

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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A Contrast - Make Your Choice.

The mother of a graduate of a few years ago has asked us to publish her acknowledgement of a favor - the return of her husband to his religion before his death. The man had neglected his duties as a Catholic for twenty-five years, and he found ease for his sufferings through the prayers offered for him at Notre Dame and the application of Lourdes Water. He suffered from air hunger; for seven weeks he could not sleep; he fell asleep only when the Water of Lourdes was applied to his eyes, and the next day he passed away peacefully, with the Names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph on his lips, after receiving the Last Sacraments with beautiful dispositions..

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We know that this devout Catholic widow will pardon us if we mention by way of contrast another death recently recorded for us - for she prays for you and will approve of anything that helps you in the way of salvation.. The other story is of a Catholic man whose wife was a non-Catholic who refused to have children because they would interfere with her round of social duties. They lived their narrow, selfish life; he took to drink, and she kept pace with him. He died of alcoholic poisoning; and without the ministrations of a priest; she was drunk when he died, she was drunk throughout the wake; she was drunk at his funeral - and she has recently found another drinking partner to share her joys and sorrows..

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Why do we spoil this beautiful story of wifely devotion with even the mention of anything horrible? Because among you there are men who are making the second choice: they are going out with women who will make drinking partners in unholy matrimony instead of girls who would pray for them for twenty-five years and save their souls in the end.. There are still good wives and mothers; there are still good girls. Those who seek them find them, especially if they seek them in prayer at the Grotto.

Happy Daze.

Candles at the Grotto..... perhaps a hundred..... still burning at eleven p.m.... exams? You wouldn't think so to look at the spotted records in hall chapels these mornings... or listen to the howls of the drawers of wood and the throwers of water..... midnight vigils to study for exams and guard the woodpile for the bonfire.... and an empty chapel in the morning..... and the team needing prayers..... even more than cheers..... and exam week in November used to see the biggest crowds of the year in the chapels....

Will there be anybody in the church Saturday morning at the Mass for the team?.... Not if history repeats itself.... torchlight procession at 6:30..... bonfire at 8:00.. and visitors all over the grounds.... they could go tonight, of course, but they won't... they can't hear you when you tell them... daze - happy daze - that wild look in the eye.... and the team needing prayers.... They could go tonight, yes... 150 could go in one hall chapel we could mention.... but will they?.... they will not....

They will go to confession Saturday morning.... of course, 1500 of them to four priests in 30 minutes.... surely.... and after breaking their fast Friday night.... and all the time meaning well.... and cheering the team that needs prayers....

And the season-wreckers who can't celebrate without committing sin... the buzzards..... the Pittsburgh game scared them away, but they are flocking back with high hopes and plans.... and gin.... and the end of the season still four games away.... and everybody in a daze.... Let's all pray for sense, and if there are fifty sane men left on the grounds, let them march the rest of the school in to confession tonight.... for the team that asks for prayers..

PRAYERS: James Manion is ill in the hospital, suffering from an abdominal infection. Geo. Howlott's grandmother, deceased; Philip Faherty's grandfather, ill.