

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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Padre Pio

A number of Notre Dame students when they were in Italy during the war met Padre Pio, the Capuchin Monk with the wounds of Our Blessed Lord in his side, hands and feet. Recent issues of the Catholic papers have told stories of Father Pio and the wonders that he performs. An American now in Italy caring for Father Pio's father writes to a student the following description of the holy man's influence.

"At all times a great majority of humanity is suffering and in need of help but perhaps now more than ever before, Many have called on Padre Pio for that needed help. Why? Because he seems to be the link between Heaven and earth. His body speaks the language of Heaven, he is God's interpreter. Those who have been helped by him pass on the good news, it spreads like wild fire and the crowds augment, suffering humanity comes flocking from near and far. How many tragic and pathetic little children and sights have we seen during these past months! Not long ago a mother brought her two little children, both totally blind and a few days later another mother brought her little children, both deaf and dumb. And how many paralytic, deficient and poor, miserable, unhappy creatures are brought here in the hope of receiving the grace to say nothing of those who are perhaps even more blind, deaf, paralyzed and deficient in heart and soul and even more in need of help if they are beautiful to behold.

"Let me repeat, those who come are many, really a multitude which must resemble the multitude which used to follow Jesus, crowding around Him so that he had to get into a boat so as to be able to speak to them, but the means of transport are new. Great big auto busses come from all parts of Italy and other groups come from Sicily, Switzerland and France. Our little church is always packed, so many people and only one Padre Pio and of course everybody wants to confess with him. This summer the people used to stand in line outside of the church all night long so as to be able to get near the confessional and how often did we have to try to comfort people who were crying and protesting that they had spent two or three nights in front of the church and in spite of all, had to leave without having succeeded in confessing with Padre Pio. Of course, he helps them just the same but it is hard to convince them of this fact until they learn it by experience. Every time we want to approach the Father, we have to arm ourselves with patience, become a little hard hearted and push through the crowd, taking the place from some poor individual who had to go away empty. There are still many everyday, Padre Pio hardly ever is able to confess all those who are in the confessional but it is not quite as bad as it was this summer. The cold weather is already beginning and schools have opened.

"Under separate cover, taking I will send you a little book which I think you will like even if you cannot read it because it has such a lovely illustration of Padre Pio's Mass. It was written by a poet who came here as an atheist, was converted and transformed by Padre Pio and has remained here. He describes his conversion and his impressions. What a shame is it that they ever built that Tower of Babel!

Rosaries Now Available in Dillon.

Every student should carry a rosary. A new supply has just been placed on the rack in the Dillon hall pamphlet room. The rosaries placed on the racks are blessed and indulgenced with the ABCD Indulgences, that is, Apostolic, Bridgettine, Crosier and Dominican, besides the Way of The Cross and Happy Death Indulgences on the crucifix.

PRAYERS: (deceased) grandmother of Warren Roque (Wal). (Ill) mother of Al Gross (Sor), operation. Two special intentions.