

Student Masses, Sunday
Main Church, 6, 7, 8,
and 9.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
September 20, 1935

Solemn opening of the
school year at 9:00
o'clock Mass.

The First Mission.

September 22-28--First week, for all Freshmen, and for the
Sophomores of St. Edward's, Badin, and
Lyons Halls.

The preacher is Father Eugene Burke, C.S.C. Services are at
7:30 p.m. and at 6:30 a.m.

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Next Sunday night, a little before 7:30, the big church bells will boom out. They will sound majestic, powerful, like a voice from Eternity. Those big bells ring only on important occasions at Notre Dame--gladly, on the feasts, at commencement, or when a world-personage arrives on the campus; sadly they toll when one of Notre Dame's great goes to God.

This time, too, they will be the signal for a big occasion--the initial services of the first Mission. It's different in many other universities--nothing solemn at all about the opening of the year. They bump and thump freshmen, put funny little caps on their heads, make them do a lot of silly stunts, and it all passes off as hazing, as part of the plan of "adjusting" freshmen to the new environment.

Notre Dame has her own way of adjusting you. She takes you into the main sanctuary of her church, close to the feet of your God. She doesn't go lagubrious about it, but she tells you through an experienced, gray-haired preacher, what God would like to have you do with your precious years at Notre Dame, how Our Lady wants you to grow and develop here on her campus.

The preacher who steps up into the pulpit knows what he's talking about. He has seen generations of young fellows come onto the campus in September and go away again in June. He has grieved sometimes at failures, but, thank God, he has more often rejoiced at the strong phalanx that moved to success.

He will go into such things as what makes a Notre Dame man, what this thing called "Notre Dame Spirit" really is. He will tell you frankly, in a heart-to-heart way, how to succeed at Notre Dame. Trust his judgment. Take his suggestions deeply to heart.

You, too, have to give something during this mission. You must come and stay in there morning and night to the end--attentively, seriously. When he gets onto a point that you'd rather he'd skipped over, listen, think. That's when you'll derive most good.

The preacher will emphasize daily Communion. Nearly everybody making the mission will start off the first morning by going to Holy Communion. It's always been that way. Don't be timid--if you are in the state of grace, and want to live right--about walking up to your God. Practically every leader on the campus is a frequent communicant.

Come to confession tonight. Consult your green Eucharistic Calendar for facilities. In the main church there is a confessional at every entrance. You may go in any one of these confessionals during the services of the mission. Those priests have heard thousands of young men's confessions. They won't startle you, and you won't startle them. Make your mission well!

An eternity in Heaven or in Hell may depend upon the way you cooperate with the graces of the mission.

PRAYERS: (Deceased) Sister M. Immaculata '30; father of Jack Sheehan, '36; mother of George Demetrio '35; mother of Sister Stanislaus; a Sister of Mercy; Sr. Albertus.