

Remember the Frank
Leahy Spiritual Bouquet to be
presented at the game.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 24, 1954

Fill out blanks in the
Dillon hall pamphlet room
tonight at the latest.

What Of Thanksgiving Day ?

It is encouraging to find a nation pausing to survey its material prosperity, count its blessings, and thank God for His bountiful Providence. In this hour of worldly progress it is rewarding to find men humbly looking beyond human prowess and craft to an ultimate source of all our good fortune -- to God Himself!

You may find General Motors, Dupont, Westinghouse, and a dozen other organizations approaching the edge of genius when it comes to taking the complications out of every day living. But it remains for God alone to create the small seed, endow it with life, and then give the increase for our subsistence. Today we should pause to express thanks.

The forms this gratitude takes are sometimes novel. To simply gorge oneself in tribal assembly is hardly paying adequate honor to God -- even though it does great things for the cock's morale, and invites a hasty call for the "bicarb." One feels there should be something more -- a spiritual something -- to make the day holy.

One also recalls that in Biblical times, the first fruits of the earth were always given back to God. The best of the grain, and oil, and fruits, and the finest of the flock were destroyed, after being offered to God -- as a token of gratitude to the Giver of all good gifts. These men associated thanksgiving with sacrifice; they made a thanks offering to acknowledge their dependence for all things upon His Providence. And these sacrifices, simple and inadequate, were yet the best and only means at man's disposal to express gratitude.

In our day, we are blessed with the Sacrifice of the Mass -- the Perfect Offering of a Perfect Victim, and One that honors God infinitely and thanks Him infinitely. Why be content with less than a perfect act of thanksgiving on this particular day? Go to Mass tomorrow. Join with the priest in thanking God adequately -- as He deserves to be thanked by all His children -- for the manifold material blessings He has so lavishly showered upon us!

Let It Not Be Said Of Us

"... We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power, as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us..."

-- Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation -- 1863

PRAYERS: Deceased: father of Jim Sullivan, '30; sister of Michael Durr of Dillon; brother of Sister Mildreda, CSC; A.C. Stephan, '04; Phil DeMars, ex-'56 (auto accident); wife of Prof. John Frederick; Charles Martin, '23; wife of James Cronin, '35; father of Fred C. Aaron, Jr. '53. Ill: friend of John Weithers of Alumni; an Alumnus (critical); Jerry Jones, '23.

Thanksgiving Day

Masses in all hall chapels at hours posted by rectors. Late Communion facilities in Dillon until 9 o'clock only.