

Tonight at 6:45 --
brief "Forty Hours"
Devotions in Main Church.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
March 1, 1954

Tomorrow: Adoration all day.
Choose a half-hour for
prayers of reparation.

Study Your Lenten Dispensation

- 1) The Bishop of Fort Wayne grants to Notre Dame a dispensation from the general law of fast and abstinence. It applies to students, faculty, employees, and visitors, when the above-mentioned groups eat meals on campus. Thus, the dispensation is local. It is restricted to the place -- and does not hold good when meals are eaten elsewhere. Vetville, incidentally, is part of the campus.
- 2) This dispensation extends to all days of the year except: Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, the morning of Holy Saturday, and the Vigil of Christmas.
- 3) Because a large number of students live off-campus, the Bishop grants to them the same dispensation enjoyed by those who live at Notre Dame. This special dispensation, it is to be remembered, applies to students only.
- 4) Students over 21, who go elsewhere on weekends, etc., must abide by the general laws (of fast and abstinence) in the places they visit -- until they again return to the campus. What general laws? Your host, or parents, will know what they are.
- 5) Students under 21 need keep in mind only Par. 2.

What About Eating In South Bend ?

Suppose a campus boarder, aged 21 or over, takes a meal in South Bend. According to the mind of the Reverend Bishop, that student no longer enjoys the Notre Dame dispensation -- which is local. However, there is general permission in the diocese to eat meat once a day at the principal meal, and this permission can be used at the meal taken in South Bend, or elsewhere than on campus.

Every year when the Bulletin gives the Bishop's interpretation of the local privilege, a host of local theologians pop out of the woods crying: "Any moral theologian will tell you that if you are dispensed by local law from fast and abstinence for part of the day, you are thereby dispensed for the whole day everywhere."

Archbishop Noll, who wants us to confine our eating of meat to the principal meal taken off-campus, explains his mind on the local regulation:

"In the past I have had a great many complaints about members of the faculty, and of the student body, taking it upon themselves to apply the dispensation even if they eat off-campus. They actually gave scandal..."

Thus, the theological opinion, which of itself is sound, must here give way to the Bishop's prudent insistence that we avoid giving scandal in South Bend -- as we most certainly do when we munch hamburgers at all hours before the villagers.

Please Note: a) eating between meals pertains to the fast -- which binds all over 21.
b) Eating meat pertains to abstinence -- which binds all over 7.

Adult Catholics in South Bend and elsewhere are commanded to abstain from meat except at the principal meal during Lent. The bishop wants adult students and faculty to do the same when they eat in town. Hence, he has confined our dispensation to our own locality -- the campus.

Needed: Blood donors. See the Prefect of Religion, Room 117 Dillon Hall.

PRAYERS - Deceased: Charles Maginnis; mother of Coach Alex Wilson; friend of Tom Schriber of Breen-Phillips; uncle of Ed Schickler of Dillon; Edward Doyle; Harvey Bannville (auto accident). Ill: grandmother of Giles Gillant of Howard.