

Religious Bulletin

April 15, 1929

A Novena FOR You, Not BY You.

The Novena of Masses announced yesterday at Mass will begin next Thursday and end on Friday of the week following. It will be offered for you and your intentions, and for those who depend on your prayers. If you wish you may write out your intentions and leave them in a box at the pamphlet rack; they will be placed on the altar during the nine days. This Novena is offered in token of acknowledgement of your magnificent gift of sacred vessels for the Blessed Sacrament.

Shall We Begin Perpetual Adoration?

The proposal was made yesterday that during the approaching month of May we make an attempt to realize a long-cherished idea -- Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament by the students of the University. Are we ready for it? It is for you to say.

It is more than seventy years since Father Sorin established nocturnal adoration at Notre Dame. The practice was interrupted by something, possibly the Civil War (the records were incomplete), but until less than twenty years ago Holy Cross Seminary kept up the practice one night a month. The apsidal chapel of Sacred Heart Church, with its famous Bernini Altar, was evidently intended for perpetual adoration, as the altar is in form a throne for the Blessed Sacrament, and the windows depict scenes from the Incarnation and the development of devotion to the Sacred Heart -- the worship of the Sacred Humanity of Our Blessed Lord.

Perpetual Adoration would seem to be a natural culmination of your devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, and if we can give it a humble -- but thorough -- beginning now, who knows what future blessings it may bring to the students and their school!

While all students are invited to partake in this adoration, the Seniors will be given an opportunity to have an unbroken chain of adorers from their class before the Eucharistic Throne during their last month at Notre Dame. If they accept their invitation they will go down in the history of Notre Dame as the class that began Perpetual Adoration -- and that is distinction enough for any class.

Your interest in the project will be determined by promoters who will visit you this week with cards for you to fill out and return to the Prefect of Religion. The day and hour will be fixed on the card presented for your signature, but you will have a choice of hours, as each promoter will have a rather complete assortment of cards. The half-hour system will be employed, as on First Fridays; those who wish to make an entire hour at one time may fill out two consecutive cards. If it appears when the cards are gathered that there are three adorers listed for each half-hour of the month, the adoration will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 Wednesday morning, May 1.

Sacrifice will attend this adoration. There will be baseball games, there will be a Senior Ball, there will be pleasant Saturday afternoons, there will be many attractions to draw you away from Our Blessed Lord -- but sacrifice is intended, and the greater the sacrifice, the more ample the blessing. Let's see what you can do.

Prayers.

A deceased relative of Fr. Ryan (and benefactor of the University); a deceased uncle of Dan Casey; a friend who is to undergo an operation for eye trouble; five special intentions; three acts of thanksgiving. Hubert Schimberg is making progress at the hospital after his emergency operation Saturday for an infection of the knee. Father Hudson's operation was deferred Saturday, and may take place this morning.