

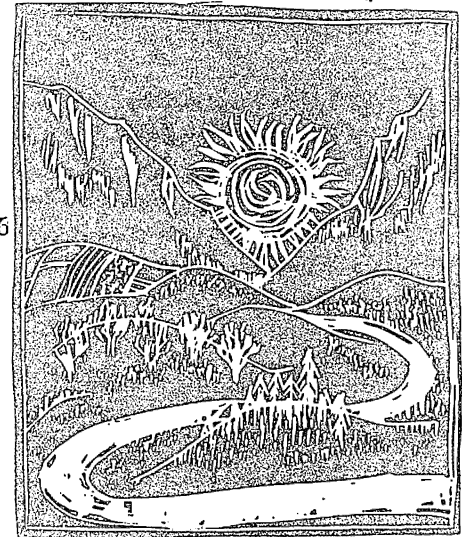


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RELIGIOUS BULLETIN



Volume III Issue 13 Dec. 14, 1986



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WAKE STRAIGHT THE  
WAY OF THE LORD  
JNK1231

Look, Your Lord is Coming !!



Third Sunday  
of Advent  
December 14, 1986

The Lord loves the just;  
the Lord protects strangers.



OFFICE OF  
UNIVERSITY  
MINISTRY

University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

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Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 9th, 1986 10:00pm

Sacred Heart Church

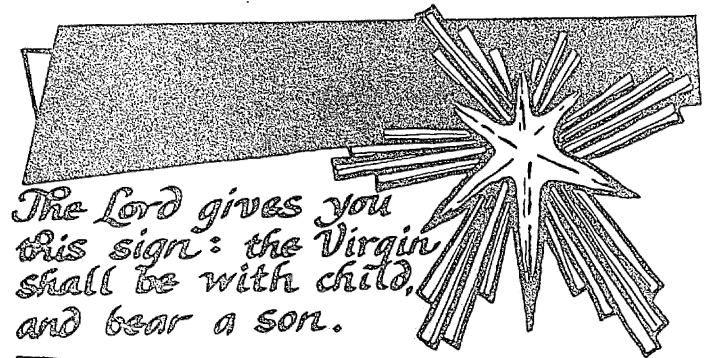
Opportunity for individual confession following the service.

Rev. André Léveillé, C.S.C., Homilist

Music provided by the Notre Dame Folk Choir

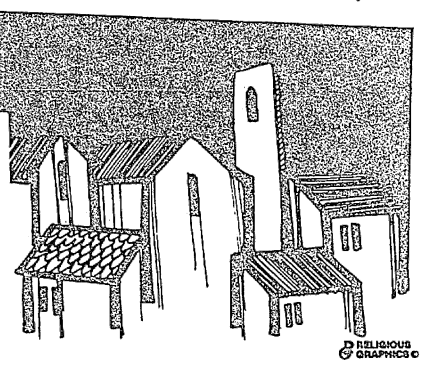
CHRISTMAS IS HERE! ...ALMOST BUT FIRST THE REST OF ADVENT, THE END OF THE SEMESTER AND FINALS, ALL BEFORE THE TREK HOME FOR THE BIG DAY! But WHY IS THIS A BIG DAY? As believers, Christians, Catholics we are constantly in process, the process of accepting our God as coming to us in the flesh, incarnated, as our brother Jesus. We are challenged to believe in Jesus and to accept Him as present to us in our prayer, the people in our lives and those not in our lives, in the reality of sacraments, and in His Word, the Scriptures. BUT WHILE JESUS IS PRESENT TO US, WE ARE AWARE OF HIM IN SO FAR AS WE LET HIM. IT TAKES EFFORT TO LOVE, TO LET JESUS IN ONE'S LIFE. LET US TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ADVENT AND THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE, OR RECONCILIATION, OF ACTS OF GOODNESS TO OTHERS, AND THE EUCHARIST. YES, JESUS IS COMING. LET HIM IN! CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS AND HAPPINESS TO YOU ALL AND ALL OF YOUR FAMILIES!

# GO TO CONFESSION LATELY? - - - Here's one student who says "WHY NOT?"



## PENANCE: A SELF-REFLECTION

THE MAIN FOCUS OF CHRISTIANITY is the forgiveness of sin. Among Christians, Catholics have Penance as the special sacrament that celebrates the healing touch of Jesus. The Sacrament of Penance emphasizes the belief that we are healed through the suffering and death of Christ. As a result, Penance provides me with the strength to carry on in my every day life.



THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE emphasizes the fact that all humans have imperfections. Often we choose evil instead of good which is the reason why God provided us with the Sacrament of Penance. As a sinner who comes to God in this Sacrament, I have often experienced God's mercy and loving kindness. This loving kindness is rewarding as it frees me from my sins and allows me to share in his life again. God, similar to the father in the Prodigal Son, ALWAYS ALLOWS US TO RETURN NO MATTER WHAT OUR FAULTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

ONE OF THE REASONS I PARTICIPATE IN THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE is that it has allowed me to examine myself so that I can become a more perfect person. However, I realize that God is the only one who is really perfect. This reflection allows me to see my faults, weaknesses, and areas where I have gone wrong in my life. Most importantly, it provides me with the grace from God that is necessary for me to establish a CHANGE OF HEART. THIS CHANGE OF HEART ALLOWS ME TO GET MY LIFE BACK INTO PERSPECTIVE and to correct my past failures in such a manner that I can continue to strive for the perfection that is God. The more I go to confession and reflect upon my weaknesses the more I experience an inner peace and God's enduring love.

PENANCE PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN ADVENT. Advent means coming and celebrates the birth of Christ. It is a time for one to grow and to enrich his heart. By coming at the end of the year, Advent allows us to reflect on the past year and to look toward the future so that we can await Christ's coming. This is where self-reflection is very important. Penance offers the way to look at the past and with a change of heart improve the future. Furthermore, Penance reminds us of the wrongs that we have done. ADVENT THEN SHOWS US THAT THERE IS HOPE. As a result, Advent and Penance uplift each of us by giving an inner strength to make a lasting change.

PENANCE GIVES US GRACE FROM GOD TO MAKE OUR SOULS STRONGER. Continual self-examination allows us to get to know ourselves and also strive to better ourselves. As Catholics, it is important to use Penance when we feel we are doing wrong and in times where we are not quite able to show God His deserved love. Often, this occurs during busy weeks at school, and Penance enables us to get through hard these times. As a result, PENANCE CLEANSSES US SO THAT WE CAN START ANEW AGAIN AND HELPS US ALONG OUR PATH TOWARD GOD.

...Frank Huemmer, a Keenan Junior.

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*This son of mine was dead  
and has come back to  
life. He was lost and is  
found*

## HEALING



Advent is a time for us to realize that Christ comes into our lives in three phases. First, at the moment of the incarnation when Jesus became one of us. Second, into our daily lives through the eucharist, the word, and in our daily interactions with our brothers and sisters. Third, at the end of time when he will come in triumph and glory.

One way to experience Jesus' coming into our daily lives is through the sacrament of reconciliation. Perhaps this Advent is the time to no longer procrastinate over the sin in our lives and be reconciled with God.

Let us think seriously about attending the Penance Service at Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday, December, 9th at 10:00 PM. There will be 10 confessors there to help us in our reception of the sacrament. Experiencing the Lord's forgiveness in this way can make the coming of Jesus at Christmas moment of special grace.

Fr. Andre Leveille, CSC  
Director of University Ministry

Hoping to paint "the most beautiful thing in the world," an artist asked three people what they thought it might be.

"Faith," replied the clergyman, "you'll find it at every altar."

"Love," said a young bride. "Love builds poverty into riches, it sweetens tears, makes much of little. Without it there is no beauty."

"Peace is the most beautiful thing in the world," answered a weary soldier. War is ugly. Wherever you find peace, you find beauty."

"Faith. Love. Peace! How can I paint them!" wondered the artist.

Entering his door he saw faith in the eyes of his children and love in the eyes of his wife. And in his home, he saw the peace that love and faith had build.

So he painted "the most beautiful thing in the world." And he called it "HOME"

...Christopher New Notes

