

First Friday Tomorrow....
Pray for strength.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 30, 1950.

Adoration Main Church....
Benediction at 5 p.m.

In This Dread Hour.

"Dear Father: Never before have I seen so much anxiety amongst the students concerning the gravity of world conditions as I have in the past few days. A tendency toward despair is evident everywhere on campus. There is an obvious awareness of the insufficiency of any natural means to save the world from catastrophe. Conditions are such that an appeal to the supernatural would have more efficacy than ever before.

"The purpose of my writing is this. I would like to see one of the priests lead the Rosary in the Main Church each day at 12:30. If through the Religious Bulletin and other means the student body could be informed that such was taking place I firmly believe the entire church would eventually be filled for the daily recitation, as the faith and consolation of one student inspires another, then another. Even should the peace of the world be beyond salvation the students will in this way be preparing themselves for the horrible consequences of war." (--A Student.)

There is no question about our need of prayer. Your suggestion that the students assemble each noon at 12:30 is timely and worth-while considering. Let us hear of other suggestions for corporate prayer-action. Our own recommendation would be for you to assemble in your own hall chapels at a time most convenient for all. If the lights of the world are going out, why not turn off room lights as a reminder to gather prayer-wise for the Rosary in common? Keep the lights out during the Rosary. Consult your rector for his approval.

Anticipating another and more terrifying world war is appalling to think of. But the danger is imminent. Hordes of Chinese Reds swarming through American lines, killing, maiming, destroying, may be the spark that will ignite the conflagration.

Once again your life's plans are going to be disrupted. For how long? God alone knows. No one will censure you for being confused and discouraged. But guard yourself against despair. This is no time for that. Incomprehensible as are God's ways He is still in His heaven--omnipotent, all-provident, all-merciful, all-just. St. Paul speaks of the "mystery of iniquity." Mystery, indeed, but our faith teaches that whatever is happening, whatever will happen to us, must fit somehow within the scope of Divine Providence. Some day we will all know the answers.

Mr. Dean Acheson spoke of the "Strategy of Peace" and enumerated his 6-point program. To prepare for the best and be ready for the worst let us include point 7, the Divine Statagem of Prayer, the focal point of the strategy of Mary's PEACE PLAN FROM HEAVEN.

What is to be feared most about human plans for peace is that they do not include God. Every peace plan fails ultimately if it is not of God. When will we learn this lesson: "Unless the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it." Has the Secularist's repudiation of God been the modern sin crying to heaven for vengeance? Is Communism God's vengeance, more terrible than the flood? the seven plagues of Egypt? the Barbarian Invasion of ancient Rome? Will Red barbarians be God's scourge, leveling this City of Man because it was not built as the City of God?

Tomorrow is FIRST FRIDAY. Keep this warning in mind when you pray and receive Communion, when you keep your half-hour vigil in the Main Church before Christ enthroned: "The world will have to drain the cup of God's wrath to the bitter dregs for the countless offenses committed against His Divine Heart." (Message as reported by Barbara Reuss from the Blessed Mother in Germany, 1946.) God has road-blocked every avenue of escape but not the open road called the Royal Highway of the Cross. Let us walk this road in prayer. Let us shift the load....to our kness...We have no other recourse.