

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
February 6, 1942

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Prom Prayer.

Our Lady certainly approves of this verse, written on the back of a student's picture of his girl:

Heavenly Father, up above
Please protect the girl I love.
Keep her always safe and sound
No matter with whom or where she is found.

Help her to know, and help her to see
That I love her - and I hope she loves me;
And then, Dear Lord,
Help me to be
The boy that she'd expect of me.

Don't Worry, Mr. Carter.

Recently Boake Carter, news commentator, has laudably been urging a return to God and to His word saying that there we can find true moral and spiritual strength.

But he raises some doubt whether we can rely absolutely on the Bible as the Word of God. He quoted the other night some self-appointed expert as saying there has been so many changes and translations of the Bible that one might doubt whether we have a true copy of Christ's teaching today.

This doubt may rise for non-Catholics, but not for Catholics who can trust that Church who has so jealously guarded that book as the treasure of all ages, setting up finally one official version, the Vulgate, in Latin. This was written by St. Jerome, most learned scholar of his day, about 382 A.D. who used, as guides, all the earlier Greek manuscripts obtainable.

The books of the New Testament have come down to us free from any substantial corruptions. The accuracy and purity of their text is assured by various safeguards.

These sacred books have always been guarded with the greatest reverence and zeal by the Church, just as is the Constitution of the United States.

Their rapid and widespread distribution to the many early Christian communities made any intentional or accidental alteration or change easily detected and corrected on comparison. The substantial uniformity of the texts in all manuscripts, some of which date from the 4th century, shows that at most minor changes crept in during all the time, but never was there any real alteration in doctrinal or moral matters.

Furthermore, the early Church Fathers and writers naturally quoted lengthily and frequently from the earliest Christian Gospels and Epistles. Their ancient quotations correspond with the Church's official version, the Vulgate, and help to guarantee the purity of its text.

The New Testament was certainly not written in English originally. For absolute accuracy and comparison you must go, not to any English translation, but to that Church who was its sole guardian and jealous protector for 1500 years before the King James Version or Luther's Bible in 1520, which incidentally wasn't the first in the German language at all, there being 27 editions of the Bible in German before Luther's. In our own Notre Dame Library, there is an ancient Bible in German, printed before Luther was even born!

Mr. Carter and you too may rest assured that the Catholic Church possesses a true copy of Christ's teachings without any substantial alteration.

PRAYERS: (deceased) mother of Fr. W. McInerney, C.S.C.; uncle of Paul O'Connell (Morr); 5th. Anniv. father of J. Collins (Bro); Mrs. Paul Glynn. Ill, Bro. Marcian, C.S.C..
Eleven special intentions.