

PRAY ALWAYS

Man cannot do anything by himself. No matter what great inventions he has made, no matter what enormous feat he has accomplished, he cannot pat himself on the back and say, "I did it all by myself!" No, he must give the greatest credit to the One who can do all things and without whose help, no one can do anything.

Now that we have established the fact that we must have God's help in all our undertakings, we must next try to solve the problem: how can we attain that help? When an employee wishes to receive a raise in pay, does he wait for the boss to come to him and offer him the raise? No, he goes to the boss and asks for it. So we must do when we desire God's aid. We must humble ourselves by asking, by admitting that we are too weak to carry on alone. That is exactly what we do when we pray.

Of course, that is not the only reason why we should pray. We were placed in this world to praise, love, and adore God, so that later we may enjoy Him forever in Heaven. By praying, we praise and adore God, we tell Him we love Him—all of which is a means to salvation, so that our last wish—that we may enjoy Him forever—may be fulfilled. I think that is a very fair agreement. We certainly have an excellent opportunity to benefit by it.

Does each and every one of us not wish sometimes to be able to help others in need? I am sure we all have that inclination towards charity very often. We might say, "If I were rich, would I ever help that poor family." But are we not, as long as we are able to pray, as rich as the wealthiest man in the world. No matter what position in life one holds, he can help everybody in the whole world by prayers, for God knows this world is in dire need of Heavenly aid.

With Lent just around the corner, I think we who are not in the habit of really entering into the spirit of prayer should put forth a special effort to pray with true devotion. Let us not complain about all we shall have to do without during Lent; instead, let us seize the opportunity to gain merit. A retreat is drawing near. Shall we begrudge that week-end during which we shall be "cooped-in," or shall we regard it as a great event like so many who are not as privileged would?

Fellow students, let us do something really big during the Lenten season. Prayers are needed continuously, but let us emphasize that need during Lent, and most important of all, let us do something about it. Let your prayer be that everybody's prayer will be for a greater love of prayer.

—BEVERLEY HOWARD '59—