

University of Notre Dame

Missals available (at a bargain price) at class chaplain offices.

Religious Bulletin
September 27, 1957

This Sunday: Servite Fathers will speak on the Sorrowful Mother Novena.

Rusty On Rubrics!

Last Sunday at the crowded 11:15 Missa Cantata, only 4 people (2 professors, a little girl and her mother) stood at the "Pater Noster." Meanwhile, 900 big braves from the campus were deep in their devotions (?) on their knees. The incident prompts us to remind you: Stand whenever the priest chants a part of the Mass.

Other Pointers

If you have a coat, wear it to Sunday Mass. The dignity of the occasion warrants it.

Freshmen are requested to attend the earlier (7,8,9,) Masses, thus making later Masses available for the Sophomores and Juniors, and the many visitors who come to Sacred Heart Church, especially during the autumn. Cooperation on this point is not only a courtesy: it's a necessity this year.

Be on time. This means that you should be in your pew before the priest enters the sanctuary. Late-comers, and Catholics who reckon their obligation by the Offertory of the Mass, are for the birds! Your Sunday obligation is an entire Mass, including the Prayers at the foot of the altar. To be late for an appointment is regarded in the social world as a mark of extreme impoliteness. On Sunday mornings you have an appointment with God. Come late for Mass and you show yourself extremely impolite by reason of the gravity of the appointment, and the dignity of the One offended. Late-comers are also a source of distraction for others. Hence, ushers are instructed to keep all stragglers in the rear. Once Mass has started, we want no one parading through the church. Should you arrive late, therefore, remain near the door. Should you go to confession, remain in that vicinity during the Mass.

Confessions during Sunday Masses are intended for Off-Campus students who find it difficult to come at any other time. Others should utilize the Saturday night facilities in Dillon, Howard, and Cavanaugh halls.

During the Elevation, everyone should look up at the Host, and at the Chalice, and make an Act of Faith in the Real Presence. That's the very purpose of the rubric -- to show God to the faithful. During the Elevation, no one should enter the confessional, or move about the church. Kneel, wherever you happen to be.

At the "Domine non sum dignus," the server rings the bell. In large churches, where the voice of the priest is not heard distinctly, there is need for calling the attention of the congregation to the essential parts of the Mass. This bell is also the signal for you to approach the communion rail, if you occupy one of the front pews. Don't wait for the priest to open the tabernacle. And everyone in the church should kneel when the priest turns, faces the congregation, and recites the prayers, "Misereatur," and "Indulgentiam." This second prayer has the efficacy of remitting venial sins. That's why the priest recites it at this time over the communicants.

When several priests distribute Communion, as is the custom at Notre Dame, you should receive, then leave the rail immediately, that others may take your place.

For Seniors And Graduate Students

Your mission begins Sunday evening at 6:45 in Sacred Heart Church. It continues through Monday and Tuesday evenings at the same time. The morning Mass and instruction are at 6:45 a.m. in Sacred Heart Church, likewise. Your final year at Notre Dame should be the best one of the four. Start it right: make the mission. Many confessors will be available. Make good use of them.