

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 17, 1954

Tonight, A Historic Evening

At 8 p.m., tonight at the Fatima Shrine, opposite the entrance to St. Mary's College, the faithful of the surrounding area will gather for the first evening Outdoor Mass in the vicinity -- marking the close of this huge, public Novena.

While Farley and Zahm halls will comprise the Official Pilgrimage Group representing the University, you should all try to be present -- giving this evening to the Mother of God and Her Son in a way never before observed in this area -- through the Sacrifice of the Mass. It will be a splendid demonstration of Faith; and you should be a part of it. Indeed, it might be the nearest you will ever get to Fatima itself -- this historic evening at the Shrine on our campus! It will be an evening beneath the stars honoring the Queen of Heaven -- with Calvary before your eyes!

Don't dismiss the occasion too quickly. The blessing of God will be lavished upon the group gathered there to honor His Mother, of whom Ecclesiasticus wrote: "In me is all grace of the way and of the truth. In me is all hope of life and virtue." She is, as the University seal proclaims, our vita, dulcedo, et spes.

What's In It For Me ?

St. Jerome answers that question adequately when he affirms: "The Holy Virgin Mary is the help and protection of those looking to her; the refuge of Christians who flock to her; the consolation of the troubled; the way for the erring; the ransom of sinners; and the Mediatrix with God for all men."

Bishop Fulton Sheen once wrote: "Rain, mud, a night without sleep, and love of Our Lady -- those things make Fatima. ... A few all-night vigils might do much for America and the peace of the world. The future is known only to God; but the future depends on how we spend our days and our nights!"

How are things with you -- spiritually, physically, intellectually? And what of the family? Could they use the fruits of the Mass? Of a Rosary? And what will happen to you in the near future, and where will you spend that future -- in Indo-China? You could be there next May. And if everything is tiptop on all fronts, why then, you might give God a moment of thanks, you know!

Years from now -- when you return to the University, and observe the Shrine completed, together with a Retreat House and other developments -- it will be something to recount for the younger and newer generation of Notre Dame men, how you witnessed the first evening outdoor Mass, in the open fields in the pioneering days of '54! It will be one of your most cherished memories -- if you come tonight!

Distribution of Holy Communion

To receive Communion at the evening Mass, you must observe a fast of three (3) hours from solid foods -- and one (1) hour from liquid foods (coffee, tea, milk, fruit juices, etc.) Those who receive Monday morning are not eligible to receive again Monday evening at the Mass.

PRAYERS - Deceased: Michael Mozer, the gardner, who conspired with God and nature to bring beauty to the campus for many years; Robert F. Brinker, of Breda, Iowa (freshman-to-be); grandfather of Jack Flynn of Sorin; grandmother of Charles Wittenberg of Farley. Ill: mother of Jack Lavelle, '29; father of Michael Costello of Badin; mother-in-law of Prof. Lawrence Stauder (critical).

Blood - Blood -- still needed! Call Central Blood Bank. Phone 4-1157.