

Purity is no problem for
those who are never tempted.

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Live with your rosary. Finger
your beads when in trouble.

Christmas Novena Of Adoration For Parents.

A half-hour of adoration every day for your mother and father! Among other gifts include this Eucharistic Christmas gift. Nothing that you can give a good Catholic mother and father will be more welcome than a statement of generous spiritual offerings for their intentions. (Novena: December 10-19.)

Some of you will find daily adoration too much; you may choose one half-hour or more, according to their convenience and measured by their generosity.

However, a problem presents itself. For the last two years the Christmas novena for parents has not been well received. The "paganizing" of the Christmas spirit has led many Catholic boys to be more anxious about what they were going to get than in what they were going to give. This spirit is not foreign to Notre Dame students.

The problem is whether to have daily adoration from 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. or to concentrate on an hour of adoration daily, from 4:30 to 5:30. Adoration periods in the past have been carelessly filled. Unless we receive confirmation from a sufficient number to warrant the longer period, we'll settle for the twin half-hours. . . The novena begins next Monday.

Your Conduct, An Exception?

Your behavior, good or bad, means the public repute, good or bad, of your mother and father. Motherhood and fatherhood still develops noble character even when it finds selfishness in the raw material. These powerful forces, if properly exercised, produce marvelous transformations in this raw material, provided modern parents enforce the Fourth Commandment.

When the family rosary was universal in Catholic homes, sons and daughters knew the duties of obedience, respect for elders, honor, truthfulness, and decency. Father Peyton's crusade for family prayer has as its chief purpose the restoration of the family rosary.

If our juvenile and college delinquents have a harder time saving their souls than did their mothers and fathers, or their grandparents, we must look to the causes that lie behind the failings.

We might go so far as to quote Holy Writ. In the Book of Exodus (20:5), by way of explaining the First Commandment, God said: ". . . I am the Lord Thy God, mighty, jealous, visiting the iniquity of the father upon the children, unto the third and fourth generations of them that hate me."

Blood will tell. Your selfishness, your bad manners, your neglect of Sacrament and sacrifice, is the mirror in which you will see not your own image but the lineaments of your forebears. There are exceptions, of course, and many worthy reflections. These are recognizable at the altar rail, at night prayer, at Benediction. . . and before Christmas during the adoration periods in the Main Church.

Purity No Problem!

Either we have a large percentage of Pelagians (heretics who believed God's grace was not necessary for justification) or the virtue of purity is no problem, if we are to judge by the mediocre response to the Novena. Less than 50% received last Sunday, the half-way mark. Ivory soap, they say, runs better than that; its 99.9% pure.

Note: The family of John Collier expresses sincere thanks for the spiritual bouquet sent for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Collier.