

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
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Make No Mistake About This:

The Holy Father does penance.

The cloistered nuns, who spend their lives in prayer, do penance.

The Trappist monks -- far from a world of distractions, temptations, allurements and pleasures -- do penance.

The Little Sisters of the Poor, who go about the cities begging food to feed the homeless, the hapless, the down-and-outers, also do penance.

The bishops and priests, Sisters, Brothers, and seminarians, do penance.

In short, all good Christians do penance.

And This Is Important:

No one can dispense them from doing penance -- not even the Bishop -- no, not even the Pope!!

For penance is enjoined on everyone. Nothing in the Bible is clearer, or more direct and to the point, than the words of Our Lord: "Except you do penance, you shall all likewise perish."

And -- note well -- Our Lord made no exceptions!

These are the days when the Church, like the good mother she is, calls the attention of Her children to this important directive, lest they neglect a basic requirement for their eternal salvation.

It's as logical as getting a cavity filled before you lose the tooth.

The Church, through Her bishops, determines what the penance will be, and how long it will last. Substitute works are employed when the penances specified are impossible, or injurious, or seriously inconvenient for certain individuals.

A Reminder

At Notre Dame, some thoughtless individuals -- looking only to the exemption granted from the prescribed penance of fast and abstinence -- forget to substitute other penances of their own choosing.

Remember -- you must, under pain of grave sin, do penance of some sort during these days of Lent. And, off-hand, or at any other time, we can think of nothing better than daily Mass and Communion. Here's your opportunity to whittle down your Purgatory as you can in no other manner. Other private devotions are excellent; but they are no adequate substitute for the Sacraments.

New Lenten Missals

Besides the St. Andrew's Daily Missal, the Prefects of Religion now have for sale the small, handy, paper-bound Lenten Missal by Father Stedman, to help you appreciate the Lenten liturgy. It is priced at 50¢.

Servers are needed for various functions in Sacred Heart Church. See Bro. Boniface in the sacristy. Numerous Masses are offered daily in the Basement Chapel.