

Tonight: Novena  
Services at 6:45,  
Sacred Heart Church

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
December 5, 1952  
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Tomorrow is the  
Saturday for Fatima  
Devotions in private.

The Immaculate Mother.

When Whistler was complimented for the portrait of his mother, he said:

"You know how it is; one tries to make  
one's Mummy just as nice as he can."

That is what happened before God became Man. He, too, made His Mother as nice as He could -- and that would make Her a perfect Mother.

How It Came About.

Every person carries within his heart a blueprint of the one he loves. There is no such thing as "love at first sight." Love is the fulfillment of desire, the realization of a dream. A tiny architect works inside the human heart drawing sketches of the ideal love from the people it sees, from the books it reads, from its hopes and daydreams, in the fond longing that the eye may one day see the ideal and the hand may touch it. Life becomes satisfying the moment the dream is seen walking; and the person appears as the incarnation of all that one loves.

Mary is the Eternal Blueprint in the Mind of God, the One whom He loved before She was a creature. She existed in the Divine Mind as an Eternal Thought before there were any mothers. In her He found perfect conformity between what He wanted her to be, and what she is. She is all that He foresaw, planned, and dreamed. And so God was born of a Mother whom He chose before He was born. It is the only instance in history where both the Son willed the Mother, and the Mother willed the Son.

The words "Immaculate Conception" mean that at the first moment of her conception, the Blessed Mother in the womb of her mother St. Anne, in virtue of the anticipated merits of the Redemption of her Son, was preserved free from the stain of original sin. Redemption was applied to her at the moment of her conception. She enjoyed this privilege not for her sake but for His sake.

--(Adapted from a talk by Bishop Sheen)

If You Didn't Start Today...

to make the Christmas Novena for Parents, you still have time to do a good job before the Christmas vacation begins. Surely, you will not neglect them at this time of year. And a novena, mind you, will give them an adequate idea of the Notre Dame way of life -- of the kind of education they're underwriting for you. It will give them an idea of what looms important in the Notre Dame sense of values. This is one thing you can do for them without their financial assistance. It could be, you know, that they need your prayers !

Masses on Monday in Sacred Heart Church -- the same as on Sunday. Be on time.

Put late contributions to the Clothes Drive in Dillon Pamphlet Room. Thanks!

Suggested Christmas gift for youngsters -- A subscription to The Catholic Boy.

PRAYERS: Deceased: Dr. Burton Shinnars, '33. Ill: Dr. Frank O'Donnell; the grandmother of Ed Schickler of Cavanaugh; Marty O'Connor (polio); Remember Jack Whelan's sister -- her husband and child (polio).