

Benediction Sunday  
at 6:30 and 6:50.  
Sing the Hymns.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
October 17, 1942

S u n d a y i s  
Mission Sunday.

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St. Margaret Mary And The Sacred Heart.

God prepares all of us for our mission in life in His own way. Little things count for much. Little crosses prepare the way for great graces. A piece of cheese was one of St. Margaret Mary's mortifications. She loathed the food. It was part of the menu of the nuns in the Visitation convent. It was offered to her in the refectory. She declined it. For three days she fought with herself. She wept and begged God for the grace to eat it. God made no move to answer her prayer. "In love, nothing must be held back." She accepted the sacrifice; and over a period of twenty years her loathing for cheese never lessened. This is just one example of the manner in which God prepared Margaret Mary for her work of reparation.

It is St. Margaret Mary who is to be thanked for the emblem of the Sacred Heart on the badge in your wallet and on that holy picture you have on the wall of your room. Our Lord appeared to her and showed her His Sacred Heart . . .

"enthroned in flames, more dazzling than the sun and transparent as crystal, bearing that adorable wound; and it was ringed round with a crown of thorns signifying the sufferings our sins cause it; and there was a cross over it signifying that from the earliest instant of the Incarnation, that is from the very instant that Sacred Heart was formed, the Cross was planted in it."

During the fourth manifestation of Himself to Margaret Mary, Our Lord showed her plainly His Divine Heart and uttered those words which have always inspired men to acts of reparation:

"Behold this Heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing, but has been poured out totally and consumed as proof of its love; and for gratitude I receive from the greater part only ingratitude, by their acts of irreverence and sacrilege and by the coldness and the contempt they have for me in this Sacrament of love. . ."

Not all of Margaret Mary's companions would believe that Our Lord was appearing to her. Some thought her a saint, others a lunatic. And some went so far as to throw holy water over her as they passed. Humiliations were only a part of her sufferings for the sins of men. On her breast she wore the name of her Savior which she had cut there with a knife. In her side was pain which became agony the first Friday of each month. The pressure of blood within her would become so great that attendants had to bleed her.

In 1685 honor was paid to the emblem she had drawn with a pen on a sheet of paper. This was the first consecration to the Sacred Heart. It took place in the novitiate of which she was mistress of novices.

The Sacred Heart has claims on our love and on our services. What St. Margaret Mary wrote to the King of France can be taken as directed to us too: The Sacred Heart desires: . . .

"to reign in his palace, to be painted on his standard, to be engraved on his arms . . ."

God is preparing you for your mission in life. Perhaps you know definitely that for the duration your mission is to be a service man. The next time you visit Christ in the Lady Chapel at Adoration, or in your hall chapel; dedicate yourself to the Sacred Heart, promising to do always what will please Him, and to accept cheerfully all crosses and sufferings to satisfy His wounded love.

PRAYERS (deceased) mother of 2nd Lieut. Geo. J. Bonfield, '37 (not Vonfield as in Wed. Bulletin); father of Bill (Al) & Tom (Z) McCaughey; Lieut. Comm. Merton McMahon.