As a fellow grows older, Stooge, and stays away from home a while, it seems he realizes better all that his folks mean to him.

Lately, after I go to bed at night, I think a lot about the times I've caused grief and disappointment to my Mom and Pop. On the level, Stooge, if I ever feel like crying, that's the time!

I know exactly what you mean, McGutzky, and I can't tell you how I like you for saying it.

You know, Stooge, the sharp comeback and the row when they wanted me to do something, or stay home at night, or something like that. After one of my tantrums I remember catching my mother sitting by herself in her bedroom rocker.

There she was all alone, just rocking back and forth a little, simply staring out of the window. She had a corner of her handkerchief between her fingers, and once in a while she wiped a tear from her eyes.

A fellow hardly ever says a word to his mother after a thing like that. He's too much ashamed of himself, and besides it brings it all up again, and he can't bear to see her that way.

A week from Sunday is Mother's Day, and if a fellow starts a novena tomorrow he can just wind it up with Mass and Communion on Mother's Day.

They tell me you can get spiritual bouquet cards at the pamphlet racks.

I know the comfort my mother gets out of prayer. It means more to her than flowers or candy or wires or money or anything else in the world. I know how glad she is when she knows I'm going regularly to the Sacraments.

I'm going to start in tomorrow morning and make my best novena for my own mother. I'm going to Mass and Communion these next nine days without a break; I'm going to make some extra half-hours of adoration and say the beads every day for her.

Then about this time next week I'm going to put it all down on one of those spiritual bouquet cards and send it home to her for Mother's Day.

As far as she's concerned that'll square everything with her. She'll understand right away that I'm sorry and that I appreciate, don'tcha think so, Stooge? Actually, of course, you and I both know that it won't be much compared to all that she has been to me. But she's that way.

Gosh, Stooge, it's gonna make me feel like a million dollars when she writes and tells me how proud and happy that Spiritual Bouquet made her feel on Mother's Day.

McGutzky....well.....you're a great guy after all!

Hear Ye!

Again in church when the collection box appears before you, turn not aside, fumble not in your pockets. Have something ready—a quarter, a dime, a nickel—something! The pamphlet racks are still over $600 in debt.

PRAYERS: Deceased, Father McCormick; relative of John Kirsch; friend of Dan Sconfiotti (Lyon); aunt of Gerry Smith, Ill, Fr. McNamara, C.S.C.; Mother M. Lettina, C.S.C., Provincial Eastern Province; Francis Toomey '34; Mrs. Paul Conaghan, injured.