

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
February 10, 1933.

Votive Candles.

"Daily they burn before altars lowly
In little chapels on the countryside:
Morning, noon, and evening, burning slowly,
Little flames demure, flames holy,
Humility not to be denied.

"In stately churches, where silence unbroken
From early Mass till evening reigns,
Each yellow flame flickers, a prayer unspoken,
A moving memorial, a living token
Of hearts confident, their hopes, their pains.

"Oh beautiful, beautiful, this love-prompted notion
To offer prayer thus in simple guise,
In light, fire, almost invisible motion
As the wax melts; dear human devotion
Figured thus lovely before our eyes!"

-- Francis Devas, S.J.

1858-1933.

Tomorrow we commemorate the diamond jubilee of the apparition of Our Blessed Lady at Lourdes.

"Consolatrix afflictorum." Hundred of thousands of afflicted pilgrims have visited that shrine in the Pyrenees during those seventy-five years. Many have been cured; myriads have been sent away still in their affliction - but never sad. Herein, says Monsignor Benson, lies the greatest miracle at Lourdes. When Our Lady could cure them all, she straightens the limbs of only a few, but she heals the hearts of all. None who have gone there seeking her intercession have come away sad; on the contrary, it is of almost daily occurrence that broken pilgrims ask that their sufferings be accepted as an offering for the cure of some one worse off than they.

"Penitence! Penitence!" That was the message Our Lady told Bernadette to give to the world. "Unless you do penance you shall all likewise perish," said Our Lord to the apostles. Self-denial isn't popular, but it is essential. The world is no keener now on self-denial than it was a few years ago - but it is practicing a good bit of it now through necessity. And for what?

"I do not promise to make you happy in this world, but in the next." This important message to Bernadette, and through her to the world, contains the answer to all the false philosophies of the day, to all the panaceas offered to cure the depression. It is the lesson the world refused to learn before the depression, and that it is trying to dodge now. In one line it tells you what life is all about.

Besiege our own Grotto these days, and ask of Our Lady these three things: 1. That she be always your comforter in affliction; 2. That she teach you the supernatural virtue of penance; and 3. That she lead you to eternal life. And in Holy Communion Saturday, ask her to bless your mother.

PRAYERS: Deceased - Mr. Clifford Collins, Comptroller of the University on leave of absence (this morning, in Tucson, Arizona); an aunt of Dan Conlin; two friends of student Hill - Steve Banas' father; Leo O'Neill's father (critical); John Cahill's mother. Four special intentions; three thanksgivings (two more from the Depression Novena - 9 in all). -- Requiem Mass Monday, at 6:25, for the repose of the soul of Clifford Collins.