

Sorrowful Mother Novena
tonight: 6:45.

University of Notre Dame
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Deceased friend of Tom Driscoll and Bob Bouhall; ill, grandmother of John Griffin.

Is Death The End Of All?

For we know that if the earthly house in which we dwell be destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made by human hands, eternal in the heavens (2Cor. 5:1).

All over South Bend there is mourning for Dr. James E. McMeel, former university physician. Not many of you could have known him, but that makes no difference. If you had known him as well as the priests at Notre Dame and the aged priests and brothers in the Community Infirmary, you would readily agree with us and all the doctors and nurses, his patients and friends, that Dr. McMeel was a man's man, a doctor's doctor, an exemplary Catholic, a devoted husband and father of four sons--Jim, Bill, John and Ed. That's a large epitaph for any man, but he was a big man, not physically, but ethically, medically and spiritually.

Doctor McMeel didn't get much rest here on earth, as busy doctors do not, but eternity is long, and his requiem is just beginning. No matter what time of day or night, if the sick needed him, he answered the call to their bedside. And no matter how tired and worn, he had time to assist daily at Mass and receive Holy Communion. Wednesday, the day he collapsed and died, he had been at the altar rail, not realizing that that Holy Communion was his Holy Viaticum.

Although he treated the human body with dignity and respect, and diagnosed its ills with uncanny ability, Doctor McMeel was even more concerned about the spiritual welfare of his patient. In any danger of death, his first thought was to see that his patient--Catholic or non-Catholic--was spiritually right with God. This was just an external manifestation of the way Doctor McMeel lived--God first.

Only one adequate explanation seems to fit Doctor McMeel's zeal for his medical profession--for him it was a dedicated calling, and he devoted himself to its highest ideals with unswerving loyalty. As a Catholic he saw Christ in his patient and thus solved through his own deep piety and strong, verile faith the DIVINE EQUATION.

We are sure, as any man who believes and hopes and loves God can be sure, that Doctor McMeel has reached his destiny in heaven. God had this from all eternity in His mind when He created him and now he has fulfilled the divine ideal fixed eternally for him. Completely, perfectly, ecstatically happy, he will be eternally at rest in an eternal requiem within himself, with all the heavenly court, with God, who made him not for time but for eternity.

Dr. James McMeel gave God his time in the service of the sick and ailing; now God gives him His Eternity. This is the exchange that every man should give for his soul.

How Discipline The Will?

The easy way to develop strength of character is to do hard things. The hard way, and the less sure way, is to do the easy thing and take the consequences. It is the less sure way because not every victim of self-indulgence has the courage to pick himself up from the dust--time and time again.

There is no short cut to a strong will. To do the hard thing takes a strong motive. The will is solicited to act by the motive which attracts it most. If the motive is weak the will-act will be weak. Weak wills are usual among those who have no strong convictions, whose predominant motive is not: first, the Kingdom of God; but more money and more leisure. The function of meditation is to strengthen the supernatural motive and to supernaturalize all natural motives. Use the Gospels for meditation.
Prayers: (deceased) sister of Rev. Timothy Murphy, C.S.C.