
notre dame

RELIGIOUS



BULLETIN

Dolores W. Tanoco

Volume I

Issue 18 January 27, 1985

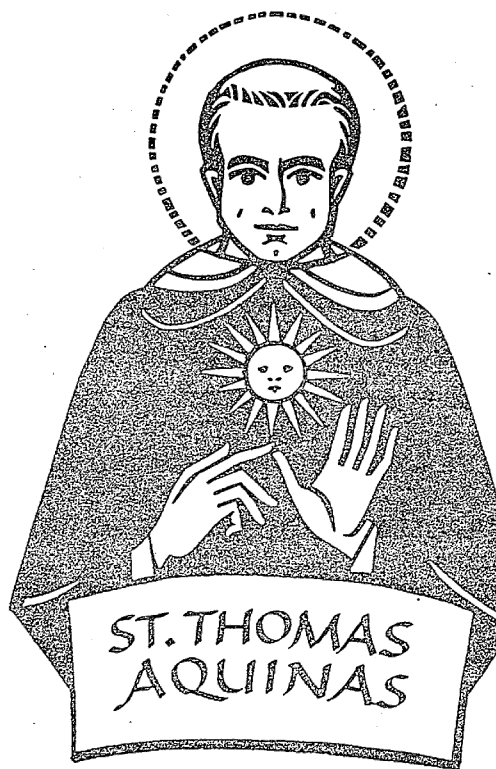
Office of University Ministry
University of Notre Dame

Learning and Being a Christian

Ralph McInerny

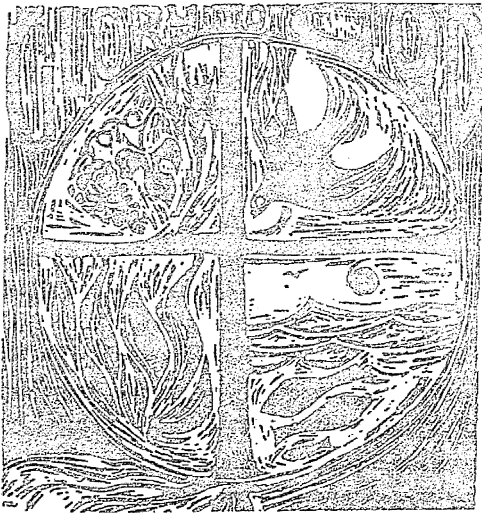
As a little boy in southern Italy Thomas Aquinas asked "What is God?" It is a question he pursued through the forty-nine years of his life. How and where he pursued it is of special importance for those of us fortunate enough to spend four years, or a lifetime, at Notre Dame.

Thomas was a university person. He began his studies at Montecassino, continued them at Naples and Cologne, and became one of the greatest theologians ever associated with the University of Paris. Throughout his life he read, wrote, disputed, lectured, commented, preached and prayed. Quite soon after his death he was recognized as a saint.



(continued)

As Catholics, sensitive to the demands of justice and charity, we may be tempted to think of these years of study as a guilty vacation from the real world. We recall Christ's description of the Last Judgement. I was hungry and you fed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was homeless and you took me in. What has the life of the mind to do with the essential Christian tasks?



St. Thomas Aquinas is the patron of the schools precisely in order that, by thinking about his life, we might pick up clues as to how we should lead ours. Our lives as students, as pursuers of the truth. The human person is made for truth. Our highest capacity is mind and truth is the perfection of mind. The practical order, social and political arrangements, are necessary if we are to have conditions conducive to the pursuit of the truth. We in universities are the beneficiaries of those conditions. But our task is not a selfish one.

Truth turns out to be a person. "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." Thomas shows us that the academic life is not an alternative to the Christian life, but a mode of it. In the Christian perspective, all men are called to eternal union with God, to what is called the beatific vision. St Augustine called this gaudium de veritate: delight in the truth.

The life of study ought ultimately to be related to the Truth that is God. When the scholar does this, he acknowledges that the object of his concern is a good shareable by all. Ours is not a self-indulgent, solipistic life. We have the immense privilege of mimicking now the ultimate contemplative destiny of all.

This does not absolve us from the ordinary works of justice and mercy. But there is mercy and mercy, fundamental and higher needs of our fellows. St. Thomas saw teaching as an act of mercy—sharing what one has with those who do not have it. Man does not live by bread alone.

St. Thomas, scholar and mystic, was always at the disposal of others, answering letters of inquiry, disputing, writing. Thinking about him can help us see our academic life, not as the culpable avoidance of concern for our fellows, but the opportunity to develop in a special and higher way the virtues of charity, justice and mercy.

Ralph McInerny is a professor of Medieval Studies and director of the Medieval Institute.

January, 1985

Dear Friends:

Twice a year, I will be sharing with you a general accounting of how University Ministry distributes your Sunday offerings. As you perhaps already know, most of our collection is used to support programs for the poor and needy. A much smaller portion is used to help offset the cost of our liturgical program in Sacred Heart Church as well as for a part of our building maintenance. Because University Ministry and Sacred Heart Church are substantially funded through the University, we are able to use most of what you contribute to directly help others. Supports for the Church and sharing with those in need are basic Christian responsibilities, and so I encourage you to continue to be generous. May God bless you for all you do.

In Notre Dame,

Fr. Daniel Jenky C.S.C.

Director of University Ministry

Collections Report
July - December 1984
 Sacred Heart Church, Notre Dame, Indiana

<u>Special Collections</u>		<u>Disbursement</u>	
Mission Sunday (Oct. 21)	\$ 9,252.65	Andre House(Fr. Fitzgerald & Mike Baxter)	\$ 800.00
Ethiopian	7,723.12	Anawim House(shelter)	200.00
St. Vincent De Paul (from the poor box)	1,549.19	American Cancer Society	25.00
	<u>\$18,524.96</u>	Bread for the World	500.00
		CARE	100.00
		The Catholic Worker	500.00
		Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors	100.00
		The Christophers	100.00
		Corvilla	500.00
		Covenant House	200.00
		De Paul Center, Inc.	200.00
		Fr. Egidio Nkaijanabwo (African schools)	250.00
		Holy Cross Justice & Peace Ctr.	3,000.00
		Holy Cross Missions	2,000.00
		Holy Cross Mission Center	500.00
		Hunger Coalition	200.00
		Indiana Office of Campus Ministry	100.00
		Nat'l Interreligious Service	100.00
		Board for Conscientious Objectors	
		Our Lady of Good Counsel Church	250.00
		Phoenix House (women's shelter)	1,000.00
		St. Vincent De Paul Society	1,000.00
		Sojourners	100.00
		United Religious Community	200.00
		Volunteer Services - Center for Social Concerns	3,000.00
		William Downing Medical Trust	200.00
			<u>\$15,125.00</u>
		Liturgical Program and Church Upkeeping(July '84-June '85)	\$12,000.00
			<u>\$27,125.00</u>
July	\$ 3,717.72		
August	2,314.74		
September*	6,188.11		
October*	8,854.38		
November*	5,185.72		
December	2,788.15		
	<u>\$29,048.82</u>		

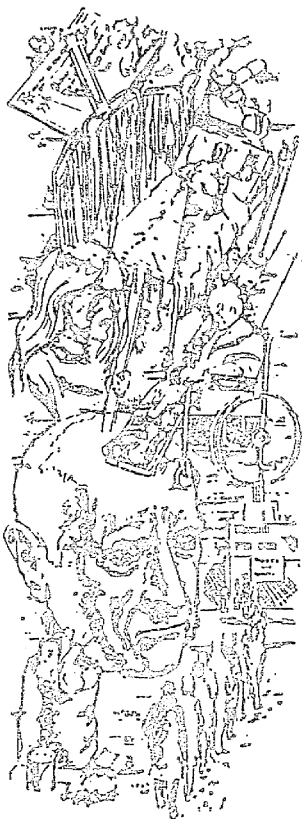


* Football month.

Balance: \$29,048.82 - \$27,125.00 = \$1,923.82

The balance will be added onto the ~~income~~ of January - June '85
 and the disbursement will be assigned at the end of the fiscal

SUMMER SERVICE PROJECTS 1985



Notre Dame Alumni Clubs across the country will sponsor N.D. students in Summer Service Projects (SSP) again this year. Students who are selected to participate in the SSP spend eight weeks during the summer working in a service project which is developed according to three factors: 1) the needs of the local community, 2) the talents and skills of the student participant, and 3) the interests of the sponsoring Club. Upon completion of the project, the sponsoring club awards a \$1,200 Social Concerns Scholarship to the student serving their community.

Last summer Notre Dame students worked in projects serving needy people such as the elderly, economically deprived children, mentally and physically handicapped individuals, and the homeless. They worked in various environments, including legal-aid clinics, hospitals, shelters, summer camps, and orphanages.

Applications are available at the Center for Social Concerns. The deadline date for applications is February 1, 1985. For more information contact Marty Mosby Kenahan, SSP Coordinator, at 239-7867.

Palm Sunday Weekend Retreat *March 29, 30, 31*

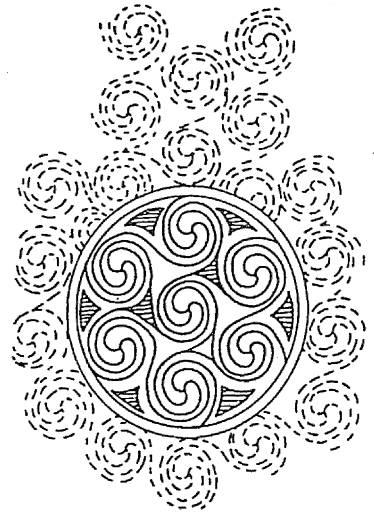
Begin HOLY WEEK and the EASTER SEASON with a time away for prayer, reflection and relaxation. Leave Friday after supper for Crowe's House on Lake Michigan and return Sunday, after brunch. The retreat will be conducted by Fr. Steve Gibson. There is a cost of \$7 per person. For reservations simply call the Office of University Ministry or drop by and leave your Name and local address and phone number.

NIGHT PRAYER

Every Thursday, starting January 24th,
University Ministry will offer Night Prayer
in the Lady Chapel of Sacred Heart Church.
This short service of song and prayer will begin
each Thursday at 9:15pm.

Presiders will include members of the Notre Dame
residence hall staff; Music will be provided by
the Notre Dame Folk Choir.

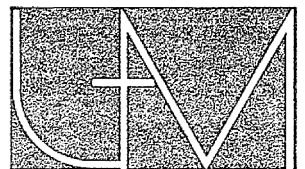
All are welcome, and invited to attend.



*We welcome
comments and feedback
from you!*

*Students' comments
are especially encouraged.*

*Just send to:
Office of University Ministry
attn. Religious Bulletin*



OFFICE OF
UNIVERSITY
MINISTRY

University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Library Concourse 219•239-6536
Badin Hall 219•239-5242