HOliness
THE POPE

BISHOP OF ROME
and
VICAR OF JESUS CHRIST

SUPREME PONTIFF
of
THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH
Patriarch of the West

PRIMATE OF ITALY
SOVEREIGN OF VATiCAN CITY

John XXIII
ANGELO GIUSEPPE RONCALLI

Most Holy Father, the students of the University of Notre Dame
humbly offer you the assurance of their prayers,
and on the occasion of your coronation in the eternal city,
they pledge to offer for your intention
8000 Masses, 8000 Holy Communions, and 7000 Rcsaries.
NOW THE GRIND STARTS IN EARNEST. "Mid-
semesters" are here. And maybe matters
are complicated by the fact that even be-
fore you had peeled off that thousand
mile shirt, it occurred to you that you
dropped so much loot in D.C. as to cause
concern about how you'll do your Christ-
mas shopping. Or maybe you spent the
week-end in Chicago and returned to dis-
cover that the maid mistook your jug of
Hallowe'en cider for liquid soap, and
mopped up the floor with it. Or, maybe
you stayed here and "got caught up" over
the week-end, only to be irked by the
baby sister who accepted your person-to-
person call to your Mother, who happened
to be out for the evening. These troubles
are enough to shake up the Aga Khan himself.

But maybe you have even worse troubles,
and don't know it. MAYBE YOU HAVEN'T BE-
gun YET THIS YEAR THE JOB YOU KNOW REMAINS
TO BE DONE!

IN CONVERSATION with many of you, I've
emphasized more than once that you should
be striving to lead a life which will be
a preparation not only for sharing in the
Beatific Vision in the world to come, but
also for sharing in the life of the Mysti-
cal Body, the Church, here and now—and
helping others to share in It also. This
is simply to say that you should be parti-
cipating actively in the Mass, receiving
the Sacraments regularly, making use of
the sacramentals, PRAYING, contemplating,
appreciating, studying, working. This is
to say, moreover, that you should be en-
kindling your imagination, developing your
intellect, strengthening your will, pro-
moting habits of art, economics, political
science, mathematics, and the other sciences
in an effort to sanctify yourself and to
put all the created universe to the service
of Grace. And, I shall always insist on
this because I think most of you—maybe
all of you—are capable of profound spiri-
tual enthusiasm, are good-hearted, quite
loyal, maybe not so well-disciplined as
you need to be, somewhat dollar-conscious,
inclined to be too easy on yourself, re-
luctant to make a fool of yourself, and
needing inspiration.

I AM MINDFUL, MOREOVER, of those ringing
words of General Bradley, I recall from
somewhere: "Ours is a world of nuclear
giants and ethical infants; with the mon-
strous weapons man already has, humanity
is in danger of being trapped in this
world by its moral adolescents."

WHILE IT IS NOT my intention to compete
for "patriot of the year" honors, I sub-
mit that our love of this country of ours
should prompt a concern for moral maturity
that will be equally as pressing as our
concern for political activity or the
right to vote.

THAT YOU MIGHT grow to mature moral
stature at the same time as you are
striving for intellectual maturity has
been the prayer voiced by priests and
teachers here through this year and many
years past. True, you don't often see
them. The priests are up and praying
long before you have to think about making
morning check. You'll find them assembled
in the lower chapel of Sacred Heart Church
every Thursday afternoon from 4:15 until
5:15 praying for you too. And maybe you'll
happen by Sacred Heart Church tomorrow
morning as they are assembled to carry
Father Victor Dean to his resting place
and to pray that someone worthy will be
sent by God to take his place. DO YOU
PRAY FOR YOURSELF, THOUGH?

 Prefect of Religion