

(FOR THE CATHOLIC STUDENT AT NOTRE DAME)

God has enemies, all University of Notre Dame
those living in mortal Religious Bulletin
sin. There's no fooling.. September 22, 1944

God, He knows where
you go, what you do,
and what you say.

The Priest With The Bleeding Hands.

A photograph and a press notice in a recent issue of the Sunday Visitor has aroused the interest of a number of students. The news paragraphs tell the story of an Italian monk who lives in a mountain monastery in Italy.

Padre Pio is the priest's name. He has Christ-like wounds in his hands, feet, and side; they bleed. These marks first appeared on Padre Pio back in 1918. He was making his thanksgiving after celebrating Mass when the wounds appeared and began to bleed. For a few days the saintly monk hid his hands from public view. When one of his fellow monks noticed blood stains on his sleeve, Padre Pio was questioned. In obedience to his religious superior he told the story of the wounds.

The wounds will not submit to medical treatment. There is no sign of healing or infection, and the open sores give off a perfume-like fragrance. The only time Padre Pio exposes his hands is during the celebration of Mass. At all other times he wears fingerless gloves, with a small linen pad over each wound to absorb the blood.

This phenomenon is called the stigmata (from the Greek meaning marks). Since the thirteenth century there have been three hundred similar occurrences. The first and most famous of stigmatics was St. Francis of Assisi. The marks or wounds correspond to those in the feet, hands and side of the crucified Christ. They are accompanied by physical pain.

Why the wounds and the pain? It seems to be a way Christ has selected for the expiation of sin. He singles out certain chosen souls who are willing to be united more closely in His sufferings for the sake of making reparation for the sins of the world.

It takes Padre Pio two hours to offer Mass. He experiences great suffering during this time, especially at the Consecration and Elevation. It is reported that this saintly friar eats but one light meal a day and seldom sleeps more than three or four hours. His nights are spent in prayer and his days in the confessional. Many Yanks have met Padre Pio on their march through Italy. He has blessed them and their religious articles.

Extraordinary expiation of sin is left to chosen souls, Yet Christ asks every one to play his part in praying and suffering that sinners will repent and return to the love and service of their Heavenly Father. Do you ever pray for a sinner, perhaps some student you know who has not been to the Sacraments in months? You are helping Christ save the world when you offer a prayer or some suffering for another.

Seniors Again.

"Seniors are the biggest fools spiritually. I'm one. I think I know. I have stayed away from Communion for weeks at a time, and have fallen for most temptations. When I start back I can overcome any temptation and lead a good life. Holy Communion is the greatest force for good in the world."

"I feel that it is the most wonderful help God has given man. A temptation that used to get the better of me I have mastered thanks to Almighty God. I am fortunate in being engaged to a wonderful Catholic girl, and I know that through Holy Communion we have learned to see each other as real children of God, designed to be of service to the world.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Arthur Tracy(5th Anniv.,Sept.24). (ILL) Martha Abinger;
Jim Favret, ex. '44, wounded in France. (Missing)Ensign John D. O'Malley, '43.