

No. 3

I don't catch, says I. After all, padre, what else could he have done?

Now about that, Stooze! I'm beginning to think the pere's gonna give me this angel business the rest of the night, so I sgs to him before he gets in too deep: How about that vocation deal, though? Ya said you was gonna polish it off tonight...remember?

And so ya know, Stooze, the padre than tells me about the little girl in Sunday School. The Sister asks her what Christ did at the Last Supper, and the little tyke says: "He changed twelve men into priests." Well sir, the kid meant okay but she was all wrong, says the padre.

"Even holy Orders can't change human nature, Mac," says he. "There's a lot of folks who think like that little girl. Christ did take twelve men and give them extraordinary powers—the power to change bread and wine into His own Body an' Blood; the power to raise the sinner from the very brink of hell to the heights of heaven; the power to bless and console and act as mediators between creature and creature. And when the chips were down a few years later every one of those other Christs, with the exception of one, went to hell while they dared to stick by Christ and His Church."

[illegible][illegible][illegible]