

Mass Saturday of St.
Gregory, p. 813.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 8, 1936.

General Communion for Mothers
next Sunday--Go to confession
tonight or tomorrow.

Notre Dame's Greatest Riches.

University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana
Office of the President

May 6, 1936.

Dear Father Cavanaugh:

My attention has been directed to an item published recently in the Religious Bulletin in reply to the allegation, "Notre Dame is rich."

Please allow me an extension of remarks on this topic. You are right in saying that Notre Dame is not "rolling in wealth," and that in comparison with some of the heavily-endowed universities, our resources are meagre. I should correct the endowment figure. The Board of Lay Trustees have invested for us a little less than \$1,500,000. Nearly 400,000 dollars of this consists of investments for scholarships and prizes; the interest on the remainder goes to pay the salaries of lay professors.

Large gifts have been quite rare in the history of the University. In addition to the invested funds mentioned, perhaps another million and a half would be the total of benefaction for buildings and current expenses. The large contribution, of course, has been the one you have indicated--the donation of services by members of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

But Notre Dame is exceedingly rich--in the things that count more than money. Probably no other school in the world has a greater wealth of friends who pray for its success. From letters that come to us, we may estimate that hundreds of thousands of prayers are offered every day that God may bless the work of Notre Dame. Notre Dame is rich in the prayers of her students. The millions of Holy Communions that have been offered here in the last score of years; the millions that have been offered elsewhere by alumni and old students as a result of their Notre Dame training; the adorations, the rosaries, the visits to the Blessed Sacrament and the Grotto, the Masses heard, the acts of charity and devotion, the whole spiritual life of her students--these things have brought countless blessings on Notre Dame. We would not trade them for all the endowments and all the prestige of all the other universities in the land.

Notre Dame exists because she has a mission to fulfill. So far as we can see into the Providential design, Notre Dame has been given the task of training men of character who can show the world how to apply Catholic principles in the two-fold problem of salvation--the salvation of the individual and the salvation of society.

Sacrifice has built Notre Dame, and sacrifice must sustain it. We recognize pressing material needs, and in our idealism we still remain practical enough not to refuse benefactions that relieve material needs. But we have rejected and we will continue to reject any material assistance that demands any surrender of principles which we hold essential to our mission.

When St. Lawrence, Deacon, was seized for martyrdom, his accusers demanded of him the treasures of the Church. He showed them the poor, whose prayers brought God's blessing. St. Lawrence has taught Notre Dame a lesson which we must not forget.

Sincerely yours in Domino,

(Signed) John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.

PRAYERS: (deceased) uncle of Robert Hackman (Lyons); Father Winnick's brother; mother of James Wheeler, old student. Ill, George Morris (Badin); relative of V. Turiano (Alum.); friend of Bill Horan (Badin); brother of Ralph Pope (Morr.). 2 sp. ints.