

And while we gaze at the world of reality, the question suggests itself: what place shall be assigned to us? What work is there for us to do? Are we fitted for the struggle that confronts us? Can we expect to cope with our adversaries? And conscience within whispers the answer: "you yourselves guided by light from above shall shape your own destinies."

In years gone by, the graduate of a Catholic college was opposed by the barrier of bigotry and prejudice. But thanks to the awakening of men's kinder nature, we live in a era of the broader and more generous fellowship of mankind. This being so, the sole credentials required by a young man today are his own intrinsic worth. The world wants *men*. If we can answer this requirement, a glorious lot in life awaits us. The grand old man of the Vatican has called for leaders in the army, through which he is waging war against the evils of the day. He has called for soldiers, clad in the armor of faith, to do battle to the thousand arrant absurdities that are leading men's minds astray. He has called for men, endowed with heart as well as intellect, to oppose that Godless culture that is deceiving so many by its tinsel glitter. He has called for souls imbued with the true ideal, to check the god of mammon from tearing the cords of faith and love from hearts that were made for heaven. Should we heed this call, as, indeed, in conscience we must, then do we know our work in life—work whose essence is simply this, to lead a Christian life on the lines of the highest and noblest, the Catholic ideals.

The signal favor God has conferred on us in granting us the blessing of a Catholic education, entails a responsibility, by no means visionary, for by the very fact of this education, we have been set apart from the throng; and being thus set apart, must be exemplars.

And if, my dear friends, Divine Providence should deign to look favorably on our efforts, and crown our labor with success, the merit shall in no small part redound to those good men who took the task of forming our young hearts and minds by infusing into them the true ideal.

To you, then, our dear professors, we owe an overwhelming debt of gratitude; for, after God and our good, kind parents, you it is who