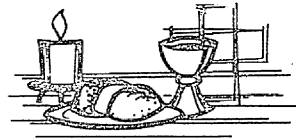


DID NOT OUR HEARTS BURN WITHIN US AS HE TALKED TO US ON THE ROAD?



I AM READY...I ACCEPT
Charles de Foucauld

Father,
I abandon myself into your hands;
do with me what you will.
Whatever you may do, I thank you:
I am ready for all, I accept all.
Let only your will be done in me,
and in all your creatures-
I wish no more than this, O Lord.
Into your hands I commend my soul;
I offer it to you with all the love of my
heart,
for I love you, Lord, and so need to give
myself,
to surrender myself into your hands without
reserve,
and with boundless confidence,
for you are my Father.

+++

ONE STUDENT'S LETTER TO GOD

Dear God,

Sometimes I wonder why many of my prayers go unanswered. I have even gone so far as to curse you, blaming you for the events in my life that have hurt me. I am sorry. I am most ashamed though, of the times when I have questioned your very existence. There have been times in my life when I have felt that my prayers have not been heard because there is no one to hear them. In very depressing periods of my life I would pray, and wait, wait for you to perform an instant miracle that would put my life back together. When my prayers went unanswered, I started doubting you. "Are you there?" I would ask. I would always overcome these periods but never think that it was through your love that I survived.

I always return though. I have always felt ashamed that I doubted you and see no reason why I should be forgiven, but I always am. When I leave you and my life takes a turn for the worse, I always come crawling back. You are always there. I no longer ask you for my girlfriend to come back. I no longer curse you for taking my uncle. Instead, I pray for strength. I pray for happiness. I have changed my way of praying because you love me. I have no physical proof, no miracles, but I don't need them. All I know is that every time I reject you, I always ask for forgiveness. Although I reject you, you never reject me, you always believe in me even when I don't believe in you.

I pray that I will never leave you again, but if I do, please remember I am only human. Please be waiting for me when I return; I know you will.

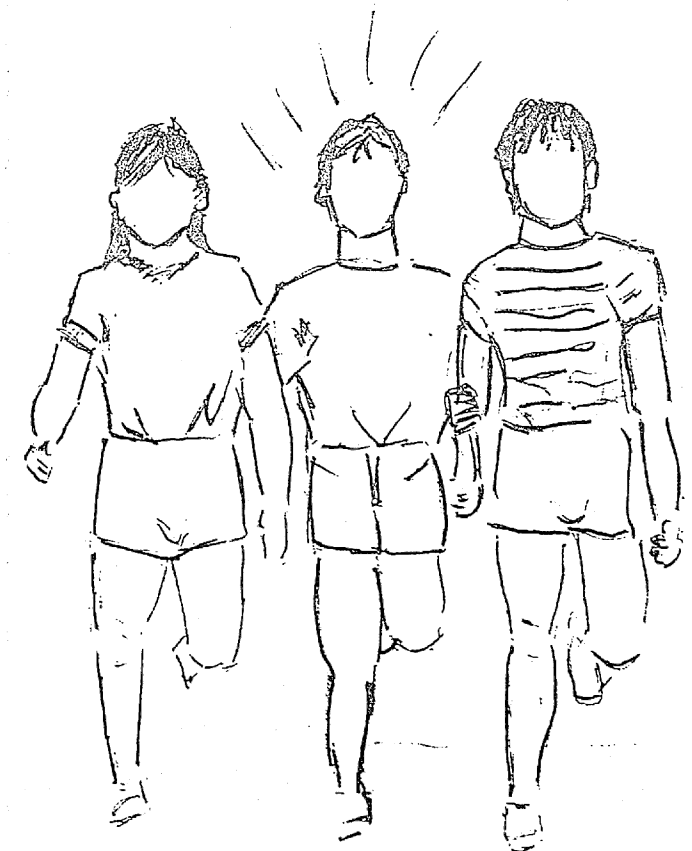
...a junior

notre dame
RELIGIOUS BULLETIN
Vol. III Issue 29 May 3, 1987

Third Sunday of Easter
May 3, 1987

Lord, show us the path
to life.

JESUS
HIMSELF CAME UP
AND WALKED
BY THEIR SIDE.



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I LAUGH AT MYSELF

Tim Malone

I grow, I grow, I grow
I grow, I grow, I grow, I grow
but with you, my Lord.

Through my short comings,
my little idiosyncracies
my affiliations, conflicts, and gifts,
I GROW
in experience, in maturity,
in self-love,
in love for others.

Though I try to understand, ultimately I am
always brought back to relying only on my
faith;

for as I learn more about YOU,
more about my special friends,
more about my world,
I become ignorant, ashamed,
yet more enlightened because
I learn, most of all,
that I have little control over the
things which happen to me.

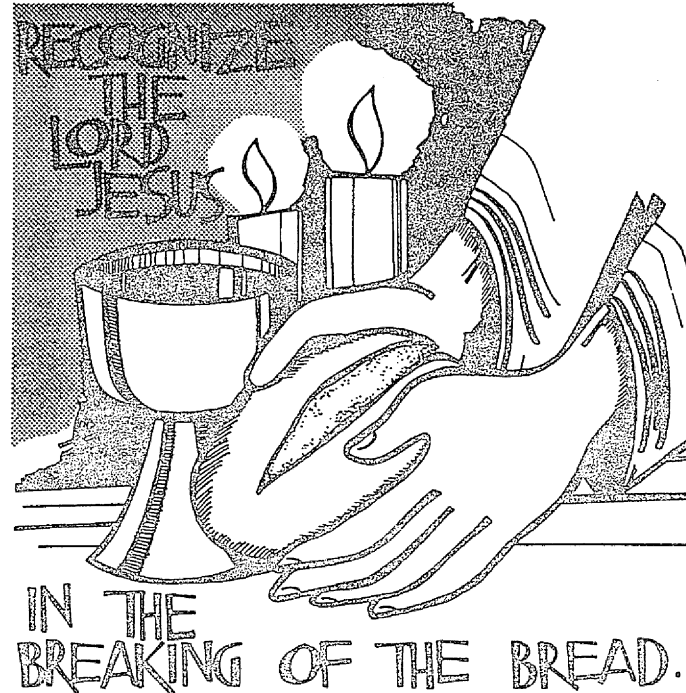
YOU guide,
YOU, my Lord, show,
YOU give me the opportunities,
the gifts,
the dreams;
YOU give me my LIFE.

I LAUGH AT MY PRETENTIOUSNESS, LORD,
AND SMILE ON MY GIFT OF FAITH
AND LOVE.

YOU, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
Margaret Mead

"Never doubt that a small group of
thoughtful, committed citizens can change
the world; indeed, it's the only thing that
ever has."

+++



HOW'S YOUR HEALTH? HOW'S YOUR SPIRITUALITY?

Are you Catholic? ...still? No, I'm
Christian! What does it mean for me, for
you, for us to be Catholic-Christian? ...to
be believers? As we end the year it might
be worth our time to reflect on our
spiritual side. Simply put, my SPIRITUALITY
IS EQUAL TO GOD AND MY LIFE.

GOD + Me = SPIRIT

GOD + US = COMMUNAL SPIRIT = CHURCH

What can I, can we, do to realize God in my
life, in our lives, and thereby gain a
deeper notion of the spiritual side? Over
the summer one could reflect on 1. PAYING
ATTENTION TO GOD 2. WHETING YOUR APPETITE
FOR THE THINGS OF GOD AND 3. BEING HONEST
WITH YOURSELF & GOD.

1. PAY ATTENTION! ...to God and less to
myself. God is doing things in my life right
now. Where? How?

Discover some signs and symbols of God's
presence in life: in nature, in human
struggles, in scripture which is our God
speaking to us through the experience of so
many past believers including His very own
Son. ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE ATTUNED TO GOD.

2. WHET YOUR APPETITES FOR THINGS OF GOD
Self-preoccupaion can be boring. God is
interesting and knowing Him makes us
interesting. Restore or enhance your sense
of humor. Knowing that God is with us
allows us not to be so serious about
ourselves. Read about others who have paid
attention to God and have or are influencing
our society for good---religious biography,
saints of the past and present, close to one
and far away. Some times we miss the saints
close to us---parents, profs, peers.

3. BE HONEST with one's life with God. Avoid
hypocrisy acknowledging that the life of the
spirit, like any other personal relation,
needs cultivation which takes times as one
brings together the spirit, mind, and body.
I can be afraid, have a sense of
unworthiness, and put off God and what God
is asking of one. WE may delay including
God but God is always with us!

WRAP-UP & SUMMER PRAYER

-reflections-

I don't know what your destiny will be, but
one thing I know: THE ONLY ONES AMONG YOU
WHO WILL BE REALLY HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO HAVE
SOUGHT AND FOUND HOW TO SERVE.

-Albert Schweitzer