

St. Vincent de Paul  
Dance Friday at 8:30  
Progress Club, \$1.00  
Proceeds to the Poor.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
April 27, 1939

Get the Father's Novena  
card at mailing room in  
your own hall. Take one  
only please.....

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An Open Letter To A Notre Dame Man In  
Danger Of Losing His Faith.

"Dear Dick:

"I was sorry to get that letter the other day telling me how you've slipped out of the habit of going to Sunday Mass. Obviously the easiest way out of the Church is not to go into it. You're seeking advice. I say, first thing, go to the Mass!

"And study. You must reconstruct. Everything is going to depend on your reasoned conviction. Settle yourself on God's existence. Ponder again the spirituality and deathlessness of your soul. Straighten out the relation of yourself as a creature to God your Creator. The rest will be easy enough. And, above all, never forget there isn't one point in the whole Catholic Faith that exasperates reason. It is all a question of revelation-- whether God can speak and whether He did. If He did, what did He say?

"But you must do more than study. Get down on your knees and pray. Get to 'know' Christ again in the Blessed Sacrament. Don't you remember 'Adoration' here on the campus in October and Lent and May? Sure, everyone finds prayer difficult, especially private prayers. You run through the beads. Sometimes you wake up at the 'Amen' and can hardly say whether it was a 'Hail Mary' or an 'Our Father' you just finished.

"But in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament enthroned above you, it's different. His simple, humble, white presence casts a spell over you. There is something-- no, Someone-- to focus your thoughts on. More intimately, more personally than ever before Christ becomes part of you and your daily life. You see how He loves you, this God in front of you, who made you and died for you on the Cross, whose earthly abode is this little White Host because 'His delight is to be with the children of men.'

"Take the students who 'make' these privileged periods of Eucharistic devotion. They are drawn by the force of God's love toward the Sacred Heart. Willingly they attach themselves to the person of Christ. It is a practical thing, for they have found He is their very best Friend. He eases their minds and solves their doubts. He keeps them from sin. He teaches them to break up the beginnings of sin, the occasions; the first bad thoughts or impulses; harshness when it starts to form in the mind. Because of the 'Adoration' they do always the things that please Him.

"As their half-hour ends, they take off their cassock and surplice. Daylight shocks them into the sordid world again. Still, as they walk on the gravel walks or the cinder paths back to their rooms, they are much refreshed. With lighter mind they prepare for the next day's quiz. With quicker thrust they ward off the tempter, their 'smutty joke-pal' or a cheap pictorial magazine. Even though wild, impure, perhaps sacrilegious thoughts fly through their minds, they are not put off balance. Their renewed will, their courageous faith are too strong to beg down. Christ has shown them at 'Adoration' sins as they really are: vile, crude, unwelcome. Their wills learn to say, 'No go!'

"Dick, you'll be happy again if you give yourself to a little thought, then return to confession and Mass and Communion. You will meditate in the presence of Christ. Your prayers will burst into short, sincere acts of faith, hope, contrition and love.

"P.S. Tonight on the campus 'canvassers' will be at it again promoting 'Adoration in May.' The students will sacrifice. For they know that while they can poke that little white sphere over the fairways and onto the greens all summer, they can go to 'Adoration' only in May."

PRAYERS: Ill, (operation) Father Vincent Mooney, C.S.C.; (operation) William Mayo of Rochester, Minn.; uncle of Chuck Gainer (Mor.); aunt of Pat Gorman (Walsh); uncle of Geo. William (Sorin); Angel Gonzalez (Freshman). Two special intentions.