

Leave in the  
State of Grace.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
April 8, 1941

Leave your questionnaire.  
HAPPY EASTER

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Holy Week.

Those of you who attended the High Mass Sunday saw the impressive palm procession, rich in significance.

The priest goes out of the church, into the vestibule and the doors are closed behind him. By this we are reminded that Christ left heaven and became man that he might re-open to us the Gates of Heaven by His death and Resurrection. Palm being the emblem of victory it belongs pre-eminently to Christ who conquered death, overcame the world and now reigns triumphantly, King of heaven and earth. For this reason, the priest carries palm in his hand. The people carry palm not only to honor Christ as a conquerer, but also show by following in His footsteps and by imitating His example, thus overcoming themselves and the world, they likewise will obtain the palm of final victory.

Every ceremony, and there are many during Holy Week, has significance, historical and spiritual. Those of you who will attend any of the ceremonies here or at home can profit greatly by securing at anyone of the Prefect of Religion offices My Lenten Missal by Father Stedman, who also composed My Sunday Missal found in the Main Church. The complete Holy Week services and also the Three Hours Agony service is contained in My Lenten Missal at a cost of 24¢.

Two Sacred Days.

At nightfall, on Thursday, Christ and His disciples came into the upper room. According to an oriental custom, they gathered around a table, reclining on couches with the left arm resting on a cushion. Jesus took up one of the large loaves of unleavened bread - they were about eight inches long and very thin - and changed it into His Body. As He did so He pronounced the words of omnipotence: "This is My Body." Then He changed the cup of wine into His Blood. And the Holy Eucharist was instituted. "Do this," He commanded His successors in the priesthood, "in memory of Me." Holy Thursday is the feast of the Institution of the Blessed Eucharist. Remember that, and reverently thank Our Lord, at Mass and Holy Communion on Holy Thursday morning, for all that the Holy Eucharist has meant to you.

There was an ignominious punishment in Jesus' day reserved for slaves. They ripped off the clothes of the sufferer, bound both his hands to a ring fixed in a low pillar, and the executioner, armed with a heavy whip, studded at the ends with knuckle-bones, went to work. He laid full, vicious strokes upon the curved and stretched back of his victim. And there was always a bloody, quivering body, with jagged welts upon it, when he finished. Jesus endured the scourging as part-reparation for sins of immorality.

Part-reparation it was. At about 11 o'clock Friday morning He first took the cross upon His bruised and aching shoulder. He had to drag it for an oppressive hour, along the bumpy road, down into a valley, and finally up onto the slope that is called Calvary. They nailed His hands and feet and hoisted up the cross, then dropped it into its socket. For three black, delirious hours He hung there with the unbearable tension upon His throbbing hands and arms. Blood congested in His face and chest and caused burning thirst - was it thirst for our sins of intemperance? Christ's penance for sin is consummated. Remember what it meant to Him when you are measuring out your own penances these days. Remember it especially when you are tempted to sin.

PRAYERS: (deceased) uncle of Father George Holderith, C.S.C.; friend of Bob Nelson (Car) anniv, grandmother of Tom Vincent (Al); father of Sr. Mary Clare, C.S.C.; grandfather of C. Butler (Bad); father of Steve Schmidt (Dil). Ill, friend of Bob Nelson (Car); Aldo Conolesio '30; friend of E. Wright; grandfather of Jack Thornton (Car); father of Anthony Maloney (Bro); mother of Jim McNulty (Al). Six special intentions.