

Coming: First Friday
of the month, this
week.

Religious Bulletin
May 2, 1956

Begins Friday: The Novena
for Mother's Day.
Daily Adoration during May.

A Bit Of History

The distinguished group moved from Sacred Heart Church to the entrance of the campus for a proud and historical moment. Led by the band, the students marched according to their respective halls, from the five-year-old Minims to the distinguished Law Seniors, followed by the faculty in cap and gown; then the acolytes and the dignitaries of the Church. An audience of some 3000 grouped themselves about the platform from which Father Cavanaugh spoke with an eloquence and classic beauty reminiscent of Gettysburg. His manner was superb. And after a brief eulogy of Father Sorin, he launched into his peroration:

"Therefore, in the name of the sainted apostles who carried the Roman cross into countries over which the Roman eagle never passed; in the name of the holy missionaries of every age, the evangelizers of every land, who have ventured for God where the merchant would not venture for gold nor the soldier for glory; in the name of those Christian educators who believe, as he believed, that the heart of culture is the culture of the heart and the soul of improvement is the improvement of the soul; in the name of humanity whom he loved and served without distinction of race or creed; in the name of America, the scene of his labors and the land of his predilection; in the name of generations of young men whose lives have been touched and sanctified by his consecrated hand; in the name of Alma Mater whose foundation stones were cemented with his sweat and blood; in the name of a noble army of Priests, Brothers, and Sisters of Holy Cross who with him bore the burden of a long day and are now with him trembling in the everlasting ecstasy; in the name of venerable Religious here present into whose souls come rushing back so many holy memories today; in the name of the Holy Catholic Church whose loyal and faithful priest he was; in the name of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin whose names he magnified; in the name of Him, the Saviour of us all. Whom he served and loved with almost perfect love and service -- I say unveil the statue of Sorin!

There was a mingling of enthusiasm, and reverence and love. A member of that audience tells us that everyone felt the alternative was either to shout or to weep as -- fifty years ago tomorrow morning -- Brother Charles pulled the cord that unveiled the statue; and Father Sorin, in eight feet of bronze, stood where he stands today -- his manly features preserved for generations like our own that never looked on him in life.

On the same day at four o'clock in the afternoon, the remains of Father Badin, the first priest ordained in the United States, were returned to Notre Dame from the cathedral at Cincinnati, and interred in the newly restored Log Chapel where he had so often offered Mass long before Notre Dame came into existence. In the group that day was Father L'Etourneau, C.S.C., who served Mass for Father Badin. Also present that day at the interment was a venerable Religious of the Sisters of Holy Cross, Mother M. Compassion who also knew Father Badin well, and had herself lived in the attic of the original log chapel, built in 1831. From 1793, the date of Father Badin's ordination, to 1906 is a long span; but it was made in the persons of these two persons who served the 18th Century priest, and lived to relate it to the ears of the 20th Century.

PRAYERS REQUESTED - Deceased: Monsignor Norbert Hoff; Albert Jones; father of George Keenan, '48; friend, and relative of Prof. Corona; grandmother of Dick Jacob of Alumni; friend of Don Carbone (O-C); mother of Spike Sullivan, '31; grandmother of Dale Leroux of Howard; Tom Toner, '04. Ill: father of Rev. Leonard Collins, CSC; friend of Craig Hewett, '46; friend of Jim Crisman of Zahm; father of Prof. John Frederick. 2 sp. int's.