

# RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Wednesday, May 6, 1959

Notre Dame, Indiana

TOMORROW IS THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION.

The times of Masses in Sacred Heart Church will be the same as on Sunday. Remember, however, that the 9:00 o'clock Mass will be the annual Memorial Mass in memory of the Notre Dame men who died in the service of their country. The University's Army, Navy, and Air Force ROTC units will assemble in front of the Administration Building for Memorial Ceremonies at 8:25 A.M., before moving into the church.

● WITH THE NAVY'S ANNOUNCEMENT that it has appointed a chaplain to active duty aboard submarines on patrol, we are reminded of the original efforts to get chaplains for the men in service. It all began back in 1862 when the rank of chaplain was made by Congress. Father Peter Cooney, C.S.C., a priest teaching here at the University, was largely instrumental in bringing the matter before Congress. A Senate Investigating Committee was set up and received testimony from generals and commanders, with the result that the rank of chaplain was promptly established with pay of captain. Before the Indiana regiment left for the war, Governor Morton sat down and wrote the following note to President Lincoln:

To the President of the United States:

"I respectfully nominate Rev. P.P. Cooney, a Catholic priest of Indiana, for the Indiana troops at large. There are Catholics in every regiment, and in my opinion, it is justice, as well as sound policy, to appoint a chaplain for them."

On the reverse side of the note is found the following endorsement:

"Let the appointment within requested be considered as made, to take date from the passage of a law, which will be passed, authorizing me to make such appointment.

"A. Lincoln.

February 3, 1862."

Father Cooney served with the Indiana troops during the entire four years of the war.

● PRAYERS. Deceased: Father of Wiley Rice of Walsh; grandmother of Jim Bigham of Walsh; Cardinal Grete of LeMans. Ill: grandfather of Dave Eisenbeil of Lyons.

● A WORD FROM THE ADMIRAL. ARLEIGH BURKE, by name. And the remark is an excerpt from a letter to a St. Mary's student.

"The early years of your marriage, whether they be service associated or not, probably will require a philosophic outlook....You will share equally with your husband the problems and responsibilities which are so formative to a well-managed and happy marriage. In addition, I think every husband wants to know that his wife is able to meet the minor hardships or inconveniences that are encountered by most couples in the early years of marriage."

● MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA CARDS are available in the pamphlet room in Dillon Hall.

● SOME operate on the principle "Absence makes the heart grow fonder". But every Mother, about this time of year, might be heard to say, "Oh, I don't know; did you ever try presents?" And speaking of presents, how are you doing on your Novena of Masses, Communions, and Rosaries for your Mother?

● ON FRIDAY, thanks to the local council of the Knights of Columbus, we will distribute copies of "An Outline of the Mass".

● EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT continues each week-day in the Lady Chapel during May, from Noon until 4:45 P.M. Tomorrow, Morrissey, Breen-Phillips, and St. Edward's residents will provide adorers. And on Friday, Farley, Zahm, and Cavanaugh residents take their turn at providing adorers.

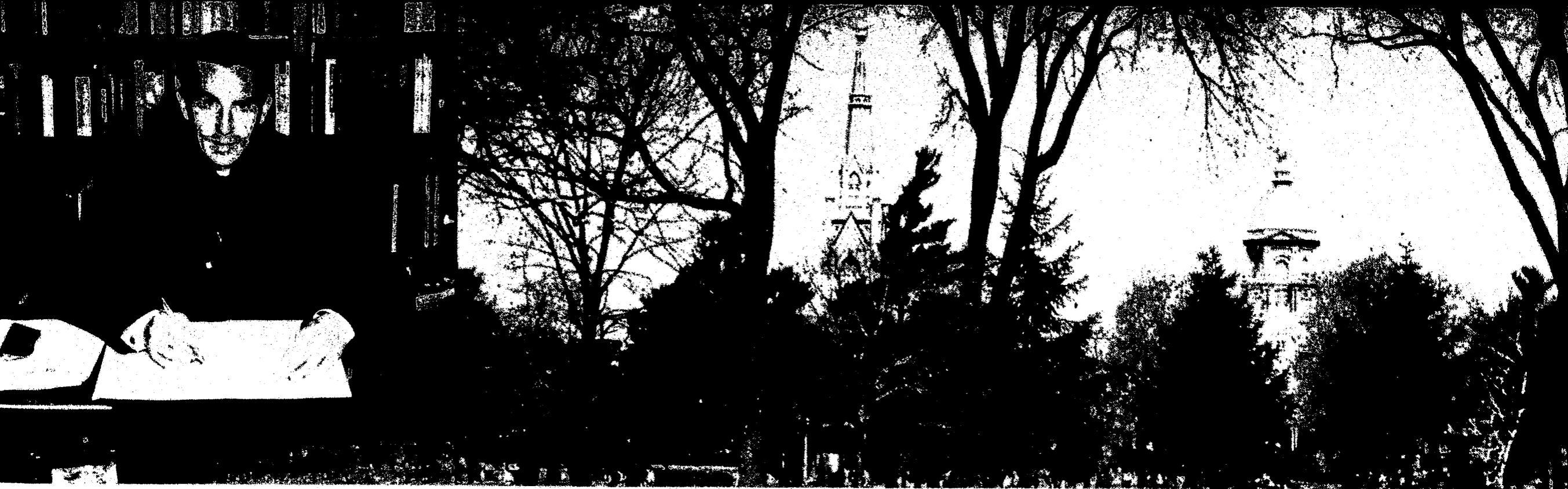
TONIGHT, AND EVERY night during May, hymns will be sung at the Grotto, beginning promptly at 6:30 P.M. Bring a friend. And, don't forget, you may gain a plenary indulgence for each of these visits.



ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS AND CEREMONIES 7 MAY 1959

8:25 a.m. MEMORIAL CEREMONIES

9:00 a.m. MEMORIAL MASS



THE FIRST MEMORIAL MASS here at Notre Dame for our War Dead was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church on May 30, 1891, almost sixty-eight years ago. The celebrant of the Mass was a former President of the University, Father Corby. He was also the preacher for the occasion. This was the same Father Corby who had gained fame as chaplain of the "Irish Brigade" in the Army of the Potomac. (And, if you haven't seen the statue of him in front of Corby Hall, go out of your way to take a look at it. He's depicted giving general absolution to the Union soldiers at Gettysburg.)

In the afternoon, the band accompanied the students and cadets to Cedar Grove cemetery where a local Member of Congress gave a speech and Father Peter Cooney prayed:

"O Lord, grant that the precious lives which they gave to purchase temporal blessings for us may procure for themselves those blessings that are eternal. May we never forget them in the enjoyment of the blessings which their patriotism has purchased for us."

TOMORROW'S annual Memorial Mass is our way of remembering their sacrifice and an occasion for reflecting on what might be termed the touchstones of patriotism. 1.) The true patriot seldom wears a "hero" badge. 2.) The true patriot's love of country prompts him to promote its moral, material, spiritual, and temporal well-being. 3.) The true patriot is conscious of the common good. 4.) The true patriot sees his country united by a moral bond to the family of nations. 5.) The true patriot is a defender of the rights of every man. 6.) The true patriot desires the rule of law. 7.) He is cautious about labeling others "unpatriotic". 8.) He concerns himself with the public good, insofar as time and talent permits. 9.) He doesn't regard as time lost the time he spends on behalf of his country. 10.) And, in every way he can, he encourages patriotism in others.

THE UNIVERSITY'S HISTORIAN has put words

on the lips of Sorin, words which are very appropriate on an occasion such as we will witness tomorrow.

"It is now your turn to show the valient heart. Today's conflict is a test of your Notre Dame mind and Notre Dame spirit. For my part, I am confident that your ways will not fall short of the mark. One hundred years ago, I knelt to kiss the soil of my adopted land. To that act of love, I was faithful, always. To my joy, those about me were ever loyal to the same cause...."

"Stand before the image of Corby and ponder well his valor. He came to me as a boy. I found him quiet and docile. I never suspected until the struggle was over, how much grim determination dwelt in his priestly heart. No cringing fear, no recoil from sacrifice marred the perfect patriotism of his soul.

"Go into the vestibule of Sacred Heart Church. Look upon the roster of names lately placed there. They are Notre Dame men whose blood is yet fresh. They were so lately among you, at play, at studies, at the altar-rail. War is a bitter thing, a cruel device. It takes away the young, the generous, the spirited. It leaves wounds and scars not only on the body but on the soul. But far better those wounds and scars than others left through cowardice or fear or sloth.

"...Stand in the eastern portal of the church. The bronze tablets hold the names of Notre Dame students fallen in battle a generation ago. Life was as dear to them as it is to you. Only three things could have made death yet dearer still. Those three things are written high above the door: GOD, COUNTRY, NOTRE DAME."

*Gene Boorman, c.c.*  
Prefect of Religion