

Prayers: (deceased) Mother University of Notre Dame ..Ensign (O-C); grandmother
Mary Joseph Havey. Ill, Chuck Religious Bulletin of Bill Delaney (Mor). Spec.
McNeill, '41; mother of Bill... May 10, 1950 Intentions--15.

Notre Dame Action!

In last Sunday's sermon Father Ed Murray gave you a forceful, practical example of what one man can do to bring what Notre Dame stands for into the Marketplace. He told you about a former Notre Dame football captain who, together with his fiancée, walked out of a public dinner given in his honor when an entertainer began his line of ris-que and dirty stories.

"What can I do? I am one against many!"--the timid protest. Suppose St. Paul had said that? Suppose the Twelve Apostles had said the same thing? Suppose St. Benedict, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Dominic, St. Patrick, St. Boniface--yes, suppose every Catholic leader and saint down through the centuries had confused humility with fear and had never risen above a certain average level?

The Christophers are proving what one man can do. They'll soon have a million doing constructive, apostolic work in the Marketplaces--in government, radio, movies, press and education. They believe, as we all should believe, IT IS BETTER TO LIGHT ONE CANDLE THAN CURSE THE DARKNESS.

If we had on this campus 1000 students united, cooperative, unafraid to stand out, as well as to stand up, for what is right, because it is right, regardless of consequences to popularity, we would be blessed with a powerful minority.

But if each of these 1000 students would win over to Christ's cause of ACTION NOW two more students, we would be blessed with a more powerful majority.

If all of these 3000 Notre Dame Actionists --united in a common cause -- would be prepared to act whenever occasion demanded action, or would be enthusiastic enough to go so far as to seek out occasions for serving others, and fighting evil of every type and degree, what an effective force, what a leaven in the mass, what a virile nucleus of Catholic leadership would be enlisted in the ranks of the Church Militant!

Ponder it! Three thousand students attending Mass daily and receiving Christ in the Eucharist . . . on their knees daily adoring the Blessed Sacrament . . . singing the praises of Mary at the Grotto shrine . . . never avoiding because of pious modesty the slightest responsibility . . . never mistaking the narrow path of the Gospel with ruts, but disciplining themselves to carry the cross . . . ready to "take a walk" whenever bull sessions become risqué . . . from whose lips the name of God is uttered only in reverence and prayer . . . upholding the dignity of womanhood because they venerate the Mother of God . . . refusing to patronize stores selling immoral literature and movie houses showing off-color pictures . . . in other words, pledging intelligent, articulate, aggressive loyalty to God, Country and Notre Dame!

Are there three thousand such students? We think there are, probably more. Why are they burying their talents? Are they wandering in celestial fogs where every kind of initiative is considered undemocratic, or a dangerous indication of individualism? What's wrong with individualism--if it is the individualism of leadership and of the saints? Do we not need the homogeneous individualism of 3000 or more Notre Dame students whose spirit, virility and Catholicity will dominate the campus and whose Catholic get-up will prepare them well to become powerful impacts for what is right and Christ-like against hometown environments?

What are you waiting for? A shooting war? Persecution of the Church? Degenerates seducing little children? Blood on your doorsteps? Crime Syndicates glorifying vice? Or are you waiting for angels to lead you, as they lead Lot and his family, away from the bath of fire and brimstone by which God destroyed Sodom and Gamorrha? "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt lose its taste....it is good for nothing any more but to be cast out, and to be trodden on by men."--Matthew 5, 13.