

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
November 4, 1935

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Gratitude.

If you had visited your hall chapel, or the Grotto--instead of the City--immediately after the Notre Dame victory last Saturday, you would have seen a strong representation of students kneeling in prayer. They were giving thanks.

Only a shrivelled-up misanthrope is incapable of gratitude. Such a one judges favors and "breaks" as children of mere chance. The misanthrope is too much absorbed in his own pleasures and interests to owe thanks to anybody.

Even to his own mother? Yes, even to her. She is to the ingrate only a kind of servant, valuable when she is able to minister, forgotten when she can be of no use.

The ingrate's associates get all that's coming to them. Why should he manifest gratitude to them? That is the attitude of the shrivelled-up misanthrope.

He may smile and glad-hand and try to play the good fellow. But self-seeking--not gratitude--is behind it all.

The truly grateful man remembers and repays in private without hope of future reward.

There are the Notre Dame dead: Rockne and Sullivan and Johnny Young and Gipp; boys like Jack Sweeney and Joe Donahue and Charley Hodierno; priests like Father O'Donnell and Father Cavanaugh. They, with a host of others, built up the marvellous spirit of Notre Dame.

You proudly show yourself in the full brilliance of that spirit.

Is your mother dead? Your father? Certainly some close relative or friend to whom you owe much is dead and gone.

Will you remember them?

The dead are silent. They publish no newspaper, speak over no radio. That's why the Church dedicates this month of November to the Poor Souls.

If you fail them you are not just thoughtless, not merely careless. You are traitorously ungrateful, because gratitude won't let a man forget.

They Can Help.

If you are too small to work for gratitude, there is another strong motive for praying for the Poor Souls; it is their power to help you before the throne of God. They cannot aid themselves, but their prayers can help you aplenty.

The regular novena of Masses and Communions for the Poor Souls started this morning. If you slept in, begin tomorrow morning.

Attend public prayers at 5:00 (p.m.) in the Church. Make a list of your dead relatives and friends. Drop the list immediately into the box provided in your hall--or into the box at the Dillon or Sorin Pamphlet Rack. These lists will be gathered and placed on the Communion Altar in Dillon Hall. There every morning of the novena a special Mass will be said for the souls of your dead.

Father Massart's Fund is now, thanks to many good people, \$110.80. Can we make it \$200? If we can, by November 15, Father Massart will get his purse by Christmas.

PRAYERS: Ill, mother of Patrick Bannon (Brownson) recovering from a major operation; Lou Tiorman; friend of Frank Quinlan; grandmother of Edmund Bartnott (Iyons).