

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
February 3, 1932

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Common Sense From a Wise Mother.

The following letter concerns one of the recently departed. It should also concern you. It describes a situation all too common, and meets it squarely.

"To the dean: I am sorry to advise you that we feel obliged to take our son out of the University. Since, apparently, he is making very little effort to progress, we feel, in view of recent financial difficulties, that he is wasting his time and our money.

"Had his lack of interest become evident in his freshman year, we would feel that there was a possibility of development in the right direction, but I know you will understand that his failure at this time is inexcusable.

"I want you to know that my husband and myself sincerely appreciate the tireless efforts of you and your associates to bring him through successfully, and we realize only too well that his failure is due undeniably to one thing -- lack of cooperation on his part. We will come down later in the week to settle all accounts."

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There is some hope for a boy whose mother is that sensible. But one cannot envy her the task of bringing him around. He neglected his religion shamefully, he 'wasted his time and their money' when money was hard to get, he was ungrateful, unappreciative, spineless, a disgrace to honest parents.

If he were the only one of his kind at Notre Dame, there would be no need to publish this letter. Because there are many others here who have some or all of his faults, we take the liberty of giving you his mother's sensible analysis of the situation, and call your attention to the sensible remedy she applied. Read her letter again as an examination of conscience. Read it with pen in hand, and insert your own italics.

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In spite of the depression, many of you have not yet found your knees. The number of Holy Communions during the first semester was approximately 600 below the total for the first semester a year ago - and the second semester has had a bad start. It is really shameful to see boy after boy whose parents are scraping to the bone to keep him in school, let month after month go by without a single Holy Communion offered for their intentions. These are the fellows, of course, who do not read the Bulletin. You will do them and their parents a charity to mail a special copy to the ones you know are in this unholy state of insensibility. It would be cruel - but also kind.

Off-campus Students, Attention!

This is your official notice that Friday of this week is the First Friday. The campus students will get their notice on tomorrow's Bulletin. Your attention is called to the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament that day; the exposition begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. (Benediction at 7:00 and 7:30.)

An Extra Day For Adoration Cards.

Promoters have an extra twenty-four hours for collecting signatures on adoration cards. They may be turned in Thursday evening instead of Wednesday. This day of grace has been made necessary by the distractions of the past week. (And if you want a card for Saint Patrick's Day, you'll have to pick it up at the Sorin pamphlet rack; the German who made out the cards ignored March 17. Let's see if there are good Irishmen in the house.)

PRAYERS: Wm. C. Reilly, Morrissey Hall, underwent an operation for appendicitis last night. Dick Shiels, who has been ill since the holidays, is now out of danger. Blake Gordon, '31, asks prayers for his father who is very ill. Henry Asman's pastor is ill. Paul Halbert's aunt, deceased; John Wallace's aunt, ill. Four special intentions.