It's in the air and not even Indiana weather can smother it.

Come warm thoughts of love and of giving. First on your list should be the Mother of mothers and of us all - the Novena in honor of Mary Immaculate. Daily Mass and Communion demands sacrifice, but you're asking her for purity. She can secure it for you; purity, and with it strength and peace of soul, idealism, enthusiasm for the noble and the beautiful.

Grateful sons think of parents, too, and at Notre Dame Christmas recalls the Christmas Novena for Parents with periods of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for them.

The Parents' Novena with Adoration begins immediately after the Immaculate Conception. Solicitors will be around Tuesday or Wednesday night for your convenience.

What About The Army?

An Army chaplain dropped in the office last week to thank Notre Dame and her students for the Bulletin, the Scholastics, literature, Mass-Kits, and other help, and especially for the fine N.D. soldiers that he has met.

"The ones I have met are doing a fine job personally and in their effects on others," he said. "They're handling themselves like men, not whimpering, feeling that their life is ruined. It must be their Faith after all, and the realization that God can turn everything to their profit. They're looking beyond this mess, determined to make the best of it and they are. They're finding themselves, discovering and developing their abilities, initiative and leadership."

"Some of the students are discouraged," we told him. "They're taking the attitude 'what's the use?' and are letting things go intellectually and spiritually."

Is your Notre Dame spirit only in the team? Unless they go into the Army with their chins up, with a strong spirit and courageous soul, some will fold up and the Army can make them miserable, can hurt them.

"But the ones that have learned to 'take it', don't worry about them. They'll come out stronger and better. The cream always comes up to the top. The manhood always shows up in a boy when he is up against it. If they haven't got manhood they'll fold up any place, in the Army, or in life whenever they get into a mean situation in business or in marriage."

The chaplain was right. Your Faith is your greatest strength. Neglect that, waste your time and graces now and you'll have time only for whimpering and self-pity. Face the situation like a man, face it like - and with - Christ, your older Brother, who faced 33 years of discouragement, knowing that finally a humiliating death was waiting for Him. But He went through it all with His head up, facing every situation, even death magnificently because of His love for you.

If you want the strength and courage that make men, go to Christ and dump your troubles at His feet in Mass and Communion. It takes effort, but nothing is cheap in this world, especially your soul and peace of mind. The world has made this chaos, the world and its philosophies and rottenness. It can only give further discouragement, cynicism and despair. Go to Christ the only One Who ever licked this world completely and could say: "Have confidence, I have overcome the world."

PRAYERS: (deceased) father of Don Hummer (Cav); friend of "Doc" Ward (Morr.); two brothers of Ralph Mazar '39; friend of Charles Urruela (Morr.). Ill, uncle of Fr. J. Powers, S.C.O. and John (How) and Tom (Wal) Powers; friend of Dicky Kelly (Hew); Mr. and Mrs. Dockendorff; John Whitman (Law Librarian). Six special intentions.