

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

Vol. XL, No. 78

Wednesday, May 10, 1961

Notre Dame, Ind.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Every year, as the school year draws to a close, we make an appeal on behalf of the St Vincent DePaul Society. This year, as in the past, the men of the Society will be glad to receive your old clothes for redistribution to needy families in the area. Next week, boxes will be placed in all the halls. As you are packing your trunk, try to find an article of clothing you can contribute to this worthy cause.

BOOK DRIVE

The drive for books for the missions is underway. Already, it is evident that the response will be good. If you haven't yet been contacted, watch for the representative of the Council for the International Lay Apostolate, and try to have a book for his collection.



The Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed tomorrow. But, there will be the usual devotions at the Grotto in the evening at 6:00 and 6:30. The number attending these devotions is poorer this year than in former years. While this shouldn't be interpreted as a lessening of devotion to Our Lady, still it suggests there is less willingness to arrange one's time so as to be present. Two weeks from today, classes will have ended and many will not find their way back to the Grotto for years. Take advantage of the fact that your friends are headed that way and swing along.

Annual Memorial Mass and Ceremonies

in memory of the

Notre Dame Men

who died in the service of their country

11 May 1961

10:25 a. m. Memorial Ceremonies

Administration Building

11:00 a. m. Memorial Mass

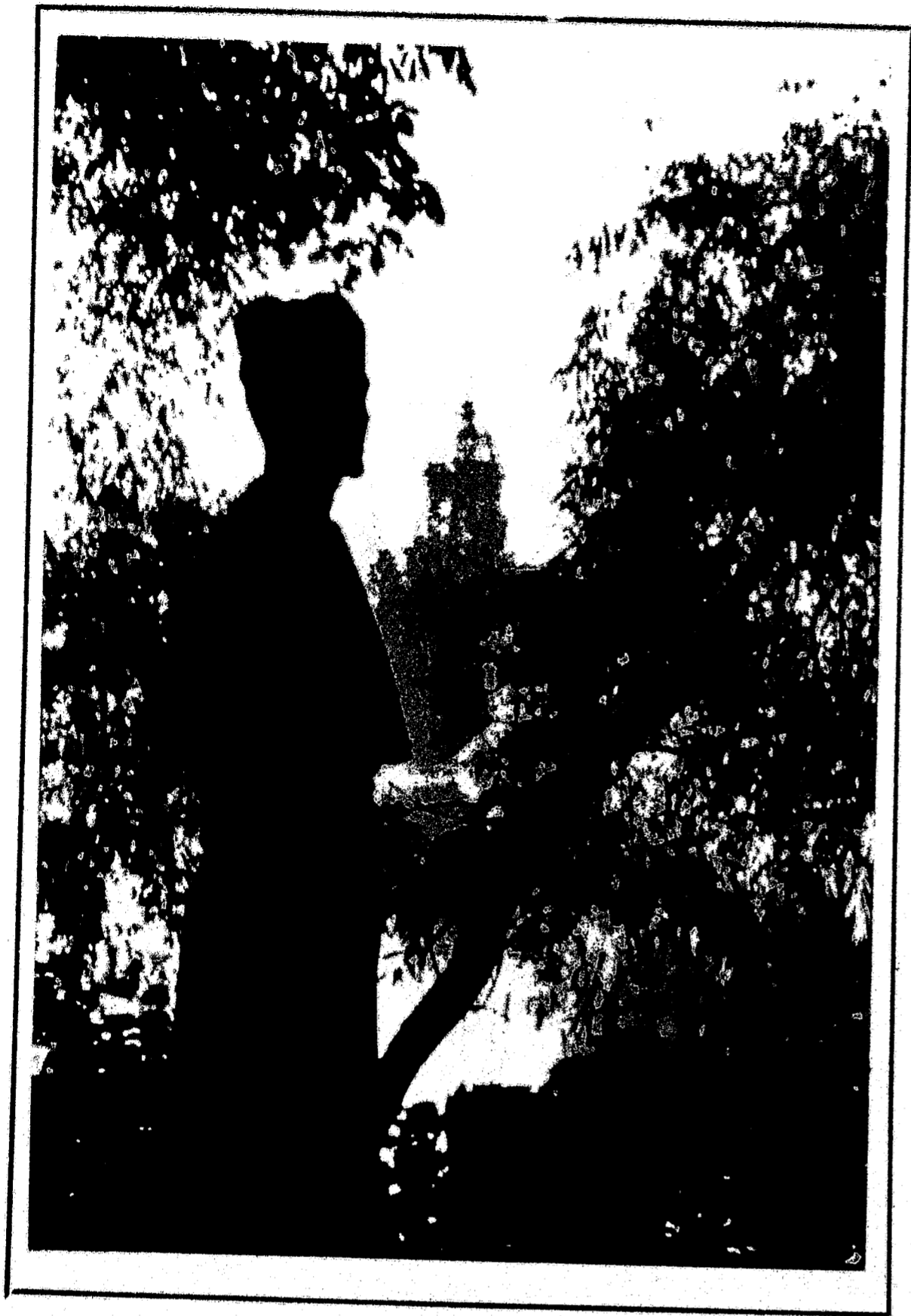
Sacred Heart Church

Tomorrow, Masses will be offered in Sacred Heart Church and Keenan-Stanford Chapel at the same times as on Sunday. For those who may be taking Army physicals tomorrow, there will be a 5:00 **A.M.** Mass in the Crypt of Sacred Heart Church. Late sleepers should remember that at the

11:00 o'clock Mass tomorrow the campus military units will fill the Church.

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Cousin of Bob McCutchan of Sorin; friend of Tom Willmeng of Zahm and Paul Bognar, Off-Campus; Rene Demey; friend of Scott Carroll of St Edward's. Ill: Dr. Bernard Kamm.



Latest reports indicate that there are now 42,104,900 Catholics in the 50 United States. This figure represents an increase of 13,470,022 over the past ten years. There are now 33,141 diocesan priests and 21,541 priests in religious communities. Last year, 1675 priests were ordained in this country. At first glance, the number of newly ordained priests seems large. But a look at the increase in the number of priests as compared with the number of Catholics would be disappointing. In dioceses where the Catholic population has increased by twenty or thirty thousand over the past ten years, the total number of priests has increased only by two or three! The religious communities in our country are showing a similar slow rate of growth. This points up the remark of Cardinal Montini, who says:

A great many young people are fascinated by the outward aspect of the world around them and soon get infected with a spirit of destructive criticism. If they achieve any sense of spiritual values, any feeling for religion, any sort of inner life, it is only after much patient endeavour and wise counsel and toil on the part of their educators. For the most part they are distracted from these things, more inclined to work for their own ends than for any heroic ideals, impatient of the interior life, and with little feeling for poetry or prayer. Religious vocations have to struggle to make themselves felt in this climate of external excitement which surrounds the formative years of such a great proportion of young people today.

A vocation may be harder to find these days. But it still comes down to the same two things that have always been necessary: Desire and ability.

Desire doesn't mean sentiment or emotion. It means an intellectual conviction. Something like, "The priesthood is the thing in life I most want and am most willing to sacrifice everything to obtain." You say there are days when you think this way, and days when you don't? Be sure that the real desire will remain deep within you despite these ups and downs. You need to spend more time before the Blessed Sacrament asking yourself some searching questions like: What's the most I can do for God?

Ability should be three-fold. You need the grey-matter to handle the studies. Also, common sense, good judgment, prudence. Secondly, you must be earnestly determined to become a saint. Thirdly, you need the strength to do a full day's work in the apostolate.

Take a walk, if the weather ever warms up, and ask yourself or your best friend what the chances are of your filling the bill. Don't look for signs saying, "The C.S.C.s Need You". But talk with a priest. Soon.

Gene Boorman, C.S.C.
Student Chaplain