Satchel and Dizzy

Now that Satchel Paige, the star rookie of the Cleveland Indians, is making the headlines, sport writers have been digging into his past exploits on the pitcher's mound. One amusing story has been put into print. Dizzy Dean tells the story of an incident that happened to him when he pitched against Satchel in an exhibition game.

"We went right through the eighth inning scoreless. Then I led off in the ninth with a triple. After I reached third, Satch walked over to me with a big grin and said, "Nice hittin', Mister Dean. But you know somethin'? You ain't goin' no further. You is goin' to be left right here.'"

"Satchel meant it," continued Dizzy. "He made his three out-fielders sit down on the grass. Then he motioned his out-fielders to squat down right in their regular positions. He looked at me at third, winked, and proceeded to strike out the next three batters." Remember this story about Satchel and Dizzy when you kneel down to pray, and remember it particularly if the thing you are praying for seems almost impossible to attain.

There was not a shadow of doubt in the mind of Satch about this ability to strike out three batters and leave Dizzy stranded. Every prayer must have that same characteristic about it - that utter sureness that it will be heard by God.

Our Blessed Lord made a statement about this confidence that is worth recalling: "All, whatsoever you ask for in prayer believing, you shall receive." St. Peter nearly drowned once, simply because he lacked this confidence that never thought about failure. Our Blessed Lord told Peter to step over the side of his boat and walk on the water. Peter did not hesitate -- in the beginning. He hopped over the side and walked for a distance without sinking beneath the waves. Then he doubted. As soon as the fear of sinking took hold, Christ let Peter sink. Peter never forgot that lesson, nor the words Christ used in explaining the reason for Peter's failure: "Oh, why did you doubt, you of little faith."

Novena For the Sick

This annual Novena is always made on the nine days preceding the feast of St. Theressa, the Little Flower, who spent many days in suffering. If you have some ailment that is bothering you, or if you have friends or relatives who are ill, then make this Novena. It will begin Friday. Make a visit each day of the Novena to the relic of the little Flower in Morrissey or Sorin Hall chapels, attend Mass and receive Holy Communion.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR CONFESION WITH CONSULTATION TODAY AND FRIDAY, IN CHURCH 4:00 to 6:00 P.M.