

May Devotions, not
tonight but tomorrow...

University of Notre Dame
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...evening. Father
Laskowski preaching.

Tomorrow - Ascension Day.

The Ascension of Our Lord was a great moment in the early Church.

Mary and the Apostles and other followers were gathered in Jerusalem when Our Savior appeared in their midst. He promised to send them the Holy Ghost and cautioned them: "Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the coming of the Holy Ghost." When He had eaten with them He led them out of Jerusalem a short journey to the Mount of Olives. There He comforted them and strengthened them, fearful over His leaving them.

Then, raising His hands to bless them in an affectionate farewell, He was lifted up and disappearing in a cloud He went up to Heaven. He had gone to prepare a place for them, gone to begin His heavenly priesthood of mediation between God and men, gone to obtain for all Christians the Holy Ghost and His gifts as He had promised, gone not to return again until He would come to judge the living and the dead.

The First Novena.

According to Scripture, Mary and the Apostles and disciples went back to the Cenacle in Jerusalem to prepare for the coming of the Holy Ghost. The nine-day period between the Ascension and Pentecost they spent in the upper room "persevering with one mind in prayer..., with Mary the Mother of Jesus."

This was the first and greatest novena, this momentous one in union with Our Lady in the Cenacle where the Blessed Eucharist had been instituted.

It was a novena to the Holy Ghost for light and truth and courage. It was the power of the Holy Ghost once descending upon them that changed these fearful weaklings into militant, daring Christians, most of them even martyrs for the Faith.

Our Novena to the Holy Ghost.

The period between Ascension and Pentecost is appropriately designated by the Church for a universal Novena to the Holy Ghost. With the closing of school you will not be able to complete this Novena, but you can attend Mass and Communion each day until you leave, praying also for success in your exams. Beseech the Holy Spirit for His gifts and fruits so needed today by all of us throughout the world. Make it in union with and under the inspiration of Our Blessed Lady, with whom the Apostles and disciples joined in the first and greatest novena of Christianity.

Ask the Holy Ghost during the Novena to make you a militant Christian after Christ's own heart, in school, army camp, office or wherever you may be. Ask the Holy Ghost for His gifts that you may value above everything else the presence and dignity of sanctifying grace within your soul, and that you may be strengthened and may persevere against temptation, now, through your vacation and after graduation.

Ask too for peace and you will be united in this Novena with Catholic students throughout the country who are making this also a Novena for peace at the suggestion of the National Federation of Catholic College Students.

2. Don't get panicky over the exams. Be in the state of grace. Say a prayer to the Holy Ghost. If you've got the jitters, ask a priest for his blessing.

PRAYERS: (dec) friend of Robert Steb '32. Ill, Judge Tom Gill. Seven special ints. NO MASS ON THE CAMPUS AFTER 10 O'CLOCK.

1. Tomorrow, a holyday of obligation, Masses will be as on Sunday, 6, 7, 8:30, 10. NO MASS ON THE CAMPUS AFTER 10 O'CLOCK.

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