

Sunday evening at 6:45      University of Notre Dame      ... under the direction of  
in Sacred Heart Church,      Religious Bulletin      Junior Class Chaplain, Father  
Juniors begin the mission...      September 24, 1954      Joseph Barry, C.S.C. Be there!

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Let's All Get Into The Act

Tomorrow, Freshmen will be introduced to Notre Dame football as we open the season. It is significant for them to remember that, while eleven men take the field, we all play the game -- every minute of it, offensively and defensively. It's Notre Dame that wins, or loses. And we are Notre Dame. In years gone by, the brilliance of her athletes and coaches, plus the loyalty of her student body, have conspired to surmount odds and achieve victory after victory. The magic of the formula has had sportswriters reeling for many years trying to fathom the secret. We call it the "Spirit of Notre Dame." There's nothing else quite like it in all this land.

No other student body has ever supported the team as does Notre Dame. That's part of the heritage of the "Fighting Irish" which, tomorrow, will be given into your keeping. Millions of people will lend their ears to the radio account of the game. See that you take good care of it -- that you add something to its shining lustre. To them, Notre Dame is the "people's" choice.

For us, it is a little more than that. And the players themselves will tell you that they have in mind not only the national ratings of sportswriters, but something much more important -- namely, the fair name of a great Lady. They have in mind adding glory and respect and homage to the Mother of God. On first thought, you'd never suspect that millions of Americans have first come to know, and respect the name of God's Mother through the medium of a football! But it's true.

Tomorrow morning, the squad, following an old custom, will be at Mass and Communion. Then Captains Matz and Shannon will lead them in the Litany, and the Act of Consecration. It is no secret that the squad makes a spiritual thing of every game. And so they will pray -- pray to escape injury; and for courage to play hard and clean; and will ask for as much victory as will bring honor and glory to the Patroness of this school. Finally, they will be blessed individually with a relic of the True Cross, and given a medal to wear in tomorrow's game. Every game is dedicated to our Blessed Mother under a particular title.

That's the way they'll start off the day, tomorrow -- by asking the blessing of God on their efforts. Will you do as much for them, asking God to protect them, especially from injury? They'd appreciate this remembrance on your part at Mass.

Gentlemen Are Good Sports

Tomorrow and Sunday, you'll be hosts to thousands of visitors -- for whom Notre Dame men are synonymous with all that is tops in politeness, courtesy, and good sportsmanship. You're on parade, too, just like the team, you know. Hence, be good sports; follow the cheerleaders; and let no one in your section cheapen the student impression by undignified antics. Sometimes impressions made by conduct remain long after the score of the game is forgotten. If the team plays according to rules, you should do the same -- in a gentlemanly way, too.

Sunday Masses

This Sunday, there may be a Mass in each hall at a time specified by the rector. Check your hall bulletin board. The 10:15 and 11:15 Masses in Sacred Heart Church are intended primarily for the visitors. We owe them this courtesy. Please make way for them by getting to the hall Mass, or to an earlier Mass at the Church.

Tonight at 6:45 -- the Sophomore Mission continues at the church.

Tonight at 7:30 -- meet Coach Brennan and the team at the Pep Rally in the Gym.

Tomorrow night: Turn your clocks back one hour to Standard Time.