



FIFTY YEARS AT THE ALTAR



1883

1933

Rev. James J. French, C. S. C.

The University joins with the Community tomorrow in the solemn observance of a Sacerdotal Golden Jubilee. The jubilarian, Father French, now chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital, South Bend, was for twelve years (1893-1905) Vice President and Director of Studies at the University, and during the greater part of his other years as a priest, he had a guiding hand in the University's policies, through membership in the Provincial Council or the General Council of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Father French is one of the few authentic links with the past who still live in our midst. He was one of the novices who cleaned brick for the reconstruction of the Main Building after the disastrous fire of 1879. He entered the Novitiate in 1878, after completing his studies in the College. After his ordination in 1883 he was made President of St. Joseph's College, Cincinnati. From 1877 to 1893 he was Superior of Holy Cross Seminary, Notre Dame; he returned to this post in 1906 for another six-year term. In 1912 he organized the Holy Cross Mission Band and was its superior during most of the eighteen years he remained in that work. Ill health finally caused his retirement from the missions, and he was appointed to the chaplaincy he now occupies.

Father French's fifty years in the priesthood have been golden years, and the students have much to thank him for in their present spiritual advantages. It was at his suggestion that student Adoration began—with the Forty Hours some thirteen years ago. He constantly encouraged daily Communion. Twice during recent years he conducted the student Missions. (During his vice presidency he was one of the most popular preachers at the University.) He is nationally known among the clergy and hierarchy for his work in the Priests' Eucharistic Congresses; his popularity as a missionary extends from coast to coast.

The Jubilarian will sing the Solemn High Mass at 9:00 tomorrow. You are invited to be present and to offer your Holy Communion for his intentions. *Ad multos annos!*

PRAYERS: John Annas is in the hospital with appendicitis. Wayne Milner's mother died yesterday. A deceased uncle of Jack Conley. Five special intentions.