

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
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Now We Know What You Think Of Your Folks.

Some time this fall a student was called to the carpet for a major infraction of the rules which involved dismissal. An urgent call came from home to the rector: "Please don't send the boy home. His mother has been in the hospital for three months, and this will be too much for her to stand." All the rector could say in reply was this: "I'm sorry we didn't know about that sooner; we could have had prayers offered for her. The boy himself doesn't seem to have been aware of it. He hasn't received the Sacraments at all this session, and he has even missed Mass on Sunday."

Isn't there a familiar ring to this story? Take a second look at your calendar, the one marked, "Home Folks' Year." Read the first paragraph: "'No one knew he had a mother until he got himself into trouble.' This crude, direct comment was made about a boy whose conduct had merited expulsion, and who begged for mercy on the plea that the disgrace of dismissal would kill his mother. The harsh comment was justified, for his conduct up to the time of his dismissal was such that a charitable observer would have concluded to an entire absence of home training. Give your parents a break this year: think of them when temptation comes, not after you are caught."

When we look over the fall season we can form a fair estimate of what you think of your folks. Approximately seventy per cent have been at least weekly communicants; twenty per cent have gone irregularly, and ten per cent not at all. It helps when these things are made concrete, so we give you a list of a few cases we have observed in this lower thirty per cent:

A's home life is unhappy because difference in religion is the basis of a misunderstanding between father and mother. A has not offered a single Holy Communion this fall for the conversion of his father.

B lost one of his parents this fall; he is leaving the soul of this deceased parent to the charity of others' prayers.

C's father hasn't had a job for the past eighteen months and the family is in straitened circumstances; but C finds money for liquor, and if he prays he does so in secret - he has not been seen at the altar rail.

D has a sister whose health is frail but whose spirit is worthy of a better cause. She is denying herself many things she needs and sends the bulk of her earnings to D - to safeguard his soul by the aids of Catholic education. He has heard that you can't get an education at Notre Dame unless you live in the state of grace, but apparently he is not here for an education.

E caused his parents enough grief last summer to send them to their grave, but so far as we know he has not yet offered Holy Communion for them by way of reparation.

"Your parents will appreciate a Spiritual Bouquet for Christmas." That's what the calendar says for December. The Novena began today. If you have failed thus far in your appreciation of the good things your parents have done for you, make it a Novena of reparation. And if you form your intention now to make the Novena for your parents, you may still gain for them the spiritual benefits of the Novena of Masses we have offered you.

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PRAYERS: Paschal Onesto and Frank Graham have undergone operations for appendicitis this week. Deceased relatives of Bob Gorman, Jerome Huggar, Bob Glaser, Wm. Schmidt, George Rohrs; the deceased mothers of Joe Seales, '30, Ted Leisbocker, ex-'28, and a Holy Cross Brother teaching in Ft. Wayne. Ill: Bob Hilger's mother, relatives of Tom Yarr, Ed Korns, Vernon Tetrault, and another student; friends of five other students. Two thanksgivings, five special intentions.