

Next Tuesday, March 9, is
EASTER DUTY DAY for all
Catholics at Notre Dame...

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
March 4, 1937

...By word and example, help
bring in the slackers! Help!
Help! FIRST FRIDAY tomorrow.

Halfway; So What?

Back three weeks ago and it was Ash Wednesday. Ahead three weeks and (if you don't live too far away) you'll greet the folks at home.

Lent is just half over--Lent the appointed time for balancing the ledger of your moral and religious life.

It's a safe bet that he who neglects his immortal soul during Lent will neglect it throughout the rest of the year.

And, be reasonable, he who neglects his soul for a whole year at Notre Dame may certainly fear God when he meets Him in judgment.

"Do penance or you shall all likewise perish." That's the warning of Christ which rings out every day during Lent. You hear it in the bells that awaken you in the morning. You hear it in the big bell that calls you to church. You hear it from the pulpit on Wednesday nights. You read it in the Bulletin. You see it in the example of your fellow-students as they go daily to Mass and to Holy Communion; as they visit the Grotto, make periods of adoration and the stations of the cross; as they deny themselves usual pleasures.



You can't miss the meaning of Lent, for these days the whole Catholic world is on retreat.

Half of Lent is over forever. Did you spend it like a coward or a dullard--in worldly self-indulgence, in undenied hours at the movies and in the dance halls, in uncurbed eating and drinking, in sleepy childish mornings, in lazy listless days?

Or have you gone daily to Holy Communion, and to Mass with a missal in your hand? If so, you have read a daily instruction--in the prayers, in the epistles and gospels--that has kept you in the spirit of Lent.

Have you been studying more systematically? Have you made the way of the cross frequently? If so, you are impressed with the enormity of sin and with the urgency of doing penance.

No pope, no bishop, no priest invented Lent. Lent was invented by Christ Himself. Forty days and forty nights He spent in prayer and fasting in the desert. He never sinned, even venially, in His whole life. He had no personal sin to atone for.

But by His Lent He set an example that we may know how to acquire the humble and contrite heart which God on our deathbed will not despise.

Since Ash Wednesday you have abused grace enormously, or you have greatly profited by it. No chance now to rub out that fact.

Lent is half over, and you are more safely close to Heaven, or you are more dangerously near to Hell. That's the so-what of the halfway.

Another half of Lent remains. In which direction will it further take you--towards Heaven, or towards Hell?

MASS, 6:20, WALSH, FRIDAY, ART WOODS' FATHER; REQUEST PHARMACY CLUB.
PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of J.J. Sullivan (Mor.); James H. Fields. Ill, Miss Tromley.