TO MARY’S FAVORITE SONS:

To be a favorite son of Mary is much the same as to be a loyal and devoted son of any earthly mother.

It is not merely to claim proudly that you’re a Notre Dame man. It is not to go around mumbling words of endearment whilst you avoid every expression of love that calls for a constant plan or for self-sacrifice.

It is rather to bring yourself really to love what is dear to Mary; to hate truly what she despises. It is rather to reflect frequently on those events in her life which brought joy or sorrow to her heart.

It is frequently to raise the soul in a holy exchange of thought with her. It is to rely on her love in necessities and temptations. It is to endeavor constantly to cultivate her virtues, to shun what is poison to her heart.

It is most appropriately to struggle towards the formation of the manly virtue of purity.

The favorite son of Mary is really predestined for Heaven. He may waver now and then in strong temptation, but she will draw him back. She will find a way of softening his frozen coldness, of bringing contrite tears into his sin-deluded face.

To her favorite son Mary is a sure intercessor in Heaven. Her heart towards him, according to the Cure of Ars, is so tender that in comparison the hearts of all mothers in the world put together are like a cold piece of ice.

Mary is the only human being in Heaven who never offended God. She is the only one who-kept ever perfectly His command to love and adore Him. Christ denies her nothing.

When you touch an odoriferous plant fragrance clings to your fingers. When Mary presents a petition in Heaven it is perfumed by her hands. It goes before her Son with that “odor of sweetness” which He cannot resist.

In all the years gone by, loyal and devoted sons of Mary have made May the most beautiful month of the year at Notre Dame. The Lady on the Dome has always been their hope in strong temptation; their refuge in sorrow, their sign of victory in every trial.

May is the month in which our strong alliance of love with Mary is renewed and strengthened. May starts tomorrow morning. Here is the traditional program for the month:

- Mass and Communion every morning in honor of Mary;
- Hymns after supper at the Grotto every night;
- Frequent half-hour periods of adoration Benediction every evening;
- The beads daily—during which you will meditate upon her great joys and sorrows.

You made last Lent one of the most fruitful in the religious history of the University. Some day we shall tell you how well you did.

At favorite sons of Mary, make her month of May even more glorious!

Mass. Thursday morning, 6:25, for Tom Doyle’s (Morrissey) father; request of New Jersey Club.

PRAYERS: Deceased, friend of Bob Schmelze (Badin); friend of Joe Brien (Morrissey). III. Rocco Schiralli (Sorin), convalescing; aunt of Jim Levi (Sorin). Five special intentions.