

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Friday, November 2, 1962

Notre Dame, Ind.

Thank You!

From Father William Graham, C.S.C., the mission preacher in Sacred Heart Church two weeks ago has come the following letter of thanks.

Dear Father Teske,

I shall appreciate it if you express through your Religious Bulletin my sincere gratitude to all of those who so generously responded in Sacred Heart Church to the appeal for alms to support our Holy Cross missionaries in Uganda and East Pakistan (E. Bengal). Let us hope that they will be equally generous in responding to the appeal for prayers and vocations.

Sincerely in Holy Cross,

Bill Graham, C.S.C.

Why Pray to Win?

By the time the Bulletin gets to the rooms, many students will have left for Philadelphia and the Navy game. May they have a safe and enjoyable weekend, made complete by a victory.

Those left behind in the academic and secure atmosphere of the university can again back the team with their prayers. It is perfectly legitimate, contrary to some opinions being circulated on the campus, to pray for the team and even to pray for victory. In all our petitions for particular favors, whether they be spiritual or temporal, there must always be implicit the intention that what we ask is in conformity with God's Will and for our own spiritual good. It was for that reason that, in the Formula for Victory (Religious Bulletin, October 19), the students were asked to be worthy of victory. A victory which would be the occasion for sin -- even one deliberate sin -- would not be worth the price. But a victory which would bring honor to Our Lady, Notre Dame, or promote, even indirectly, the cause of Christian education, would certainly be a legitimate object of our prayers.

So continue -- or start -- attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion on the morning of the game to support Notre Dame football. Thus you will continue the tradition which has existed here since football began.

For the Record

The prayerful atmosphere of the Grotto has not changed. There are no religious article stands, no souvenir booths, no hawkers of candles, banners, medals, rosaries, miniature Grottos. There are candles -- votive lights and simple candles -- which you may light if your devotion so prompts you. Even on these candles there is no indication of a "customary offering." There isn't even a custodian with a long arm to grab you if he doesn't hear the clink of a coin or the rustle of folding money when you light a candle. "Thoroughly commercialized"? If so, words have lost their meaning.

In Your Charity

Please pray for the following. Deceased: grandfather of James Flanagan of Badin; mother of Tom Filler, friend of Pete Torborg of Dillon; Leo Mathis, brother of the late Fr. Michael Mathis, C.S.C.; uncle of Pete Price of Fischer. Ill: friend of Mrs. Frank Skeeler.

ABOUT PURGATORY

Remembrance of Poor Souls

Novena -- November 5 - 13

I Wish to Have These Departed Relatives
and Friends Remembered:

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Drop list in envelope
on your hall Bulletin
Board.

Purgatory is not a cemetery. It is not an abyss for the thoughtless and loveless dead. Purgatory is very much a place for the living. There is rest in Purgatory; but it is not the rest of cemeteries, full of corruption, or defilement, and of death. In Purgatory there is no agitation or disquiet; no movement of revolt; no guilt of resistance to God's will. Everyone there is always in the state of grace, always conformed to God's will. That is the rest, the requiem of Purgatory.

But in this rest there is life; there is love; there is remembrance and gratitude, and hope. There is trust in our prayers on earth.

Yes, and there is suffering, too -- keen, mysterious suffering that causes neither shock nor start, nor dread, nor shrinking -- suffering most gentle, and at the same time most purifying.

Almost surely, some of your relatives or friends are today suffering in Purgatory -- maybe even your father or mother, a brother or sister. Perhaps fellows who were walking

the campus at this time last year with you, thinking about mid-term tests, or sharing a pizza downtown. Maybe they are suffering in Purgatory this November!

If they are, they have a strong claim upon your charity all during this month. At the last judgment, when you face them, you will be glad if you have heard their cries for prayers -- if you spent this November praying for all the Poor Souls.

Someday, maybe very soon, you, too, may be in Purgatory. And some priest here on campus may be writing a Bulletin to influence another student body to pray for you -- reminding the students of that future day that the family of Notre Dame has a bond that should extend even beyond the grave -- to the souls of those who walked these paths before them, and who now depend upon their charity to help you in your hour of suffering! Oh, with what earnestness you will then hope they read and heed his admonition to make the most of the month of November!

...get to Mass every day in November. Someday, when the Poor Souls get to Heaven, they'll remember who came to their assistance, and they will be generous in their perfect prayers for you -- when you'll need help most.

The Religious Bulletin
November 2, 1955