

Rosary devotions  
every eve. in Church  
at 6:30 P.M.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
October 6, 1943

Masses at 5:00 in  
military halls, and  
6:45 P.M. in Dillon

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From Naples To Rome.

Poor Naples! Such words as "horror" and "misery" are being used by war correspondents to describe what was once one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Conditions in Naples are appalling. One newspaper account gives a picture of three women and some children dipping water and filling bottles from a sewer which had been opened by an exploding bomb. Water was cut off for two weeks, and the enemy had dynamited the aqueducts two days before abandoning the city. Authorities are repairing the water lines, but announcing that the supply, even tho rationed, will last for only fifteen days. Typhus and typhoid are attacking in epidemic proportions.

There is a shortage of food. Some Americans met a resident of Naples, a middle-aged woman who was born in America's Middle West. She asked that a message be given her relatives in the United States: "Please let them know that I am alive, but not much more than alive".

And now the enemy is retreating toward Rome, the Eternal City, and our 5th Army must pursue them and dislodge them wherever they seek to set up defenses. Rome is in danger of destruction.

The educated man and Catholic must see in an attack on Rome more than an assault on another city. There is something sacred about Rome. Down through the centuries She has been associated with the Catholic Faith and civilization. Rome was bombed last July. After the attack the Holy Father wrote a letter deploring the bombing. In this letter he gives a clear description of what Rome signifies to the Christian mind and heart:.

"...Rome is the Holy City of Catholicism, risen and shining with dazzling glory in the Name of Christ, rich in marvelous monuments of religion and art, guardian of the most precious documents and relics: Rome, whose catacombs in the time of fiercest persecutions were the first refugees of the Christian people and of the Martyrs who rendered sacred the amphitheaters and circuses, to whose burial places people descend to pray today as they did in the very cradle of Christianity; Rome in whose territory are scattered ... so many sanctuaries, without mentioning Our patriarchal Basilicas, so many libraries and works of the most famous artistic geniuses; Rome, to whom people in such large numbers come to learn not only the faith but also the ancient wisdom, and regard as a lighthouse of civilization founded upon Christian virtue."

Pope Pius XII resides in the Vatican City which is within the limits of Rome itself. It is for him and for all he represents that all Christians must turn with a solicitous and anxious heart. Yesterday Archbishop Spellman made a public appeal for prayers:

"I ask you to pray for Our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII; not that he be spared to life, for death to him in his agony of suffering would be a mercy... but for his cause, the cause of Christ, the cause of right, the cause of civilization."

It is not too much to expect the Notre Dame men to assist at Mass an extra time each week for their Holy Father and the protection of Rome.

PRAYERS: (Operation) Pvt. Robert Roth, USMCR (Cav.) - St. Joseph's Hospital