

ASH-WEDNESDAY TOMORROW
ASHES AT 7:00 IN MAIN
CHURCH, AFTER DINNER &
SUPPER IN DIL--HOW-CAV

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
February 6, 1940

DON'T WONDER IF A CHECK
IS THROWN AT BENEDICTION
ONE OF THESE NIGHTS. IT
WILL BE YOUR OWN FAULT!

Mardi Gras.

To corrupted Christians "Shrove Tuesday" (today, the day before the first day of Lent) is "carnival time" --- last chance for a good fling.

If anything doesn't make sense, it's having a good fling-- in the sense of one last good time, sin or no sin, before beginning a program of penance for forty days.

A good Christian is supposed, by the fact that he is a good Christian, to be abstaining from sin all the time. He always denies himself illicit pleasure.

In Lent he increases his self-denial. He gives up not only illicit things but some of the good things of life. And his motive is penance. Let the first Bulletin reader who does not need to do penance, who owes no debt of reparation to God, proclaim himself from the house-tops. We should all like to examine our saint!

"Unless You Do Penance
You Shall All Likewise Perish....."

Without any aid from the scriptures, it can be figured from philosophy or the light of natural reason alone that a creature can't do what he wants when that is against his Creator and get away with it.

It is only reasonable further to say that after sin is forgiven, punishment for it may still remain. Perfect contrition, or imperfect contrition joined with absolution, may return you to friendship with God. Still you have to pay for having disrupted the moral order. Guilt is one thing, penalty is another.

In Purgatory the guiltless suffer. They shall not go forth till they have paid the last farthing of punishment due to their sins.

On earth the wise men pay off as much of their debt as they can. They are that much ahead. They sow candy, cigarettes, sleep, shows, allowance money. They reap the sweetest consolation in life: the consciousness that they're living up to their dignity (as men of self-control won by self-denial), the consciousness that they're suffering some little thing in union with the sufferings of Our Lord.

A Sensible Lent.

You are not expected to be tough on yourself just for the sake of being tough on yourself. That is true folly. Make Lent the sensible thing it is. Be tough on yourself in order to make yourself more pleasing to God, readier to do His will; to increase your friendship with Him. Stress the positive side and self-denial will take care of itself. The following program, if carried out, will prove the last point decisively:

MASS AND HOLY COMMUNION EVERY MORNING. *** AT LEAST ONE HALF-HOUR OF ADORATION A WEEK IN SACRED HEART CHURCH. *** FIDELITY EACH WEDNESDAY NIGHT TO THE LENTEN COURSE DELIVERED BY FATHER BRENNAN. *** AND, A PENNY-A-DAY-IN-LENT TO THE BULLETIN CHARITIES. (The last item will be more fully explained later this week.)

Obviously, if you have the misfortune to be in the state of sin, the first step you have to make is to the best act of contrition you're capable of; then a good, humble confession. The priest will be glad to help you. *** Bear always in mind that at Notre Dame you have only to knock on the door. The priest's time is yours.

PRAYERS: (ILL) Bob McCormick (Car); nephew of Geo. Haggerty (Sor); friend of Jim Murphy (How); mother of J. Murphy (Bad); friend of F.B. Breen; mother of J.J. Clark (Morr); grandfather of Geo. Katter (St. Ed); Marie Carey; father of Bob Beaumont (Morr); father of Emmett Wright (Bad); (DECEASED) cousin of Prof. Quinn; aunt of Rego Foley (St. Ed's) wife of Nicholas Sutton '37; Mrs. Deering; Mr. John Dean; father of "Slip" Madigan.