

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
April 6, 1948

It's Up To You, Too.

A recent Catholic news article tells of a religious community that was dying out because of a lack of vocations. Advertising was tried, but no prospects came. Then sacrifice was taken up in earnest. Each day some one member of the community fasted. Worthy applicants appeared almost immediately.

Prayer for vocations is not to be left to the religious communities. Christ was speaking to the faithful when He said, "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest." So you have an obligation to unite your prayers and sacrifices to those of the priests, nuns and monks throughout the world that workers will take up the work of Christ.

There is a shortage of vocations because the materialistic attitude of our age. There is a glamour in the world that attracts young people. It is difficult for them to see any happiness in living the life of the Spirit. Yet God invites many to the priesthood and religious life.

Because of the pull of the world ~~with its joys~~, a very large number of God's invitations go unheeded. It is the opinion of one authority with years of experience in guiding souls that "many, many more are invited than accept." Refusal comes not from a lack of the necessary qualifications, but from either the courage to face the hardships involved in a vocation or an unwillingness to give up the legitimate pleasures of the world.

Your prayer and sacrifice will give those who have a calling the spirit of generosity they will need in accepting the invitation of Christ.

There is so much at stake that you cannot say that one extra prayer or one act of self-denial is too great a burden to add to your life during the Novena for Vocations.

To Our Unseen Benefactors, Thanks!

The four dollar offering left under the office-door of the Prefect of Religion has already been given to a needy cause, as requested.

It is encouraging to see the number of bundles of old clothing that are left in the Dillon Hall Pamphlet Room. There is a place for every article of clothing. Letters from Europe constantly beg us to send even clothes that need repairing. The repairs will be made by the recipients.

Kindness Pays.

When Androclus saw a lion suffering from a thorn in its paw, he felt sympathy for the beast. The lion, recognizing this sympathy, submitted gently to Androclus' pulling the thorn out. Later in the arena, this same lion, starved and maddened, was let loose upon Androclus. But the animal, seeing the same kindly look in Androclus' eyes that it saw there when Androclus pulled the thorn out of his paw, turned gentle and refused to attack his benefactor.

PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of Matty O'Donnell (BP). (Ill) Sister Wencelaus, CSC. Two Special Intentions.