

Leaflet Missal
- Main door
of the church

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
January 7, 1933.

Depression Novena
begins tomorrow
Hand in intentions

Let's Not Fight About It.

From the London Universe, December 2, 1932: "The innermost confines of religion at Notre Dame, Indiana, are beginning to feel the push of modernity. In a new chapel in Dillon Hall, University of Notre Dame, red and green lights will be placed on the confessional box. The red light will signify that a penitent is being heard. The green light will denote that the priest is ready to hear another confession. The lights will be operated automatically as the penitent kneels for and rises after confession. (From the Holy Rood Chronicle, Hatford.)"

From the London Universe, December 9, 1932: "Sir - In your last issue, under Fra Juniper's Jottings I see a reference quoted from the Holy Rood Chronicle to an American chapel which is to have automatic lights to show whether the confessional is occupied or not.

"It may interest your readers to know that American cannot claim to have invented this idea. The device is fitted to the confessional of the Church of the Assumption, Northfleet, Kent, and has been in operation for some time. It consists of an indicator placed where those who are waiting for confession can see it without turning around. Normally the green light is showing, and when the penitent kneels down it automatically shows red and returns to green on the penitent rising from the prieu-dieu. -- A.V. Hauber, Parish Priest, Northfleet."

Let's not make an international incident out of it, or somebody will want to know who won the war. What interests us is that while they are scrapping about it in England, there are fellows in Dillon Hall who haven't seen the lights - much less tried them out.

This Is A Holy Year.

Pope Pius XI has declared this a Holy Year - the third of his brilliant pontificate. This time it is to commemorate the 19th centenary of the Crucifixion. (He leaves to scholars the calculation of the actual year; he fixes the commemoration this year.)

The mode of commemoration is particularly fitting. Penance, suffering, mortification, in union with the sufferings of Christ for our sins, is the proper demonstration of appreciation of Christ's vicarious offering; penance is the need of the hour; involuntary penance is the world's lot - but it can make it voluntary and meritorious; and a Holy Year is a year of penance.

The privileges of the Holy Year will be announced later, and the year itself will begin April 2; your attention is called to it now that you may keep it in your thoughts. If you have wasted five or ten or fifteen or twenty years of your life, call this year a holy year and prove to yourself that you have some spiritual backbone.

God Softens The Wind.

It is announced that Chicago's death rate last year dropped below 10 per 1000. It is an extraordinarily low rate, but it is typical of the depression. One pastor told us that he had only one funeral the first six months of last year - an old lady past 80. The past two winters have been hard on the coal merchants but easy on the poor; this winter has headed that way - but we are not forecasting Indiana weather. - A Contrast is furnished by the doubling of the suicide rate in many places - and that not among the poor, who can "take it", but among those to whom money has been the "root of all evil". Learn these two lessons: 1. the tightening of the belt has been an aid to health; and 2. "God softens the wind to the shorn lamb."

PRAYERS: Three victims of scarlet fever - one deceased, two critically ill.