

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
May 10, 1957

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You Will Be Interested  
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If ever you go to Fatima, you will find there a huge esplanade capable of accomodating thousands of pilgrims. Most exercises have to be held in the open because of the huge crowds. It reminds you of the days of Our Lord, when He spoke to the people in the fields, and by the lakeside. This was the way that Patrick first preached to the Irish; while towering oaks formed the first open-air cathedral for Boniface in Germany. Worshipping God in the open spaces, you see, is not something new at all.

This coming week -- beginning Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. -- the Holy Cross Fathers will again be hosts to the entire Catholic area in a giant, public display of devotion to the Mother of God. All eyes will turn to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, on the western edge of the campus, opposite the entrance to St. Mary's. And thousands of our neighborhood will become pilgrims as they join in this Solemn Public Novena. You, along with St. Mary's, the Nursing School, and the numerous Catholic parishes, schools, and organizations of the area, will have an interest and a part in the Novena.

Many of you may want to attend services each evening of the Novena. That's good! But that will not be asked of you. Yet, in order that the University may be officially represented each evening, in this great, public tribute to Our Lady, two (2) halls will be designated, each evening, as the official pilgrimage group -- to represent the 5800 Notre Dame Student Body.

Each evening, therefore, at 7:40, the hall bells of the particular halls will notify the particular groups of the day to set out for the Shrine. Evening devotions will begin at 8 p.m. On the closing evening -- May 20 -- there will be an outdoor Mass, and distribution of Communion.

The Novena begins this Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. On Monday evening, Alumni and Walsh halls will comprise the first official pilgrimage group. They are asked to attend the service in the name of all of us, and to march in the procession. It is a great honor, as well as a responsibility, to represent us adequately.

Last year, student attendance was wholehearted and edifying. Let's have a repeat performance; let's make it even better this year. Some of you missed out on the May-Day Observance at the Grotto last week. Here's your chance to make amends for that negligence. The Knights of Columbus have assumed the responsibility of assembling the delegations. Please cooperate with them. You can very well terminate the year's activity in the hall in a blaze of glory, by a 100% turnout on the night assigned to your hall. That can happen only if you do something about it yourself!

Something Borrowed?

Along about this time of year, it is eminently in order to remind you to start returning borrowed objects to lawful owners. Don't presume anything -- just return the books, and ties, and sox, and wing collars. And about the debts! There's an obligation in justice regarding all these things. Soon we'll move into exams, and then scatter to the four winds. But the Recording Angel remembers many items that we find convenient to neglect; and his ledger doesn't terminate with the semester!

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Tonight at 6:45 -- Novena to the Sorrowful Mother in Sacred Heart Church.  
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Sunday is Mother's Day -- She deserves your Communion and your best prayers.