

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Monday, February 26, 1962

Notre Dame, Indiana

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Father of Walter Sahn of Cavanaugh; daughter of Prof. Harry Nielsen of the Philosophy Dept.; father of Prof. Raymond Powell of the Accounting Dept.; grandfather of Bob Wieczarek of Zahm; grandfather of Murray Olsen of Morrissey; grandmother of Brad Terrence of Sorin; uncle of Tom Heoomovich of Alumni; uncle of Ray Wherley of Morrissey; cousin of Jim Harrington of Zahm; Rev. Charles Harsh; Paul Lally, '44; Rudolph Cseszko, '50; wife of Frank Hiss, '16, and mother of Bernard Hiss, '40; Ill: Anthony DeBruin, Off-Campus; grandfather of Ray Richelsen of Dillon; Rev. Bernard Flynn; brother of Rev. Thomas Irving, C.S.C.

FORTY HOURS'

The Forty Hours' Devotion will begin next Sunday at the 11:00 o'clock Mass in Sacred Heart Church. It will afford us all an opportunity to make public acts of faith in the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus; to offer Him public and private adoration and reparation for the insults and indifference towards the Blessed Sacrament; to reconsider the use we make of the opportunities for frequent reception of Holy Communion. The Plenary Council of Baltimore approved the devotion for the United States in 1866. The Forty Hours' Devotion, as we know it, developed out of the 16th century Eucharistic devotions introduced by St Phillip Neri and St Ignatius Loyola. It was their practice to expose the Blessed Sacrament during the Pre-Lenten carnival time in reparation for the sins committed at that season. (The concert of sacred music we call the "oratorio" was first held as part of the Forty Hours' Devotion.) During the Forty Hours, the Blessed Sacrament remains solemnly exposed for adoration. A partial indulgence of fifteen years may be gained for each visit made during this time, provided one says Five Our Fathers, Hail Marys, and Glorias, adding one of each for the Holy Father. And a plenary indulgence may be gained on each of the three days by all who recite the above prayers, and go to Confession and Communion. All who know what's good for them will be sure to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament on each of the three days of exposition. On Sunday and Monday evenings, Father Doll will preach on the Holy Eucharist. These services will begin at 6:45 and consist of sermon and Benediction. The closing ceremonies and procession will be held at 6:45 on Tuesday evening. Mardi Gras activities will not begin before the services are over. So, plan to attend the services before going to the Mardi Gras fun and games. To guarantee that there will be someone before the Blessed Sacrament all the while It is exposed, you are requested to fill out the blank below and deposit it in the envelope on your hall Bulletin Board.

DURING THE FORTY HOURS' DEVOTION

I will make a half hour of Adoration at the following time(s):


SUNDAY _____

MONDAY _____

TUESDAY _____

Name

Hall



St Augustine wasn't always a saint. His young adult years were marked with illicit loves. And as long as he permitted impurity to have its own way with his soul and body, he could not see purity as something more attractive, more desirable. Here's how he expressed it in his Confessions:

"My one-time mistresses held me back, plucking at my garment of flesh and murmuring softly: 'Are you sending us away?' And, 'From this moment shall we not be with you, now or forever?' And, 'From this moment, shall this or that not be allowed you, now or forever?' What were they suggesting to me in the phrase I have written, 'this or that', what were they suggesting to me, O my God? Do you in your mercy keep from the soul of your servant the vileness and uncleanness they were suggesting?"

St Augustine eventually came to see that in giving up impurity he was about to embrace something more attractive. Here's how he describes the way the beauty and goodness of purity drew him:

"In the direction toward which I had turned my face and was quivering in fear of going, I could see the austere beauty of continence, serene indeed and joyous but not evilly, honourably soliciting me to come to her and not linger, stretching forth loving hands to receive and embrace me, hands full of many good examples."

Purity spoke to Augustine, and what purity said gives the clew to how he conquered impurity:

"Purity smiled on me, and that smile gave courage as if purity were saying: "Can't you do what other men have done?.....Could these have done it by themselves, and not in the Lord God? The Lord God gave purity to them. Why do you depend upon yourself only, and so not stand at all? Cast yourself upon Him, and don't be afraid. He won't draw away and let you fall. Cast yourself upon Him without fear, and He will receive and heel you.'"

And you? Are you caught in the embrace of sin--the sin of impurity? Then, take your lead from St Augustine. Cast yourself on Our Lord. Use prayer and avail yourself of the opportunities for frequent Holy Communion. Others here before you have succeeded, using this formula. So can you.

Glenn Boorman, M.A.
University Chaplain