

Forty Hours opens at
8:30 Mass. Sun. Bene-
diction Sun. & Mon.;

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
February 21, 1941

closing Tues. Express
gratitude Saturday by
Mass and Communion.

Thanks To The Unknown.

Let this letter from a priest in the East express his gratitude to one of you:

"Last month my dad died. Many priests and friends were thoughtful enough to remember his soul spiritually with their prayers and their Masses. Somehow, while reading your Bulletin, I found my father's name among your intentions for the deceased. This was not only a happy surprise, but it impressed me deeply that some student was so thoughtful of my loss and of my dad's need.

"That you have so trained your young men to be so kind as to remember a friend's sorrow indicates to me that you have taught them the great lesson of being prayerfully thoughtful of the sorrow that comes to us all at such times. You will, I trust, thank the student who submitted my dad's name. Such a gesture of Christian charity is a tribute to your work in modeling gentlemen after the image of Christ."

We thank you, Father, for your kind letter. We also thank, for you, the unknown student who was so "prayerfully thoughtful" of you in your sorrow. Your expression of gratitude can show many, who might otherwise be thoughtless, how sympathy, charity and thoughtfulness are appreciated by those in sorrow.

Prayerfully Thoughtful.

The gratitude shown above permits us to get a slight glimpse of the gratitude which Jesus Christ must feel for those who, at any time, are "prayerfully thoughtful" of His overwhelming sorrow.

As Christ knelt in His agony in Gethsemane the night before He died, He needed comfort and sympathy badly. He even asked the apostles, "Will you not watch one hour with Me?" With the vision and foresight of His Divine nature, He could look down through the ages. He saw every sin of every man. It was those sins that caused His agony and bloody sweat -- those sins and the punishment He had to endure for them.

He saw also, thank God, every man who ever offered reparation or sympathy to Him at any time, any place. He saw every one of you who will make any period of Adoration during the Forty Hours (beginning Sunday) and during Lent. The vision of your thoughtfulness, of your love, comforted and strengthened Him in that hour of bitter trial.

Good Start For Lent.

The Forty Hours Devotion, which begins Sunday at the 8:30 Mass, was originally instituted as a prayer for peace. Back in the 16th century it started at a chaotic time of war and persecution of the Christians. The intentions then were peace for the Church, protection from the Turks and cooperation among the Christian princes. Through the centuries this devotion has become more and more an act of reparation for the sins of man. Forty Hours Devotion, and all subsequent devotion, and Lenten prayer should be for these two intentions so interchangeably linked, Peace and Reparation. There can be no just and lasting peace until there has been a return to God and reparation for the sins of man and the world.

If there is one thing necessary to turn the wrath of God away from the world for the hideous sins of man and the world, it is reparation -- humble, "prayerfully thoughtful" reparation by Mass, Communion and Adoration at Forty Hours and Lent.

NOTE: PROM-GOERS--The center aisle at the 10:00 o'clock Mass will be reserved for you and your guests, if you arrive early.

PRAYERS: Ill: Friend of Jack Malloy (Bro); Great-aunt of Robert Timmerman (Ly).