

Tonight at 6:45 --
Novena in honor of
the Sorrowful Mother

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
Religious Bulletin
February 14, 1958

Thanks, many thanks--to
all who took part in the
opening of the Lourdes
Centenary!

Forty Hours Devotion - Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

This devotion represents the length of time Our Lord's Body remained in the tomb. On the part of the Apostles, it was a period of watching, of suspense, and of ardent prayer. Now, Catholic parishes all over the world have enlisted this length of time as a period of special prayer. It began with an Italian priest obtaining permission to expose the Blessed Sacrament for forty hours "in order to appease the anger of God provoked by the offenses of Christians...."

St. Philip Neri introduced the devotion to Rome. And St. Ignatius encouraged it to be held especially during the Carnival -- the three days before Ash Wednesday. The word "carnival" means "Farewell to meat". Catholics actually went meatless throughout Lent. Many customs called for a final fling (Mardi Gras) before the penitential season. Not infrequently there were sinful excesses during the Carnival. That's why St. Ignatius fostered the devotion of the Forty Hours at this time. It served as a holy antidote for the sinful merrymaking throughout the world. But no matter at what time of the year this devotion is held, its purpose is essentially one of reparation for sin -- for our own sins and the sins of the world.

Here at Notre Dame we adhere to the original plan of St. Ignatius for reparation during the Carnival season. And since we are all sinners, this holy time should find all of us participating. The rubrics set down by Pope Clement XII specify that there be "continuous relays of watchers before the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the main altar". That's how you are expected to participate -- devoting one-half hour a day in reparation for your sins. This small investment can take years from your Purgatory -- and who can lightly dismiss this consideration?

Program

Forty Hours Devotions will open after the nine o'clock Mass in Sacred Heart Church. There will be Adoration from noon, Sunday, until 6:45 Sunday evening. On Monday and Tuesday there will be Adoration from 8:30 a.m. until 6:45 p.m. Each evening (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday), there will be Devotions at 6:45.

Indulgences

A Plenary Indulgence may be gained once each day by those who receive the Sacraments, visit the church, and recite six times the Pater, Ave, Gloria.

An indulgence of fifteen years may be gained each time the church is visited, and the same number of prayers as mentioned above are offered with a contrite heart.

Sorrow for sin is necessary to gain the indulgences which, once gained, may be applied to the souls in Purgatory.

Please note that the evening devotions begin at 6:45 -- so as not to interfere with other activities of the evening. And all other campus activities will be suspended until the brief devotions are concluded. At Notre Dame, first things come first. The Mardi Gras, for example, will not open until 7:45.

PRAYERS REQUESTED: Ill; uncle of Ralph Lebrato of Cavanaugh; grandfather of Don Dimberio of Morrissey; grandmother of Rene Fransen (O-C); friend of John H. Monaghan, '41; grandfather of John D'Elia of Alumni; father of Sister M. Lee, RSM; father of Robert Rose of Breen-Phillips; William J. Donelan, '29; friend of Charles Sacher of Farley; two relatives of Father O'Neill of Howard; son of "Speed" Sheehan (Bowling Manager).