

Basement and Dillon  
Chapels:  
Confessions, 6:15-7:00

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
January 5, 1932.

Epiphany  
tomorrow

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Our Mother Is Exalted.

Notre Dame welcomes the new Encyclical of Pope Pius XI, "Lux Veritatis" ("The Light of Truth"), published on December 26, in commemoration of the 1500th anniversary of the Council of Ephesus, which affirmed Pope Celestine's condemnation of Nestorianism (which declared that there were two persons in Christ), and defined the doctrine that the Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of God.

Notre Dame rejoices in this Encyclical because it exalts our Heavenly Patroness and Mother and calls the whole world to honor her whom God honored above all creatures; we rejoice especially at the favorable reception which the non-Catholic world has accorded the Encyclical. It is a joyful day when those who have accused us so long of "Mariolatry" listen respectfully to such words as these: "Are they, perhaps, ignorant of, or do they not reflect attentively on, the fact that nothing can be more acceptable to Jesus Christ, Who certainly burns with great love for His Mother, than to venerate her according to her merits, to love her deeply, and to study ourselves so that, through imitating her most holy example, we may gain her valuable protection?"

We rejoice that the world has been called to the thoughtful consideration of the dignity of motherhood in this day in which the integrity of the family and of society is threatened by the two-fold evil of divorce and birth control. The world stopped to listen when the Holy Father reminded "those mothers of modern times who are annoyed by children and by marriage bonds, and who have villified and violated the duties which these impose, that they will find it particularly useful to lift their eyes to Mary and consider to what heights of dignity she has elevated the very heavy task of motherhood."

Finally, we rejoice that he has called the world back to the unity for which Christ prayed at the Last Supper, reminding the Eastern churches, on the one hand, of our common devotion to the Mother of God and the recognition their ancestors accorded the Vicar of Christ, and the Western churches, on the other, that veneration of Mary may bring the strength to "blush at the ignominy inflicted on the great Sacrament of Matrimony," adding: "Then, if our desires, if domestic society - the principal foundation of all human society - is brought back to such a very worthy standard of probity, undoubtedly we will be able to confront and finally to erect a defense against that frightful mass of evil which weighs us down."

As Notre Dame men we have a special duty to show in our lives what fruits should be drawn from devotion to the Blessed Mother of God, for our coming to Notre Dame marks us off as her favored sons. Let this new year be dedicated in a special way to her honor. A Notre Dame man who is guilty of unworthy conduct is far worse than a man guilty of similar conduct who has not had the advantages which come to Our Lady's sons. On the other hand, if all of us will be what we should be, the world with which we come in contact will understand the beautiful Christmas message of our Holy Father.

Holy Family Sunday.

In your letter home this week remind your folks that next Sunday is the feast of the Holy Family, and suggest that all of you receive Holy Communion for one another on that day. This is "Home Folks Year," as your calendar reminds you. Do your share to keep bright in your own home the Christian ideals on which family life must be based if it is to endure.

PRAYERS: Deceased: The mother of Eduardo Roxas; the father of L.J. McNicholas; relatives of Richard Schager and Chas. Quinn; a friend of another student. Ill: Jos. Borda's father; Jas. Wade's mother; Al Seymour's sister; John McGinnis' grandfather; a friend injured in an auto accident; Jas. Gerend and Dick Shiels, detained at home through illness.