

Mass Friday of Apparition
of St. Michael, p. 810.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 7, 1936.

Response to Courtesy.

President,
Notre Dame University,
Notre Dame, Indiana.

Owen S. Samuel
Lawyer
Emporia, Kansas

My very dear Sir:

On April 11, 1936, my beloved daughter and myself made a trip from New Castle, Penn. to Evanston, where she is doing her MA work at Northwestern University. We stopped over at your institution. Needless to say we were more than happy at our decision to do this. Everyone has heard of Notre Dame, but it had never been given to us to look the plant over and see things in action.

On our arrival at the outer gate we decided merely to look the place over casually. But when the gateman informed us that some one would be glad to show us around we told him that we welcomed the idea but that we had not had our breakfast. He informed us that we could get our meal there, which we did. We became acquainted with a young man by the name of William Ellis, if my memory serves me rightly. I once was an athlete at the College of Emporia and at the Kansas State Teachers' College and I come only twenty-five miles from the place where the lately beloved and deeply lamented Knute Rockne met with his ill luck and death. Naturally, Mr. Ellis and I found something in common. After breakfast, he informed us (as had the cashier) that we could look over the dining room, kitchen, etc., etc., and that he would render us any help that he could in inspecting the grounds and the various buildings. We gladly accepted his invitation, and proceeded to see things. Everywhere we went he was met by kindly boys and priests who saluted him, "Good morning, Bill" and who were KINDNESS itself. No one could have been more royally entertained or better treated, not even the President of our United States. We were deeply impressed by the sincerity of purpose and the genial manner and friendly attitude displayed toward us and I took occasion to so state in one of the postcards I sent to our fellow townsman of this city, Albert H. Gufler, the town's best booster and a most highly respected member of your church.

We are non-Catholics, but we attended your church on Easter morning. We are not curious folk. The Catholic religion is not a new thing to us; in fact, my sister became a member of your church. We did not go to church out of curiosity but out of a desire to get some real benefit. We met some of the young men there. They are easy to look at and easy to like. I mean by that, they are highly respectable folk and the kind of young men whom a fond and proud father would not object to have meet his only daughter.

We feel deeply indebted to your Mr. Ellis for the favors shown us and we hope that you will convey to him our appreciation and thankfulness for his consideration and for the courtesies extended to us.

It is just such things as these that wipe out the too deeply rooted prejudice against your religion in some parts of our country. Mr. Ellis deserves a great deal of credit, as do all the folk of your institution whom it was our privilege to meet.....

Yours very truly,

May 2, 1936

(Signed) O. S. Samuel.

PRAYERS: (deceased) mother of Brother Leander, C.S.C. Ill, Fred Snite, in Peiping, China; George Morris (Badin); Bob Mark; relatives of two students. Three special intentions.