

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Wednesday, April 29, 1959

Notre Dame, Indiana



Program for Solemn Opening of May Devotions

Hymn -- Immaculate Mary (2 verses)
Sermon by Fr. Charles Harris, C.S.C.
Hymn -- On This Day, O Beautiful Mother
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Hymn -- Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

A Plenary Indulgence may be gained
under the usual conditions.

(In the event of rain, go directly
to Sacred Heart Church at 7:15 P.M.)

SOLEMN OPENING OF MAY DEVOTIONS TOMORROW
NIGHT AT 7:30. CANDLE-LIGHT PROCESSION
TO THE GROTTA BEGINS AT 7:15. The hall
spiritual commissioners will organize the
procession in their respective halls. At
7:20, all groups should be advancing to-
ward the Grotto, reciting the Rosary. The
procession should move over the following
routes. On the east side of the campus,
CAVANAUGH should lead, followed by BREEN-
PHILLIPS, and proceed past the front of
the Administration Building, circle the
rear of the church and enter the Grotto
by the wide steps nearest the church. ST.
EDWARD'S, followed by ZAHM and FARLEY,
should proceed along the north side of
the Administration Building, straight to
the north steps leading into the Grotto.
STANFORD and KEENAN residents will pro-
ceed north, and follow the lake road to
the Grotto. On the south side of the
campus, SORIN will lead, followed by
WALSH, ALUMNI, and DILLON, and proceed
north to the church, then west on the
road that passes in front of Corby Hall
and into the Grotto. On the west side
of the campus, MORRISSEY and LYONS will
pass under the Lyons arch and move along
the lake road to the Grotto. HOWARD will
be followed by BADIN, FISHER, and PANGBORN,
proceeding north along the walk in front
of the library and down to the Grotto. On
arrival at the Grotto, move in close to
the Grotto, and remain standing through-
out the ceremony. Upon leaving the Grotto,
place candle stubs in the receptacles at
the exits.

● FRIDAY IS THE FIRST FRIDAY of the
month, and the day we pray for a happy
death. Be mindful of the next student
to die.

● FRIDAY is also the opening day of
the Novena for your Mother. Give a
half hour a day for her intentions at
Mass every day for the next nine days.
It's little enough for the twenty or
more years she has spent praying and
working for your needs. Holy Mass,
Communion, and Rosary is within your
means, regardless of whether you plan
to spend the week-end studying, dancing,
or watching the "run for the roses".
On Monday's Bulletin, you will find a
Mother's Day card you can enclose in
the letter timed to arrive just before
May 10th.

● THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be ex-
posed for adoration, on Friday, from
Noon until 4:45 P.M. in the Lady Chapel.

● Friday evening, and every evening
during May, there will be May Devotions
at the Grotto, at 6:30 P.M. Be there.

● PRAYERS. Deceased: Father of Bob
Chickey, '54; aunt of Maurice Nackley
of Dillon; uncle of Bill Morgan of
Dillon; Joseph Haney, '28. Two special
intentions.



THE SOLEMN OPENING of May Devotions could become just a demonstration, if we aren't careful. And demonstrations seldom do more for those attending than cause fallen arches and ruffled nerves. The devotions at the Grotto are designed to be a celebration of the glories of Mary. And a celebration affects man's soul. All things speak to the soul--every form, every movement, every gesture. Untiringly, the soul strives to express its own innermost meaning in outer things. In its innermost being the soul says, "I am, in a way, related to all things." In every thing and in every event, the soul recognizes a likeness to its own being.

SO....tomorrow evening, as we celebrate the glories of Mary, ask yourself what the ceremonies are doing to your soul. You will hold a lighted candle in your hand. This candle--although very small--can become the expression of your soul. It can symbolize you.

ABOVE IT hovers a flame. The flame is what changes it into a warm and shining light. Guardini suggests that if we focus our attention on the candle we may hear it speak. It says, "I stand where it is worthwhile standing--before God. Nothing in me yields. Nothing leans away. All is in readiness to serve."

AND, BEFORE THE CEREMONY is finished, the candle will have consumed itself in this service. Granted, the candle knows nothing of this. Granted, it has no soul. But, Guardini suggests, why not give it one? Let it be the expression of your soul. Or is that too far-fetched, too demanding?

AS THE RAYS FROM IT fall across your hand, let all your readiness to serve God and Mary well up in you. And say to yourself, "Lord, here I stand." Or, "Mary, in this candle I stand before thee, ready to do the Will of Thy Son."

THERE BEFORE THE GROTTTO, realize that your quest for the truth and for love of God must be as ardent as the flame. And recall that:

"The flame burns as a symbol of what is innermost in us, of the striving, illuminating, powerful soul....It signifies, or should signify, your soul....You must make it the symbol of your life-long turning to God....Make an effort for this. It does not come easily; but if you can get nearer to it, then after such moments of enlightened silence, you can go back among men with a quiet mind."



WHENEVER YOU RECALL MAY, recall the Grotto and the candle in your hand. And ask yourself if your soul is still like the flame or that candle--ever in motion, ever striving upward, ever following the air it needs.

Gene Boorman, c.c.
Prefect of Religion