University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin September 24, 1948

Jack Joyce Critical

"My brother Jack was stricken with polio ten days ago and has been in an iron lung since September 12th. Last night, when for about the first time he was able to talk a little, he asked me to write you so that you could request prayers for him on the Religious Bulletin.

"Jack's condition has been extremely critical since he had pneumonia and a bladder infection along with the polio. However, he has put up a grand fight for life and we now believe he is going to succeed. The extent of his paralysis is not yet known, but with the prayers that are storming heaven I feel optimistic about this too."

The Novena for the Sick began today. Make a mental note of all the persons you Want included in the Mass which the Prefect of Peligion will offer tomorrow for all the sick you want prayed for. Jack Joyce will be given a special memento in this Mass.

Some of you will be willing to do something extra for Jack, and for your own sick friends and relatives. It will help your devotion to make a visit to either Sorin or Morrissey Hall chapels, where there is a relic of St. Teresa, the Little Flower, in whose honor this Novena is being made.

Football At Notre Dame

Saturday morning at nine o'clock the members of the football squad and the coaches will gather in Dillon Hall Chapel for the traditional pre-game Mass and blessing. Through the Sacrifice of the Mass, the players dedicate their running, tackling, blocking and bruises to the glory of God and Our Blessed Lady. To draw down Our Lady's special blessing, the team says the Litany of the Blessed Virgin, led by the Captain.

After the Litany, each member of the team is blessed individually with a relic of the True Cross, that is, a small piece of wood from the Cross on which Christ was crucified. The priest touches each man with the relic and prays that he will not be injured in the game. When his hands and shoulders are touched, the player, down in his heart, consecrates all his faculties to the service of the Mother of God.

The football team, like all other Notre Dame teams, represents the student body whereever it goes. This is your team. The glory that comes to it overflows upon you. You, therefore, ought to support the players by your prayers. It is traditional at Notre Dame for each student to rise for Mass and Holy Communion on football Saturdays. Saturday happens to be Cur Lady's day of the week. So by being present at Mass tomorrow you will be pleasing the Mother of God as well as showing loyalty to each



member of the squad. If you are a heavy sleeper, ask your neighbor to arouse you in the morning in time for Mass.

Avoid the Crowd

The 10;10 o'clock Mass on Sunday is nearly always packed to overflowing. It will certainly be crowded this Sunday, because of the football visitors. Will you help ease the situation by attending Mass at another hour? Breakfast follows the 8:00 o'clock Mass.