

Anniversary Mass for
Joe Lord - brother
6:25 - church

University of Notre-Dame
Religious Bulletin
January 21, 1932

Mail in pledges
or deposit in
boxes in halls

Pro and Con on the Pledge.

Objection. - Why should I sign it? I never drink anyway.

Answer. - Your pledge may help a weaker brother to take it; example is powerful.

Obj. - But I like liquor and I never abuse it.

Ans. - There is no reward for giving up something you don't like. The pledge, as we take it, is a supernatural act of self-denial, made in memory of the Passion and the thirst of Christ on the Cross; it brings a reward in heaven. In you Lenten penance, do you give up something you don't like? The true Christian, who follows Christ daily, takes up his cross daily.

Obj. - I am afraid I won't keep it if I take it.

Ans. - Does the fear that you won't keep your purpose of amendment keep you from making one when you go to confession? Strengthen your will so that you will keep it. Take the pledge for short intervals only if your will is so weak; learn the joy that comes of sticking to your good resolution, if only for two weeks.

Obj. - I don't think much of a fellow who can't stay sober without a pledge.

Ans. - Do you think more of a fellow who gets drunk without a pledge? You may think the signing of a pledge indicates a weak will. It may, but it is a willing will, one that wants strength and has the courage to use the means to obtain it. Weak will is just one more item of overproduction that is keeping us in the depression.

Obj. - I would be a laughing-stock among my friends if I signed the pledge.

Ans. - Great friends you have! They are just the kind who will get you out of trouble when discipline catches up with you - just the friends who will bail your soul out of purgatory when you die. Stick with them. Sink or swim together. The purpose of the campaign for the pledge is to let you know that you can find good friends here who never drink. This will bring them out.

Obj. - You are a wet blanket if you don't drink at social affairs today.

Ans. - Here is what a freshman has to say in answer to that: "The only reason why the modern student drinks is that he thinks it smart. He feels that since he is entering manhood it will make him look more like a man if he drinks in the presence of the modern flapper. I thought it was smart once myself, but after a hangover and a stiff lecture and punishment by my father I changed my mind. Now I can see how crazy I was - and how crazy others still are."

Obj. - We always have it at home, and I want to be able to take a drink now and then with the family.

Ans. - Place that sort of limitation on your pledge if you like. The boy who agrees never to take a drink except in his own home - when the family is at home - is not likely to abuse liquor.

Obj. - I don't see any need for it.

Ans. - They say that Henry Ford denies that there is a depression and doesn't believe in charity - but that doesn't nullify the depression and it doesn't feed any hungry mouths or give employment to any idle men. If you see no need for it for yourself, take it to encourage the poor fellow who does need it - and there are such fellows: take it on faith if you don't know it by experience. It is charity to help your fellow-man - and surely you believe in charity.

PRAYERS: Paul Brannan's brother died yesterday. Mrs. Dacle wishes to thank you for your prayers which aided her recovery from a very dangerous operation. A brother of Mr. Thos. Fleming, C.S.C., is very ill. Two deceased friends. A sister of James Payne is ill. Six special intentions.