University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
December 1, 1953

Mass and Communion For The Team.

Tomorrow morning at 6:30 is the last time you will hear Mass and receive Holy Communion in a body for the team.

Is the team wondering if you are still with them? Is the country curious about your spirit? This thing, Notre Dame spirit, what is it? A wild hysteria that feeds on football victories, or something saner, nobler, and more fundamental?

You sense the opportunity to answer these questions to a watching world. After the Navy game you gave the players a reception they will never forget. In the Purdue and Pittsburgh games your spirit carried them on. You saw them against Southern California fight their hearts out for you.

Tomorrow you can climax a year outstanding for true Notre Dame spirit in the true Notre Dame way: Make the turn-out for Mass and Holy Communion the largest of the year.

An Ideal Last Letter.

Charles B. McDermott, '27, was killed in an auto accident near Allentown, Pa., on Monday. Six weeks ago his father died. On that occasion, Charlie wrote his last letter to the Prefect of Religion. It reads as follows:

"Dear Father:

It is with grateful appreciation that I acknowledge your beautiful message of sympathy during my bereavement. I am enclosing the comments of the press on the passing of my late father which are mute evidences of the esteem and respect in which he was held in this Protestant community. He was first, last and always a rigid Catholic gentleman. The inspiring memory of his exemplary life is a sacred trust which I will strive to fulfill in keeping with the finest traditions of Notre Dame.

With my unbounded appreciation and my kindest wishes,

I am

Very sincerely,

Charlie McDermott."

Everything Charlie ever did was in keeping with the finest traditions of Notre Dame. There was always action where he was — he was a holy monkey. With all his lively mischief, there was never anything base or anything mean in his life. He had the faith that would move mountains and the contagious good nature that makes the world a fit place to live in.

Charlie's love for Notre Dame was a violent passion. He made the long trip back here every time he could, for Commencement, football games, for anything that gave him half an excuse to come. He was keenly sensitive to any criticism of his old school and on fire with zeal to see it succeed in everything it undertook. There was a big N.D. on his heart. Remember Charlie in your prayers.

PRAYERS: Deceased - an uncle of Father Hollerith, C.S.C.; the father of Brother Novem, C.S.C.; Frank Kalen's father; Harry Becker's grandfather. Ill - Bill Rockne's son of Elmo Rockne, injured in an auto accident; a cousin of George Murphy; a friend of Jim Dutton; the mother of a student (operation); a friend of a student. Five special intentions.