempt for the sacredness of womanhood than a strong devotion to her whose glory is that she was both Virgin and Mother.

And so, when you see a red carnation on a boy's lapel next Sunday, let your sympathy be tinged with a holy envy, for that boy now has a very personal interest in heaven, his mother's living home; his mother is privileged to spend one more Mother's Day with the Mother of God. But in your Holy Communion for your own mother next Sunday, remember also in your charity that some mothers of Notre Dame men may yet be languishing in Purgatory for the daily faults from which not even mothers are immune, and give them all a prayer: "May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace."

The 3:30 Mass is Not For Guests.

The 3:30 Mass announced for Saturday morning in the Sorin chapel is for students, but not for their guests. The students who attend it are required to be in their places of residence after the Mass, so they will see their guests home before that hour.

Special Masses Friday.

By request of the Akron Club, there will be a Seventh-Day Mass in the Sorin chapel tomorrow (Friday) morning at 6:25. The 6:30 Mass in the basement chapel will be offered for the repose of the soul of John Sullivan's mother, be request of the New Jersey Club.

The Adoration Saturday Afternoon.

Seven gaps in the line of adorers are listed for Saturday afternoon. Please look these up at the door of the Sorin chapel or at the pamphlet rack, and take care of them in time to assure Adoration that afternoon.

PRAYERS: Father McVeigh was called home Tuesday by the death of his sister. Louis Alan's mother is ill. Jos. Heirde's sister is to undergo an operation this week. A deceased friend of a student. Two relatives of Charles and Donald Dolezal are ill, one of them very seriously. M. Gosselin is in a critical condition at home. Five special intentions.