

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
April 5, 1948

More Vocations.

You may see priests every where you go. But that does not prove that there are enough priests for the needs of the Church. When you see the priests at Notre Dame together, you may think there are a sufficient number here for the running of the University. You would be wrong. More facilities could be offered to the students if more priests were available.

The Congregation of Holy Cross, which conducts Notre Dame, needs more vocations, and the same can be said of almost all religious communities in this country. Our Bishops need priests for work in their dioceses. In your love for the work of Christ, make this Novena for vocations.

Are Prayers Always Answered?

Students often make Novenas and offer sacrifices with the hope of passing some course, and yet fail. Students have wanted jobs, and have prayed for them by attending Mass, receiving Communion and saying the Rosary, and yet they were not heard. So the question is a very legitimate one.

The answer cannot be given in one word. Some distinctions and explanations must be made. The general reply is that prayer is always answered. By this is meant that God never overlooks an appeal, no matter how small, made to Him. He may not grant the favor requested, but He will always grant something to substitute for it.

God is in a position to know that some favors will be harmful to the recipient. So in His goodness He refuses the request. The favor that He gives as an answer to prayer often goes unnoticed by the person who receives it.

Perseverance in prayer is a condition for the granting of all favors. God does not want to hear a cry of misery and need for His own personal satisfaction. He demands perseverance so that the person praying will make himself worthy of the favor requested. A person who gets what he wants with little effort often fails to make the best use of God's blessings, and often forgets his benefactor.

No request is so big that God cannot grant it. Yet many prayers fail because of their half-heartedness. Funning through the mind of the person in need there must never be the thought, "This is too big a thing for me to ask," or "I am not worthy of such and such a favor." Complete confidence in Him was the one condition that Christ demanded of all those for whom He worked miracles.

Monica prayed for years for the conversion of her wayward son Augustine. God answered her prayers in His own way. Monica's son became a Saint and so did she by her perseverance in prayer.

PRAYERS: (deceased) uncle of John McDonough (Al); friend of Charles Cain (Dil).
(Ill) Frederick McGrann; Stephen Fuschetto, uncle of Ernest De Posa (Morr).
Three Special Intentions. One Thanksgiving.



Begin
NOVENA for VOCATION
Tomorrow

ONE PRAYER or SELF-
DENIAL for a VOCATION