

Masses, Thurs., Friday, and
Sat., Dillon, 7:20,

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
April 6, 1938.

...for mother of Art Selna
(Walsh) request of Fresh-
man Law Class.

Our Supernatural Dowry.

A Protestant woman once told a priest that if she could believe what we Catholics believe she would crawl on her hands and knees to church. If she could believe that the glorified Christ is living in our tabernacles; that at Mass we are present at the foot of the cross, that's what she would do. And rightly so. How priceless the gift of faith!

Every morning in your chapel the Sacrifice of the Cross is offered. Come around some morning and count the number of students who are there for the beginning of Mass. Of course the old faithfuls are always there. But where are the others of the same faith? What is lacking to them--an appreciation of the Mass?

The Mass is Calvary. At Mass we are with Christ at the most solemn moment of His existence. Between Calvary and the Mass there is no substantial difference. The effects are the same: adoration, petition, thanksgiving and propitiation.

On the Cross as in the Mass Christ offers Himself to the Father as the gift of infinite worth. The setting is different but the reality is the same: Christ, the Man-God, with all his loves, desires and aspirations, offers Himself as the Victim for our sins.

How can the redemptive might of Calvary, an event in a chilled and distant past, affect you and me of twenty centuries later? The Mass is the answer. The work of redeeming the human race, effected on Calvary, must be carried out and completed on our altars; the redeeming blood of Christ must flow continuously in sacrifice to purify each and every human soul; on Calvary Christ merited the graces necessary to redeem us, but on our altars these graces must be applied to each individual.

Calvary is not confined to the narrow limits of time and space. It extends far beyond them. For it is a bloodless reality, a sacred event of the here and now. In the light of our faith we measure the height and the breadth and the depth of this mystery of the Mass by the height and the breadth and the depth of the mystery of the Cross. That is what our faith means to us. It is a living thing; and so it is meant to be lived.

Yes, the Mass is Calvary. In the Mass Christ's will to sacrifice Himself again is made actual by the words of consecration. In the Mass Christ Himself, through the personality of His priests, whispers the secret formula of redemption, "This is My Body....This is My Blood," over sacrificial bread and wine. In this action Christ commemorates His death, His mangled body, His flowing blood. He re-presents Himself as the immolated victim. It is "His hour," the hour of His glory--and ours.

What a singular privilege to be with Him in this hour of triumph. How sad that so few know what actually takes place. Think of it! Christ....Calvary....The Mass. How close we are to Him; yet to how many of us could He say as He said to Phillip, "So long a time I have been with you and you have not known Me?"

Gentle words of reproach. Are they meant for you? Stir up your faith.

The Sacrifice of Calvary is the supernatural dowry Christ left to the ages; the Mass is the measure and scope of it.

Notice.

Because of the shortness of time before Easter, the religious questionnaire will be given to you after Easter.....Be a good egg!

PRAYERS: (deceased) anniv. death mother of Jerry Kane (Sorin); mother of Prof. Nutting; cousin of Robert Piercecchi (Dillon). Ill, father of Jim (Dil) and Bob (Brownson) Daley; Mrs. Mary Pullar; (operation) brother of Norb Schickel (Car.); Mrs. John Butler; father of Gene Dolan (Walsh). Six special intentions.