

Tomorrow; at 9 a.m.,  
Founder's Day Mass in  
Sacred Heart Church

University of Notre Dame

Religious Bulletin  
October 12, 1953  
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Tomorrow: late distribu-  
tion of Communion in Dillon  
chapel until 9:30 a.m. only.

From: "Notre Dame - 100 Years"

The Journey: "The trek northward (11 days from St. Peter's near Vincennes) was never forgotten. Twice they had to sleep out in the open. When they wished a piece of bread, the frozen loaves had to be cut with an axe. A day was lost when one of the wagon wheels gave way, and they had to buy a large sled and transfer, not only the load, but what remained of the wagon, to this new mode of conveyance. One of the Brothers froze his toes; two others had their faces frozen."

The Arrival: "We came to Notre Dame (Nov. 26, 1842). Everything was frozen, yet it all appeared very beautiful. The lake particularly, with its mantle of snow, resplendently white, was to us a symbol of the stainless purity of Our Lady... We hurried about looking at the various sites like little children, in spite of the cold; we ran from one end to the other, perfectly enchanted by the beauty of our new home..." (Fr. Sorin's first letter to Fr. Moreau)

First Building: "... by late spring (1843) they had to have more room. So they drew up the plan of a small square brick building, of two stories. In a short time the building was ready. It is what is now called "Old College." It is wonderful what Father Sorin packed into that building. There was a dormitory for the expected students; a dormitory for the Brothers; a refectory; a bakery; a classroom; and a clothes room. This building is the only original landmark on the campus... and remains the simple, frank expression of the humble inception of Notre Dame... On January 15, 1844, by legislative act, Father Sorin's school became a University."

Construction: "One who looks at the older campus notes the peculiar yellow brick used in the buildings. All of these bricks were made here on the grounds of Notre Dame... From the very first, the community built a kiln; and from the marl and sand (surrounding the lakes) fashioned the bricks. This industry was one of the first at which students, trying to work their way through college, were employed."

Sickness: "In 1854 the ravages of cholera made themselves felt ... The dead were taken to the cemetery at night, and buried without religious solemnity ... Already there were 19 new graves... Conditions, however, could not be kept quiet, as day after day mounds of sandy clay increased in the cemetery..."

The Sisters: "Every day, in foul weather and fair, through cold and snow, heat and dust, the Sisters trudged back and forth between Notre Dame and Bertrand (5 miles), working all day at the college, and performing an unbelievable variety of tasks. Nightfall must have found them tremendously weary..."

Fire (1879): "It was a terrible blow, for in three hours was wiped out the result of 35 years of hard, grueling sacrifice. It took something more than courage to face the future. Father Sorin, after looking over the destruction of his life-work, stood at the altar steps of the only building left, and spoke to the community. There was on his face a look of grim determination: 'If it were ALL gone, I should not give up,' were his words in closing. The effect was electric. It was the crowning moment of his life... There was never more a shadow of a doubt as to the future of Notre Dame..."

Tomorrow -- Offer the Mass for all the benefactors, living or dead, of Notre Dame.

Tonight at 5 p.m.: October Devotions in Sacred Heart Church.