

(FOR THE CATHOLIC STUDENT AT NOTRE DAME)

Get rid of worries
and sin in Confessional
tonight.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 30, 1943

Confessions every eve.
after 7:30 in Sorin and
B-P. Press buzzer twice.

A Discussion About Purity.

If a young man wants to be pure, he can be pure. To say otherwise, is to call into doubt the sufficiency of God's grace.

Chastity begins to take root and to grow in the soul only when the soil is prepared by a sincere desire to practice the angelic virtue. The efforts of a young man are doomed to failure if he prays like St. Augustine prayed before he desired to serve God with his whole heart: "Give me chastity, but not yet". The words of Our Blessed Lord are pertinent to this problem: "Where thy treasure is, there is thy heart also". Reflection on the words of St. Augustine will convince one of the importance of a complete love of purity as a fundamental requirement for the practice of this virtue.

(Only wholehearted desire for purity bears fruit) "In the first dawning of my youth, I had begged of Thee chastity, but by halves, miserable wretch that I am; and I said, 'Give me chastity, but not yet, 'for I was afraid lest Thou shouldst hear me too soon and heal me of the disease which I wished rather to have satisfied than extinguished."

(A bad will leads to habits of impurity.) "From a perverse will was created wicked desire or lust, and serving this lust produced custom, and custom not resisted produced a kind of necessity, with which, as with links fastened one to another, I was kept close shackled in this cruel slavery. I had no excuse as I pretended formerly, when I delayed to serve Thee, because I had not certainly discovered Thy truth. Now I knew it, yet I still fettered. . . . I had nothing, I say, at all to reply, being now convinced of Thy faith, except lazy and drowsy words, 'Presently, by and by, let me alone a little while longer'."

Signs of Sincerety.

(1. Avoidance of the Occasion of Sin)

If a man does not want to be burnt, he keeps his hand at a distance from the fire. He who is sold on the idea of serving God by keeping pure avoids circumstances that would entice him into sin. The sincere servant of God places a careful guard over his eyes, he controls his drinking tendencies, he seeks the society of companions known to be wholesome, he puts to flight images that tempt him and he substitutes for them others of a pure nature.

You can tell a sincere man by the company he keeps. Look at the magazines he reads, the pictures he places on his walls to adorn his room and to lift his thoughts to higher things, the stories he reads and relates, the girls he prefers. He takes to heart the exhortation of Our Blessed Lord: "If the eye scandalize thee, cut it out".

Tomorrow: What Catholic College men say about Holy Communion and Purity.

Start The Novena For Purity.

If you start the Novena Tuesday, it will end on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8. The exercises of the Novena are three: Mass, Holy Communion and a Visit to the Grotto for nine consecutive days. Saint and sinner make this Novena for the sake of uprooting old habits and to store up reserve strength for future battles.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Father Michael Mangan, C.S.C. in India.
(Hospital) Carl Paris (appendectomy); Ray Gosselin (ND V-7). 2 Spec. Int.
(Missing in Action) Lt. J. Francis Corcoran, Army bomber pilot.