
Novena For The Sick.

It will begin Wednesday, the feast day of the Little Flower, the Carmelite saint who if she had not died at 24 would not be much older than your grandmother. To her is credited the conversion of millions of heathens, excluding the few around here.

Her mission, she says in her Autobiography, was to "make others love the good God as I love Him. . . to teach my little way to souls." This little way is merely this, doing well and for God the little everyday chores and tasks.

This mission of love she promised to retain even in Heaven. "I will spend my heaven doing good upon earth. . . After my death I will let fall a shower of roses."

Physically Bedridden.

It depends upon which way you look at it. Some are blessed with good health; others are blessed with sickness. It is said that sickness is a blessing in disguise, but it takes deep faith in divine providence to rip off the mask.

All of us know persons who are sick: mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, relatives, friends. If it is a "holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead," it is a holier and more wholesome thought to pray for the living. An ounce of charity outweighs a pound of selfishness. So let's weigh in.

You might include in this novena the sick and injured who have been recommended to our prayers, whether you know them personally or not. Also remember Father Schulte, a Holy Cross priest critically ill; Father Norris, another Holy Cross priest, who has been bed-ridden 15 years with multiple sclerosis; Van Wallace, a Notre Dame student who broke his neck in a shallow dive 25 years ago and has been paralyzed ever since. Jim Aoki, a Notre Dame of last year, who lies paralyzed from the waist down as the result of an unfortunate auto accident; Fred Snite, Notre Dame alumnus, who has been living in an iron lung over 15 years; Dave Madden and Bob Vanderveer, Notre Dame followers, who live in iron lungs, Dave for 3 years, Bob for over 5; the eight members of a shut-in group who have recently organized themselves into a prayer-cell to pray for Notre Dame students. . . There are others, too numerous to mention, who are silent, uncomplaining sufferers, suffering with a purpose.

Spiritually Bedridden.

Nine Masses will be said, beginning October 3, for all the sick, but with special attention for those who are spiritually not in good health; this includes those whose defective early training has swindled them out of a healthy sense of the value of their souls, and whose lives now present the comical contradiction of calling themselves robust Catholics in principle, but denying this in practice.

We place our concern for their welfare with the Little Flower, asking her to intercede with Our Lord that He might say to them what He said to the man sick with the palsy, "Take up thy bed and walk."

They are not beyond redemption.

The Novena for the Sick: Daily Mass, Communion, Adoration, Rosary: Oct. 3 to 11.
Prayers: (deceased) Lt. Elmore Smith '50; uncle of Vic Kroeger (Wal); father of Bob Schirt, '39; father of Judge Steinbacher, '30; Killed in auto accident, mother of Jerry Sechowski. Serious operation, mother of Bob and Jim Hamilton (Alu). Injured in auto accident, the girl friend of Doug Mager; Injured, sister of Jerry Sechowski. Ill Father of Betty Neuminck.