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Importance of Example.

What is the greatest enemy of the Faith today? Is it communism or socialism, the bigotry of some non-Catholics, atheism? Is it fear of Catholicism and of the Pope?

These are, to be sure, enemies of the Faith, but, according to the forthcoming Religious Survey of the alumni, the bad example of Catholics themselves is easily the leading obstacle blocking the spread of the Church.

How can a Catholic best combat religious indifference among non-Catholics? That is another question put to alumni. Is the answer, argument, persuasion, good reading, Catholic companionship? All these received many votes, but the cure for religious indifference suggested most frequently is this: Give good example to non-Catholics!

Still a third question--How would you go about converting a non-Catholic relative or close friend? Alumni answered, for the most part, By giving good example.

Catholic Action.

You are aware that the Catholic world is mentally alive today to the need of Catholic Action. You know what Catholic Action means--the actual participation of the laity with the hierarchy in winning men to the Catholic Church.

But have you considered it absolutely necessary that you mount a rostrum, write a book, found a hospital, in order to be an apostle of Catholic Action? Have you been awaiting the day when you would get out before the world to wield your influence in behalf of the Catholic Church? Have you thought that a logical and highly-trained mind and a glib tongue are the most effective instruments of Catholic Action?

If you have, revamp your ideas. Non-Catholics may arbitrarily avoid your arguments; they may pick apparent flaws in your theses; eloquent words may die fruitless deaths on your lips.

But non-Catholics cannot insulate themselves against the magnetism of a constant, exemplary Catholic life.

Here on the campus today you are an influence for or against devout attendance at Mass and the Sacraments. You are an influence for or against sobriety of life. You are foul-mouthed or clean; a liar, or a man of truth. You are in your social contacts a gentleman, according to Catholic principles; or you are a sensual pagan.

And you will change very little after you receive your degree. As you form your character today, you will act tomorrow.

It is a duty in charity to pray for conversions during the Church Unity Octave, to have your non-Catholic friends and relatives remembered in the special prayers and Masses of the Octave.

But remember, the issue of conversions is up to you as forcefully today as it ever will be. You yourself, by your life, are either with Christ or against Him. You are either gathering with Him, or you are scattering.

Mass.

Mass, Saturday morning at 7:20 in Dillon Hall chapel for Tom Bulger's father, at the request of the Indianapolis Club.

PRAYERS: (deceased) grandaunt of Tom Doody (Badin); cousin (4th anniversary) of Jim Fitzgerald (Walsh); brother of ... 1870; William Howel. Ill, mother of Paul Guarnieri (Walsh) and of Harold Gilday (Morrissey); uncle of Jack O'Donnell (Morrissey); friends of student; (appendectomies) Dan Blair (Dillon); Jim McGuire (Cor.); L. Russell