

Prayers: Father of Rev. William McAuliffe, C.S.C., died.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 17, 1951

Father Butler in dying condition, prayers requested.

Ah-h-h!

The Student Council contributed \$500 in your name toward the Jim Aoki Fund. The Bulletin loses its voice but does express vicariously Jim Aoki's gratitude for this as well as other contributions to date. "Vicariously," because as yet Jim knows nothing about this or what his friends are doing. The drive will be closed next week. An anonymous donation of \$20 is received with thanks. The note attached read: "I'm also offering Jim my prayers, which money can't buy." . . . There are other gifts, many of \$1, several \$2's, \$3's, one \$5, also a \$10. This adds up to \$842.

General Confessions For Seniors.

General confessions are advisable not only for seniors but for anyone who is to make an important change in life. For example: entering a seminary, before profession of vows, ordination, graduation, marriage, or before going into the service. Ordinarily these are general confessions of devotion. There is another kind which is of necessity--whenever a sacriligious confession (consciously concealing what one knows to be a mortal sin committed) has not been fixed up.

Here are a few pointers. Select a convenient time--at the tailend of evening confessions in your hall, or later on in the evening in Dillon or Cavanaugh where a priest is on duty till 10 o'clock every night. . . . Use an examination of conscience that you will find in an ordinary prayer book, or consult the pamphlet "Examen For Laymen." . . . Make a half-hour of adoration for the purpose of exciting true contrition and strengthening your purpose of amendment. . . . Tell your sins as simply and as conversationally as you can. Tell the priest ahead of time you want his help. Don't worry your head about rounding out periodic sentences. This is not a confession of your accomplishments but of your defections in love of God and neighbor.

Don't let the general confession disturb you; if you find it upsetting, skip it, or discuss it with your rector, prefect or chaplain.

One thing that disturbs all of us now and then is the worry about our being in the state of grace. Making an honest, sincere, frank general confession is one sure way of doing everything humanly possible to be assured of the state of grace. Receiving absolution for all the sins of one's life, all the mortal sins confessed or mistakenly unconfessed, all the venial sins we are sorry for--for some it is a bath of fire that purifies and renovates; for others its a shot in the arm that re-vitalizes.

Break Down The Discrepancy.

Between Christ's way of looking at things and ours there is a discrepancy. To break it down what is needed is prayerful reflection on Who Christ is and what He stands for. To the prayerful Christ slowly reveals His divinity. In this Light we learn to see things straight, and to see what things are worth while and what are not.

If you have been slow learning, find encouragement in Archbishop Goodier's observation: "From the beginning to the end Jesus would trust Himself on no one. He would give such signs as, if men chose, they could question and reject; He would come to them as one of themselves and they would come to Him in response. He would have their willing faith only, their spontaneous allegiance only, the more free, the more their own, the better. That this might be engendered and developed He would bide His time, He would go ever so slowly, He would endure unceasing disappointment, endless misunderstanding; He would even submit to the failure of many if only in the end He could win true faith and love and trust and glad allegiance from a few. If we forget this feature of the character of Jesus we lost the key to many mysteries."

Prayers: (deceased) aunt of Walt Turner; Ill, friend of Don Cuddihee; Mr. Fred A. Miller of South Bend; Jim Aoki. Sp. Ints. 13. Father of Fay Jonardi.