

-----  
12:30 - Church.

The Rosary Devotions will be held as usual this afternoon at 12:30. The plan to have Benediction at the end of Mass this morning had to be abandoned because of the request of the Rochester Club for a Requiem Mass. The devotions will be offered for the team.

The St. Benedict Medal.

The medal worn by the football team to day is the medal of St. Benedict, also called at times the Cross of St. Benedict. It is the oldest religious medal in use in the Church. It carried on the obverse side an image of St. Benedict, and on the reverse a cross, emblematic of the little black cross which the Saint always carried with him as a protection against the devil.

There are two medals of St. Benedict, the ordinary one, and what is called the Jubilee medal; the latter, which is the one worn today by the players, is much more richly indulgenced than the former. The principal indulgence granted the wearers of the Jubilee medal is a plenary indulgence, which may be gained every time the wearer makes a visit to a church and recites six Our Fathers, Hail Marys and Glory be to the Fathers for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.

The many cryptic inscriptions on the Jubilee medal make it an object of interest. On either side of the image of St. Benedict, on the obverse side, you will find the words, Cruz S. Patris Benedicti, "The Cross of Holy Father Benedict." Around the circumference of the medal are the words, Eius In Obitu Nro Praesentia Muniamur, "May his presence defend us in our death." At the foot of the image you will find the words, E Monte Cassino, "From Mount Cassino," the seat of the foundation of St. Benedict, and the Motherhouse of all the Benedictines.

On the obverse side the cross immediately attracts attention. The initials on the cross are:

C  
S  
N D S M D  
M  
L

Around the cross Are:

C S  
P B

Non Drace Sit Mihi Dux - Let not the devil be my guide      Cruz Sancti Patris Benedicti  
Cruz Sancta Sit Mihi Lux - May the Holy Cross be my light.      (translation above)

These inscriptions refer particularly to the power of St. Benedict over the devil, which he exercised very frequently, either in the suppression of temptations or in the exorcism of people possessed by evil spirits. The marginal inscription, which follows, refers to this same power, but to a particular incident in which St. Benedict is said to have made the Sign of the Cross over a poisoned drink which was offered him, causing the poison to depart in the form of a serpent:

S M Q L I V B                      V R S N S M V

Sunt Mala Quae Libas - Ipse Venena Bibas      Vade Retro Satanas - Non Suade Mihi Vana

The things thou offerest are evil; drink thine own poison.  
Go behind me, Satan; do not tempt me to vain things.

Prayers.

Brandean and Garrett McAdams ask prayers for their mother, whose health is failing.