

Sorrowful Mother Novena to- University of Notre Dame
night 6:45. . . Confessions Religious Bulletin
in Dillon, Howard & Cavanaugh. May 2, 1952

Prayers: deceased brother of
Brother Julius, CSC; ailing
sister of Bro. Jacob, CSC.

When A Man's A Man.

A hide tanned from lying in the sun or from an angry hair brush doesn't make a man a man. Nor is it grey hair, or a gnarled cane, or a double chin. No matter how old they are, some men just never grow up.

We leave fingerprints, footprints, empty beer cans like carcasses of reputations, behind us. Tell-tale slips reveal physical habits, like the studied unkemptness of our rooms; our words, glances, gestures, reveal on the outside what's going on in the inside. For this reason, with much justification, we say that a boy with a smutty mouth is a boy with a dirty mind. Holy Writ says: "By their fruits you shall know them."

There are many mothers who are so foolishly wrapped up in their sons that they refuse to believe them capable of anything short of the heroic, ever. They imagine all sorts of things and are stupid enough to lie for their children because they simply refuse to believe that their children are human.

But most mothers who are not too busy to make a home for their children are not that foolish, nor so old-fashioned as to know when to say NO. They are natural-born detectives and instinctively know what's going on. Happy the mother whose instincts ring true and who has nothing to learn of her son that will give her a shock.

Many mothers of Notre Dame men have been blessed with thoughtful sons. Some mothers have not been, as anyone knows who watches the chapels and altar rails day after day and week after week.

Give Your Mother A Break.

The Novena for Mother's Day begins tomorrow. Notre Dame will celebrate 9 Masses for your mothers. . . What will you add to this? Flowers that you buy with the spending money your dad gives you? A greeting card that will cost you no more than a pack of cigarettes?

This Poor Mother!

Some years ago a priest was giving the Last Blessing to an old Irish lady. One of her sons was kneeling beside the bed, sobbing. The priest prayed a few minutes, the lines of sorrow on the old face relaxed, and the tired woman breathed her last.

The son dutifully rose from his knees and shook the priest's hand. "Father," he said, "she was an angel from Heaven, but she had four devils for sons." The speaker had, a short time before, received his second divorce and was now courting a divorcee.

What Kind Of A Son Does Your Mother Have?

Some boys never give their mothers a break. Why, you don't even know they have a mother until they get into trouble, and then they do not want you to break her heart!

Motherhood has been, at least for some centuries up to the present, a cherished and sacred institution. . . a state of life aspired to and embraced because in marriage and in motherhood a young lady realized her perfection as a woman.

Daily newspapers record the exploits of notorious women. History has given us a record of some infamous women. But most of these have not been mothers. Biographers make it a point to trace to their subject's mother as many of his good points as they can, and the world generally considers that a man's good deeds or evil reflect credit or discredit on the mother who has borne him. . . How does your mother rate?