

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Wednesday, May 22, 1963

Notre Dame, Ind.

Clothing Drive

Each May as the students are packing for home the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the South Bend parishes takes up a clothing collection at Notre Dame. There are always things students dispose of -- clothes they've outgrown or grown tired of; clothes there isn't room for in their luggage; athletic equipment with hours of play left in but not worth packing; room furnishings -- chairs, bookcases, lamps, drapes. A box marked for St. Vincent de Paul contributions will be placed in each hall. Warning: if there's a good sweater, shirt, pair of slacks or baseball glove in a box the donor intended it for some poor person in South Bend, not for some other Notre Dame student who feels like appropriating it.

Ascension Day

Masses tomorrow, Ascension Day, will be the same as on Sunday -- 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00 and 12:15.

There will be no 5:10 p.m. Mass.

There will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament tomorrow afternoon.

Confessions will be heard this evening in Sacred Heart Church, the same as on Saturday evening, between 6:00 and 8:30.

In Your Charity

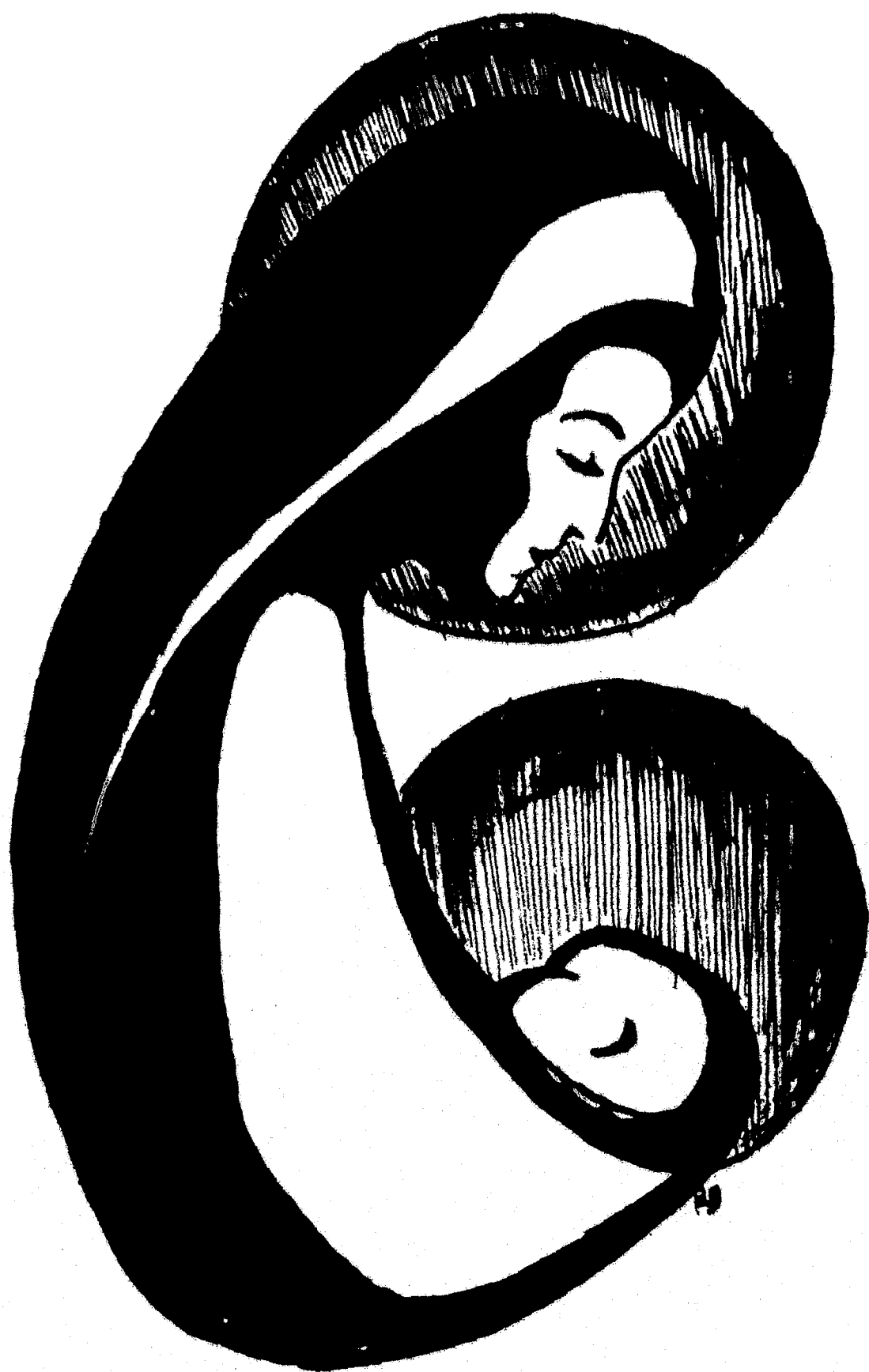
Please pray for the following. Deceased: cousin of Tom Ryan of Keenan; friend of Tom O'Brien of Walsh and of Bob Reass of Dillon. Ill: aunt of Rich Carey of Zahm.

AN INSTRUCTION IN PURITY by Cardinal O'Hara, C.S.C.
(continued from the Monday Religious Bulletin)

Purity is a virtue so noble, so elevating, so manly, so strong, so brave, that even the dissolute are balked by it. Profligates may rail at it and sneer, calling it an impossibility, denying its existence; but bring them into the presence of purity and they are mute. "Which of you shall convince Me of sin?" silenced the traducers of our Saviour. It is only under such influence as strong drink, which disturbs reason, that a profligate loses his awe in the presence of purity. The pure man can not be a coward: he has fought too many fights -- and without the inspiration of applause from on-lookers; he can not be base; his love of God has elevated him above baseness; he can not be a traitor: fidelity has been burned into his soul. Purity is an indispensable virtue for full manhood.

"I knew that without God I could not be continent," said the Wise Man in the Old Testament. The grace of God is necessary for this fight, and grace, always offered, comes in abundance in answer to prayer. In addition to prayer, Catholics use Confession and Holy Communion to keep their souls clean and to strengthen their good resolutions. For further inspiration and example, God gives all of us His Holy Mother, sinless from the first moment of her being, who preferred to the dignity of being Mother of God, fidelity to her promise of virginity. Let Mary lead you to Jesus; let the Holy Family be your model of family life.

Fresh From The Pad . . .



Many of our collegiates take a very jaundice view of devotion to Mary. They even rebel against any kind of relationship to the Mother of Christ. There are understandable reasons for this very apparent attitude. Too often their relationship to Mary has been cast in a sentimental framework. At eighteen, Mary is still being given to them in pabulum form. Insight into Mary has not been on a par with their growth and so is very unsatisfying. In fact they can't stomach it.

Is superficial sentiment the basis of our relationship to Mary? Is Mary just one of the frills and extras of the Christian life? Mary is dead-center at the core of Christianity. She is an intimate part of the very stuff of our faith. Commitment to her is not an accident. It is as real as commitment to the Universal Salvific Will of God, the Hypostatic Union, or the Beatific Vision.

Mary is the Mother of Christ. That means she is Mother of the whole Christ -- Head and members. We are the members of Christ. So in a very real sense Mary is our Mother. In the order of nature if a woman gave birth only to the head of a body it would be some kind of monstrosity. In the order of supernature it's no different -- Mary can't be Mother of the Head without being the Mother of the members. God's plan for redemption demands the whole Christ and in order to realize His plan He chose Mary to be the Mother of the total Christ. She can't be divorced from our redemption.

We are Christ 1963 style. Our unavoidable task is to live this. It is a frightening responsibility. And none of us needs a wall to fall on him to realize how he instinctively shrinks from this responsibility, or how inept he feels in the face of the struggle. And if we have anything at all rattling around in our heads we know we need this Mother just as our Head does. In our struggle today we don't have to go to the framework of the historical Christ to find some tenuous relationship to Mary. We have it because we are Christ.

We approach Mary on the solid basis of our irrevocable incorporation in Christ. If we feel we must cast her in cold syllogisms, if we want to refine her into a loveless abstraction, if we want to refuse to give her a human response, fine -- as long as we recognize her indispensable place in God's redemptive plan (which is still in progress). Apparently God wanted His Son, Our Head, to have a different sort of relationship -- a relationship with a warm, human, feminine-type person -- A Mother.

