

Prayers: (deceased) father of University of Notre Dame Ill, critically, father of
Dick Wright (Mor); friend of Religious Bulletin Prof. Norb Engels; 4 other
Paul Davis (Sor). April 24, 1952 sick persons.

Simplifying Catholicism.

There is no effort being made that we know of to simplify religion within the Catholic Church. The answers to the Catechism are simply enough, as far as answers go. For the real Catholic religion is a way of life. It is as impossible to simplify religion as it is to simplify life.

No one yet has bettered the simple catechism answer that tells us why God made us: We were created to know, love and serve God in this life and to be happy with Him forever in the next.

Knowledge alone of the entire content of revelation is not "the one thing necessary." There are seniors as well as juniors who have on record "good grades" in religion. But for them as for the sophomores and freshmen the Catholic religion is a LIFE TO BE LIVED. And it was Christ Who said: I AM THE LIFE.

Notre Dame will have graduates leaving the campus in June who will have learned a lot about Christ, just as they will have learned as much about any other historical figure.

Daily Mass. . . daily Communion. . . the Grotto. . . Adoration. . . Our Lady on the Golden Dome. . . Good social contacts. . . Contact with Catholic culture. . . all this will have left some men flat. What Notre Dame has here and what Notre Dame stands for will fail to convince others.

But in dealing with the forming of consciences expect only partial success. Our Blessed Lord failed to convince the Pharisees and certain sinners. They saw Him work miracles--saw the blind see, the dead walk again, the loaves and fishes multiplied--but they did not believe.

Christ told those who watched the resurrection of Lazarus that some of them would not believe, though one rose daily from the dead. What is true then is true now--even at Notre Dame. As a matter of fact, there are those who haven't been touched or changed much by exposure to Catholic influence, sacramental or otherwise. These same persons who resist divine grace the last few weeks of their senior year are usually the very ones who have resisted divine grace since their freshman year. There are just as egotistical now as they were then. But there has been some change--they have changed from being stupid egotists into clever egotists!

The Church Is Roman But Not Exclusively Latin.

We of the Latin rite tend to be provincial and think of the Church as being only Latin. But the Catholic Church embraces the Greek, Ruthenian, Armenian, Slavonic, Malabar, and other rites as well as the Latin. This diversity does not detract from the unity of the Church--rather, it enhances the beauty of her Liturgy.

In faith and morals the Catholic Church is the same all over the world. But in the liturgical expression of her faith she has many rites and ceremonies. In our own country alone, more than one million fellow Catholics express their Catholic faith in an approved rite other than our own Latin rite. All these Catholics are Roman Catholics because they acknowledge the supremacy of the Pope, the Bishop of Rome.

Saturday morning at 9:30 in Sacred Heart Church, you will have the privilege of witnessing and participating in the Sacrifice of the Mass according to the Byzantine Slavonic Rite. The Celebrant will be the Very Rev. Alexander Papp, Dean of the Chicago area of the Pittsburgh Diocese of the Byzantine Slavonic Rite. The Mass will be sung by chorus of 100 mixed voices.