No One Has Ever Asked Me.

Every once in a while an alumnus of five or ten years standing will make the remark that he would very likely have been a priest if some priest had asked him to be while he was in college. That is false modesty. No one needs an invitation to join the Catholic Church, and no one needs a specific invitation to become a priest, aside from the call of the Bishop to ordination. Christ said to St. Matthew, when He saw him fulfilling his duties as a publican, "Come, follow Me." St. John, on the other hand, sought out Our Lord and said, "Master, where dwellest Thou?" If any student in the University has the problem of a religious vocation in his mind, and wants advice on it, he will find that any priest here will be only too glad to help him.

No One Has Ever Asked Me.

That is the real excuse of most old maids. Just as soon as we get through with the Novena for Vocations, which will be next Monday, we will start a Novena for Happy Marriages. This should be the most popular Novena of the year. It will be addressed to St. Joseph, the model husband of Our Blessed Mother, the protector chosen by God for His Divine Son, the heavenly patron of the Universal Church.

The Spirit of This Novena.

Marriage is a life contract, and it can be made heaven, hell, or purgatory, or a little bit of each, according to the dispositions and inclinations of the parties to the contract. The Catholic marriage is a Sacrament, instituted by Christ, to give the graces to overcome the difficulties which it entails, and to make it fruitful in its purpose to give new souls to be happy with God eternally in heaven. Plenty of Catholic young men pray for a good wife; lots of them forget to pray for the grace to make this wife a good husband. This Novena is fail and square; it prays for both.

How to Make the Novena.

1. During the nine days preceding the Feast of St. Joseph, receive Holy Communion and recite the Litany of St. Joseph every day.
2. Don't try to dictate to God. You may have the girl all picked out, and may be praying that she will see things your way—which may not in the end be God's way. Let your prayer be, "Thy will be done".
3. Wear a medal or cord of St. Joseph. You can get them at the pamphlet rack.
4. Read something about the Christian ideal of marriage. "You and Yours" is a good book.

Special Notice.
The 6:30 Mass will begin at 6:30 tomorrow, and the 8:15 Mass at 8:15.

There are always pews vacant in the front of the church. The space around the confessional is reserved for those who want to go to confession.

The collections taken up in the church during the student Masses are used to make up part of the deficit of the pamphlet rack. To date this year the rack has cost $2700. The average Sunday collection amounts to about $40.00. Contribution through the rack amounts to about one-third the cost of the articles placed there. Outside contributions so far this year amount to about $400.00. No price is placed on articles placed at the rack, and they are not sold. All the money that comes through any of the sources indicated above is spent for the rack, and increased donations mean increased effectiveness in the work of spreading good literature and religious articles. Feel free to take anything you want from the rack without any obligation of paying for it. During Lent you are urged to use the little booklet "Mass and the Passion" in order to familiarize yourself with the dramatization of Our Lord's sufferings that the Church works out in the Mass.

John P. O’Eara, C.S.C.