

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 19, 1949

A Mother's Letter.

"My son, James Lawrence Connell, nineteen years old, lost his life in the Battle of the Bulge. Just before he died he said to his Lieutenant, 'I wanted to go through Notre Dame more than anything else.'

"Father, I have just had my son's remains reburied here in Adrian. It has all been one terrible tragedy for me and my family as James was an ideal young Christian. To be a Notre Dame student and graduate was his greatest aim. I am so sorry that he could not have lived to have his greatest wish realized. However, God knows best.

"Will you kindly have my son James prayed for? I shall appreciate it very much and I am confident that he will appreciate it also, even though God did not spare him to go to Notre Dame."

You are the envy of thousands of boys and men in this country -- this letter about James Connell is but a single proof. They envy you all the blessings that come from the spiritual and academic opportunities you have enjoyed. Are you grateful for them? Thank God for selecting you out of many others for this special grace. When you visit the chapel tonight, say an extra prayer for James and his mother.

Where Your Offerings Go.

Germany.

"Dear Father: Over here we say, 'He who helps quickly, helps double!' When we received your CARE PACKAGE we could not trust our eyes. You cannot imagine our happiness and joy for you cannot realize how great a help such a package is for us. The food is so wonderful and it is good for our weak hearts and weak nerves. It would have given you joy to have seen our little grandchildren when we gave them the chocolate. Many thanks for everything. It is wonderful to know that on the other side of the world are people who are warm-hearted and believe the same things we believe. Please excuse our begging letter. It is hard for us to ask for outside help but our poorness and need became greater day by day.

"Now we are in our fifth year away from our home and country. We have to suffer very much living in one room of a flat. You cannot realize what it means to be a refugee, to be forced to leave a beautiful home and its comforts and to take with us only as much as we could carry. The hardest things do not sink into forgetfulness. At times they cause us to suffer even in our dreams. Please, dear Father, think of us in your prayers and in Holy Mass, especially our children and grandchildren, that God will give us health, strength and peace. We send you our most respectful Christian wishes and will not rest from praying for you and your students."

PRAYERS: (deceased) Robert E. Sullivan; cousin of Jack Hilbrich (Dil). (Ill) Lon Lawler. Ten Special Intentions.

Tony Ray seems to be improving.

