

Deceased: Archbishop Joseph University of Notre Dame  
Schlarman; Bill Browning; Religious Bulletin  
Ed J. Arvey; Ray Manix, '31. November 14, 1951

Ill: Father Mr. Robert Thein;  
father of Hubert Heichelheim.  
5 special intentions.

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Wear A Chip On Your Shoulder.

It is a dead giveaway of his weak character if a man bases his moral actions on what his pals might think, say or do. A pretty accurate definition of character is "life dominated by principles." And as long as we are addressing Catholics we say of character: Life dominated by Christ's principles.

Young men reared in good Catholic families normally have an instinctive aversion for sexy, immoral conversations. Yet not all products of such Catholic environments have the fighting spirit--call it "guts" if you will--to face up to a situation where these fine instincts are challenged.

Few who classify themselves as good Christians condone filthy conversations. But in practice what do they do to suppress them? Are they afraid of a punch in the nose? Or are they ashamed of purity and decency?

"Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God." This Beatitude, directed to the individual, has social implications. If you have any fighting blood in your veins at all, wear a chip on your shoulder with regard to faith and morals and decency, or warm the bench while the Church Militant slugs it out with the Devil to save souls. If your faith isn't worth fighting for, chances are it isn't strong enough to save your soul.

Rockne once asked a mild-mannered tackle: "What can I do to make you mad?" The young Joe Atlas replied: "Take away my food." Whether or not Rockne tinkered with the boy's diet we do not know, but the lad was later mentioned on several All-American teams.

It is not our intention to take away your good food! But there ought to be some way of arousing your sense of decency to make it more militant. Father Charles (Christopher Keller maintains that less than 1% of humanity have caused most of the world's major problems. If another 1%, he contends, go as apostolic workers into the marketplace to restore what the other 1% are working furiously to destroy, there certainly would be a trend for the better.

Apply Father Keller's principle to the campus, not only in regard to profanity and dirty conversations, but in regard to filthy literature and suggestive pin-ups. It's about time for Casper Milquetoast to wise up, flex his muscles. There's too much slumbering courage, too much wasted talents, too much "do nothing" to suit us.

You have to wear a chip on your shoulder to keep the "dig" in your indignation. The majority are right-minded and clean of speech. The majority, therefore, should sanctify the clean tone. No dirty talk at all should be tolerated on a campus dedicated to the Virgin Mother of God. We're not talking about occasional hells and damns. It's barnyard profanity, words associated with sewers, Men's Rooms, houses of sin, interlarded with Names that are sacred in heaven and on earth. . . that's what we're after. So should you.

More than that too. No man with an ounce of self-respect will brag about drunkenness. The sickening boasts about impurity, the loathsome jests about the act of procreation. . . this is rottenness that smells to high heaven.

Don't let them (the 1%?) get away with it. Dare to be different. . . because: "He that shall be ashamed of me, and of my words, in this adulterous and sinful generation; the Son of man also will be ashamed of him, when he shall come in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

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Note: The Third Order of St. Francis conducts weekly classes (Thursdays after night prayers) on how to serve Mass--Log Chapel. Bring your own missal.