

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
January 5, 1933.

First Friday Tomorrow.

Reparation is the theme of First Friday devotions: reparation to the Sacred Heart for the injuries done to Our Lord in the wilful neglect, the blasphemies, the sacrileges that take advantage of the love which keeps Our Lord with us in the Blessed Sacrament.

If you have no sins of the Old Year (or of the New Year for that matter) for which to offer reparation, offer your Holy Communion tomorrow - and make your adoration - for the sins of others. Reparation keeps the world going. God promised Abraham that He would spare Sodom and Gomorrah if ten just could be found in those cities; if God is sparing the world now it is because of the prayers of the just, particularly the Communions and adorations of those who leave the world to serve God alone.

Go to confession tonight. And remember the First Friday program:

Mass of Exposition at 6:25 (in the church)
Adoration all day (sign the list in your hall)
Benediction at 7:00 and 7:30 p.m.

The Gentile Christmas Tomorrow.

The shepherds who adored the Divine Infant on Christmas night were Jews. The Wise Men who came from the East, following the star, were Gentiles. It is because of this fact that the Greeks celebrate their Christmas tomorrow - the feast of the Epiphany. It is a great feast - by Canon Law it is a holyday of obligation, but it is not so observed in the United States - and Catholics who are able to do so (you are) should try to hear Mass and offer Holy Communion tomorrow in the spirit of the three Wise Men.

The gifts they brought to the Divine Infant were gold, frankincense and myrrh. Saint Gregory the Great, commenting on their gifts, gives us these considerations:

"Gold is the fitting gift to a king, frankincense is offered in sacrifice to God, and with myrrh are embalmed the bodies of the dead. By the gifts, therefore, which they presented unto Him, the Wise Men set forth three things concerning Him unto Whom they offered them; by the gold, that He was king; by the frankincense, that He was God; and by the myrrh, that He was to die.

"There are some heretics who believe Him to be God, but confess not His kingly dominion over all things; these offer unto Him frankincense, but refuse Him gold. There are some others who admit that He is King, but deny that He is God; these present unto Him gold, but will not give Him frankincense. There are some other heretics who profess that Christ is both God and King, but not that He took a dying nature; these offer Him gold and frankincense, but not myrrh for the Manhood....

"There is also another signification in this gold, frankincense and myrrh. Gold is a type of wisdom.... Frankincense, which is burnt in honor of God, is a figure of prayer.... By myrrh is represented the putting to death of the body...."

In Holy Communion tomorrow offer to God the gold of your mind, that it may always seek Him; the frankincense of your heart, that it may always love Him; the myrrh of your senses, that they may be crucified with Him, lest at any time they draw away your mind and heart from His worship.

PRAYERS: Deceased - a sister of Edward Suoch; the grandfather of Leopold Brias; the fathers of Dr. James Stack, '26, and John F. Donnelly, ox-'32. George Aug is quite ill at home - pleurisy. Eight special intentions.