

FIRST FRIDAY, Mass in the
Main Church 6:25. Ador-
ation all day.....

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
December 2, 1937

Learn From The Sun Dial.

Over on the west end of the south wing of Alumni Hall there is a sun dial. Have a look at it some day. The moving shadow falls, you will observe, from the gnomon to the face of the dial, and as the sun moves the shadow marks the passage of time.

This time-recording instrument was important before watches and clocks. Those days the artistic, ornamented sun dial was located in the garden, and there became a center of sober truth to all the members of the household.

During the Middle Ages, when people lived by Faith, a cross frequently surmounted the sun dial to show the relation between time and eternity, and often a verse inscribed on the dial would point out a lesson. Here is a translation from the Latin that loses much of the ease and elegance of such a verse:

When thou dost look upon my face
To learn the time of day;
Think how my shadow keeps its pace
As thy life flees away.
Take, mortal, this advice from me
And so resolve to spend
Thy life on earth, that Heaven shall be
Thy home when time shall end.

Occasionally the inscription on the dial was a short motto, "I speak, but not to the blind"; or, "I carefully measure time; do you?" Again the sun dial taught a lesson of good cheer. Forget worry and trouble, it said, look at the bright side of life. "Horas non numero nisi serenas," --I mark none but sunny hours.

Consider the value of time. You have two suits, two pairs of shoes, two overcoats maybe, but you cannot have two seconds at once. The moment that you spend now is yours to do with as you will. Waste it and your loss is irreparable. You can regain friendships, money, goods that are lost. There is no regaining lost time.

Time is the coin with which you buy success, and virtue, and accomplishment, and, certainly not the least, a happy eternity. Do not waste, therefore, from the rich treasury of your time.

First Friday And The Novena For Purity.

Tomorrow is the First Friday, which, coming during the Novena for Purity, gives you a double reason for making a period of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. Be sure to sign up on the card in your hall for at least one period tomorrow.

This important promise, among others, Our Lord made to St. Margaret Mary:

I promise thee, in the excess of the mercy of My Heart, that its all-powerful love will grant to all who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of every month, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance, and that they shall not die under My displeasure, nor without receiving the Sacraments, and My Heart shall be their secure refuge at that last hour.

That promise is worth securing, is it not?

PRAYERS: (deceased) aunt of Charles Paterno (Badin); Sister M. Lucide C.S.C.; sister of Frank Finneran. Ill, friend of Ed Holland (Old Inf); Mrs. Nick Canny. 4 spec int.