

Deceased: Father James
French, C.S.C.; father
of Fr. Craddock (Aniv)...

University of Notre Dame
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...friend of J. Monahan,
'40. Ill. oper. Larry
Bracken (Al).

Feast of St. Thomas.

You hope to be a learned man some day? Get acquainted then with St. Thomas Aquinas, Patron of Catholic learning, whose feast we celebrate tomorrow.

He is just about the greatest mind that the Catholic Church ever produced. And what a lovable character! Everywhere his writings manifest the simple humility that must preside over scholarship to keep it from turning vain and arrogant.

Once St. Thomas wrote to a young man. Here is the advice he gave:

"You have asked me, dear friend in Christ, how you must study to acquire the treasure of knowledge. My advice to you is based upon this principle; that you go through the rivulets and do not try at once to come to the sea, because we must necessarily go to the more difficult through the less difficult. This, then, is my advice to you:

"Be slow to speak;	do not be too familiar with anyone, because too great familiarity breeds contempt and gives occasion for leaving off study;
love purity of conscience;	
pray often;	avoid all needless running about;
love to be in your room;	imitate the saints and the just;
be kind to everyone;	remember every good thing you hear and do not consider who says it;
do not inquire into the affairs of others;	understand what you read and hear;
do not be interested in the sayings and doings of people of the world;	labor to fill the storehouse of your mind;
	do not inquire into things above you."

"If you follow this advice you will bring forth good fruit in the vineyard of the Lord, you will be able to obtain what you desire."

St. Thomas wrote the Office and Mass of the Blessed Sacrament. He wrote many beautiful hymns honoring the Blessed Sacrament. Learning and love of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament - that is the combination that St. Thomas best exemplifies.

You Lose--

--if you didn't get down to Mass this morning or if you miss tomorrow, First Friday and also the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas. On the altar in your hall, just a minute or two from your room, Christ prays for you - YOU - every day. When Christ prays He is always heard. Without your thinking of Him or praying with Him, Christ asks a gift for you at every one of His Masses, - even though you sleep through it all.

On the campus this morning, nearly a hundred Masses were offered by Christ, a hundred times he prayed with you in mind. You were tendered a gift from every Mass: your free will could refuse it, of course. Every gift helps you save your soul. The gifts may be light to see the foolishness of a life of bad habits or mediocrity in virtue; or added strength of will at the time of temptation, or an urge to be sorry for sin united with the determination to go to confession.

All this for YOU. Try to give up a few minutes sleep each day to be near your Ambassador when he is praying for you. Make up for past ingratitude by getting down for daily Mass - especially tomorrow, First Friday.