

Tomorrow: Adoration
for Morrissey, St. Ed's,
and Breen-Phillips halls.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 7, 1958

Tomorrow: Holy Hour at
4:45 (lower church). Mass
at 5:10 in the upper church.

What Makes Notre Dame Men Good?

Last summer, we met a young lady just graduated from one of the neighboring state schools. Poised, refined, intelligent, she confided that her first choice for a good husband -- no doubt about it -- was a "good" Notre Dame man.

There's something in that tradition handed down to you. People have always noticed something wholesome about Notre Dame men. You hear it wherever you go. Chaplains in the Armed Forces spotted them immediately. Particularly do you hear about it in those isolated cases when a Notre Dame man is not what people expect him to be.

One case in particular -- a graduate who was "ungentlemanly" caused a lady to write in, inquiring if he had actually attended the school. Her impression was that he had stolen the monogram; and he had not acted as did other Notre Dame men whom she had met. Unfortunately, the fellow in question had earned the monogram -- which he wears day and night, year in and year out. As a matter of fact, he had spent four years here, and carried off a prize -- without ever getting an education!

The real Notre Dame man, however, is a wholesome fellow. Perhaps the big point about him is that he takes virtue as a matter of course. The Devil always laughs at virtue; and since the world is full of cowards, he has always had a big audience. The real Notre Dame man knows that virtue is not to be laughed at. Many a time he's told a silly girl to behave herself; or to go home and put more clothes on. And he's tidied up many a stag session without spoiling the fun (this requires a form of leadership not necessarily associated with politics).

What, do you suppose, makes this young gentleman of God so different from the citizens of the world? Last Thursday night, you caught much of the answer at the Grotto when thousands marched as do the pilgrims at Lourdes. For the Freshmen, it was a new and blessed experience. On any evening, if you take a position down Notre Dame Avenue, you'll spot the illuminated Dome, and the masses of masonry that rise above the evening mists, to converge on the one central figure, revealing the secret of Notre Dame. And you'll discover that this whole institution is merely the pedestal for the statue of the Mother of God. It is a tribute of devoted men to their Queen who gave us the highest ideals of womanhood.

Is this over-doing it a little? Not at all, if you remember that the Mother leads us to Her Son. The devotion to the Blessed Sacrament which you observe on this campus is the natural outgrowth of the love and devotion to the Blessed Virgin. It explains why your predecessors asked for Adoration during the month of May. Daily Communion softens the heart to receive the inspirations of grace. And when men have constantly before their eyes the ideals of womanhood that are reflected from the Dome, it is a small wonder that a dissolute world looks upon Notre Dame men as different.

Even Freshmen are not too young to grasp these truths, and to make the most of the aspirations that have brought them to Notre Dame.

This week, when you're thinking of Mother's Day, ideals come easily to mind. Thinking often enough about your own good mothers, and the Mother of God -- well, it's easy to form an adequate idea of the kind of wife you will want and need for yourself -- the kind that will enable you to remain a "good" Notre Dame man for life.

Monday's Bulletin brought letters from six (6) halls, regarding big boys with poor speech manners, especially on busses late at night when Freshmen are already in bed.

PRAYERS - Deceased: friend of Dick Fremgen of Howard; grandmother of George Mojzisek of Fisher; grandfather of Bill Brzezinski of Farley. 2 special intentions.