

Almsgiving.

The Most Reverend Bishop of this diocese has dispensed you this Lent from the Fast and Abstinence, and suggested as a substitute: Prayer and Almsgiving.

In the gospel for the first Friday in Lent we are told how to give. "When thou dost give alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doth."

Here at Notre Dame you have not as many occasions to see the necessity of giving alms as you would in the outside world. In order to train you in the habit of giving, the collection basket is passed around at the student masses. The proceeds help defray the expenses of the office of the Prefect of Religion, in procuring prayer books, pamphlets, rosaries, the Religious Bulletin, chains and medals, etc., But watch how few give, and if your interested, ask about the amount of the Sunday collections, and you will find that they are very small.

The University helps many of the Students through school by giving them jobs. In most cases, however, parents generously provide students with all their needs and even give them money to spend on themselves as they see fit. The favored ones, might and should exercise their charity towards less fortunate fellow students.

There are students who have to work one semester in order to be able to attend school the next. This, as you may easily see, is a rather slow process, a hard, trying, and unsatisfactory way of getting an education. One student had attended school at Notre Dame for over four years in this way. He had been given permission to live in town, in a small room, which was his sleeping room, his study, and his kitchen. That was the only way he could stay at school. He was given a job as a mail carrier during the Christmas rush, and a generous man gave money to provide the boy with a cafeteria book whenever he needed it. The name of the donor and that of the beneficiary were kept secret. That is what St. Matthew says in the same passage above mentioned: "Let thy alms be in secret and thy Father who seeth in secret will repay thee." Offerings, for cases such as this, could be made to the Prefect of Religion.

There are other ways you might help the needy. You have clothes you might have outgrown or do not need any more; give them to the less fortunate who will appreciate getting them. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." There is in South Bend The House of Hospitality where men unable to work and destitute are cared for by a graduate from Notre Dame, who devotes all of his time looking after the material need of these men and often times, through his self-sacrifice, he brings back to the fold some who had wandered away from the path of righteousness. Every Sunday he sees that Mass is said in that House and that opportunity is given to the men to go to the sacraments. Then there is also the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Leave your offerings with the Prefect of Religion who will see that they are given to those in need.

These are things for you to think about during Lent, a time for Prayer and Almsgiving.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Cousin of William F. Ryan '35, killed in a plane accident; Frank Wukovits '38, brother of William '44 (O.C.) & Tom '38; Father of Pat Canny '28; aunt of Hans Helland ( Sor.); (Ill) Mother of Frank Peluso ( Dil) serious; friend of Leo Hiegel (Dil); Gus Dorais - skull fracture; Mr. Lee, C.S.C. (Moreau Seminary); brother of Bob (Al), Jim (Cav) Torrence - ruptured appendix; friend of Joe O'Toole (Dil); grandmother of Frank Cronan (B.P.); mother of Frank Prokes (O.C.);;niece of Mrs. K. K. Rockne; mother of Brother Jacob, C.S.C. and Brother Titus, C.S.C.