

Novena for Purity to
the Immaculate Concep-
tion starts tomorrow:...

University of Notre Dame
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...daily Holy Communion;
daily recitation of the Lit-
any of the Blessed Virgin.

Christmas Tip.

Mr. Lunn's latest book, "Within That City," is just off the press. In recommending that you put the book on the top of your Christmas shopping list, we do far less a favor to Mr. Lunn and his publishers than we do to you.

Once books on religion were supposed to be read in spite of their dullness. Their dullness had to be loyally suffered for what went with it. Speaking altogether soberly, Mr. Lunn's vast experience, his quickness of wit, his cultured appreciation of beauty, his real learning and sound common sense make him the ideal literary host. Under his skilled authorship, religious experience becomes in print, what it actually is, the high romance of all life.

Some of his chapter headings give you a tip-off on the high quality and rare appeal of his book:

The Tyranny of Fashion; The Prejudice Against Dogma; Water Into Wine; Puritanism and the New Psychology; the Rosary and the Modern Mind; Reticence in Religion; Catholic Intolerance; Selective Indignation.

Here are samples from another chapter entitled, The Prejudice Against Prayer:

"The Greek who asked the assistance of Aphrodite Pandemos in an affair of love, or of Hermes if he was a pickpocket, did not feel in the least smug or sanctimonious, and the gangster in Edgar Wallace's play On the Spot did not suffer any embarrassment when he invoked the intercession of Our Lady to help him out of a particularly precarious situation. The Greek and the gangster did not feel smug because there is nothing smug in addressing requests for practical assistance to those whom one sincerely believes to be in a position to grant these requests.

"Prayer becomes self-conscious and sentimental when we cease to believe in its practical importance. Nothing has been more fatal to devotion outside the Catholic Church than the thesis which we owe to Modernism, that it is of little value to pray for anything but a change in one's own character. It was unscientific, so we were told, to pray for good weather, but not unreasonable to pray for a good character. The scientist was prepared to condone, 'Please make Tommy a good boy,' but refused his imprimatur to 'Please make Sunday a good day.'.....

"Long before I became a Catholic a friend of mine, who had been born in the Church, explained to me that Catholics might be divided into praying Catholics and non-praying Catholics. He was a non-praying Catholic; not, mark you, a non-practising Catholic, for he kept the faith on one Low Mass a week, and one confession and Communion every year. I was impressed, and I decided that if ever I became a Catholic, I would join the non-praying part of the Church. But a careful study of the texts from which the Church derives her charter suggested the melancholy conclusion that the founder of Christianity had made no provision for people who do not pray. I am now inclined to suspect that my friend prays with difficulty rather than not at all. 'Ask and ye shall receive.' If Christ meant what he said, it is foolish not to ask."

You can with equal assurance present "Within That City" to Catholic or non-Catholic, to male or female, young (not too young, of course,) or old. As a suggestion: to add something altogether personal to your gift, order a copy early and ask Mr. Lunn to autograph it before he leaves the campus sometime around the middle of next month. The publishers are Sheed and Ward, 63 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.; the price is \$2.50. PRAYERS: (deceased) Fr. Conrado Fernandez, student 1913, murdered at Barcelona; Gregory Franzwa, '32. Ill, Ed Shields (appendectomy); Rev. James Drought, New York City; sister-in-law of Warren Brown; aunt of Ed Goldsmith (Walsh). Two special intentions.