
notre dame

RELIGIOUS

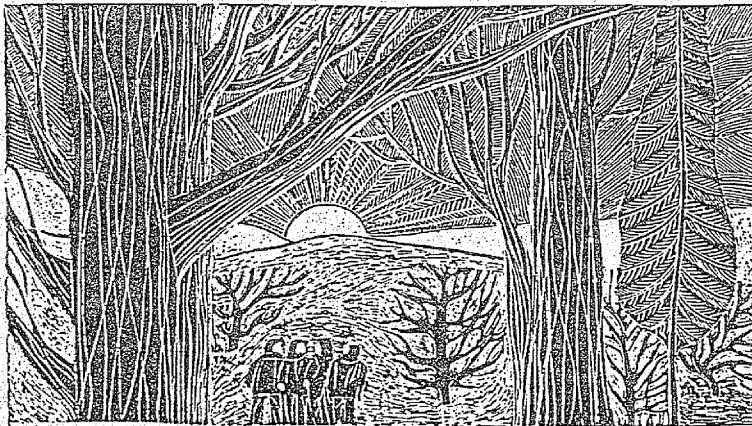


BULLETIN

Volume I

Issue 23 March 3, 1985

Office of University Ministry
University of Notre Dame



ENJOY
the
VIEW

John Fitzgerald, CSC

Emily Dickinson remembered her father ringing the firebell at the dinner hour to invite his fellow townspeople to share a glorious sunset with him. That delight and enthusiasm, triggered by wonderful epiphanies in the sky, reminds me of Peter's grateful babbling after the Transfiguration: "Rabbi, how good it is for us to be here!" (A latterday Peter might have exclaimed: "Awesome! Excellent! Wow!")

On the mountain that day, Peter, James and John got a privileged glimpse of the glory of God, and they were enthralled! Such graced moments are wonderful. We have all known them: marvelous breakthrough experiences, when the goodness and the loveliness of God infiltrate our humdrum routine and overwhelm us with beauty and truth. Often we are so blase', so wrapped up in trivial matters, so damned casual! We need some ecstasy in our lives! And when we get it, we ought to wax enthusiastic, like Peter, thanking God for still another sacrament in our lives.

"Earth's crammed with God
and every common bush afire
with God;
but only he who sees takes off
his shoes;
the rest sit round it and
pluck blackberries,"

(Elizabeth Barrett Browning:
Aurora Leigh, Book VII Line 820)

Toscanini, the great Italian conductor, spoke with awe about his first sighting of the Grand Canyon - "a moment I will take with me into eternity!" Astronauts have seen earth in a transfigured way from the vantage point of space. For most of us, I suspect, those graced moments are less cosmic. I remember many Sunday evenings, in the chapel at Breen Phillips, when so much youthful tenderness, crowding around the table of God's love, generated heightened moments of insight and caring. Walking back to Grace or Sorin, I'd gush with Pater: "Lord, it is good to be here!"

Now one of my regular weekly liturgies is at the County Jail. Standing around a table in the middle of a cellblock are a congregation of child molesters, murderers and thieves, both petty and grand. In those brutal surroundings, where there is so much pain and remorse and estrangement, there is also tenderness and holy communion, and a whispered prayer of thanks for being there.

At the Phoenix outdoor "shelter" for the homeless, a few blocks from Andre House, there are 300 dispossessed people who manage, somehow, to stay alive. On Christmas night, when we brought them soup and bread, camp fires struggled to push back the darkness. One of the Holy Cross Associates, an '84 N.D. grad, had brought her guitar. As we sang that carol about Bethlehem, where "the hopes and fears of all the years are met," hearts melted and eyes glistened with visions of more than sugar-plums.



Meinrad Creighrad

In this holy season of grace, may you notice just how crammed earth is with God, and not waste your time plucking the blackberries!

(Father John Fitzgerald and Deacon Mike Baxter, both former members of the Campus Ministry staff, operate Andre House of Hospitality in downtown Phoenix.)

FROM ASHES TO EASTER 2

MARK 9: 1-9 The Transfiguration of Jesus

How many pieces are there in a 2000 piece puzzle? 2001, 1999 or 2000? Wasn't that a question in Trivial Pursuit? If you have ever tried to put a jigsaw puzzle together, you know that it is easier to do if you have a vision of the completed whole. Without such a vision, putting the pieces together becomes frustrating and often impossible.

Achieving wholeness of life may be compared to putting the pieces of the puzzle together. Having a vision of the meaning of life enables us to become whole or half. Where do we find this meaning? How do we achieve a vision that will sustain us through the difficult choices and tests of life? Such a vision comes to the Christian community through the life-death-resurrection of Jesus. Jesus brought Good News that lends unity, peace, and direction to life. Listening to and accepting this Good News enables us to bring the pieces of life together and achieve wholeness within ourselves.

Lenten Series

WHAT IS CATHOLICISM? BY RICHARD MCBRIEN

Center for Social Concerns Classroom 7:30 p.m. FREE

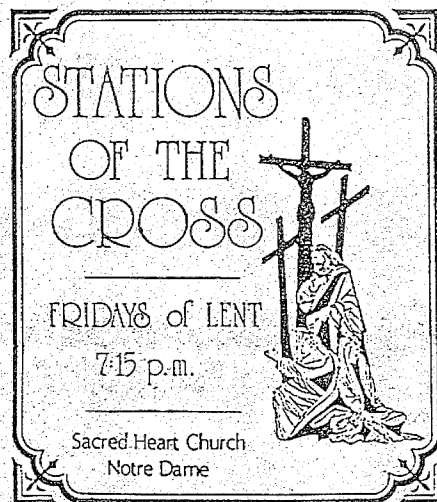
Wide Screen - Video Cassette

Wednesdays

- March 6 Part 1 Fundamentals of Catholicism
Part 2 Catholicism and Authority: A look at Faith, Theology & Doctrine
- March 13 Part 3 Catholicism and the Human Person: A look at Nature, Grace & Sin
Part 4 Catholicism's Understanding of God
- March 20 Part 5 Catholicism's Understanding of Christ and the Redemption
Part 6 Catholicism's Understanding of the Church
- March 27 Part 7 Catholicism and Morality,
Part 8 Catholicism and Social Justice
- April 3 Part 9 Catholicism and Spirituality

Sponsored by Educational Media
239-5465

If you are to have a future, it will be a future together with others. A prayer of hope is a prayer that disarms you and extends you far beyond the limits of your own longings. Therefore, there can be no talk of prayer so long as praying is thought of as an activity which excludes our fellowman. "Anyone who says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother is a liar," says St. John (I Jn 4:20). And Jesus says: "It is not those who say to me, 'Lord, Lord,' who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the person who does the will of my Father in heaven" (Matt 7:21).



Facts of an Interdependent World

- Exports** —35% of U.S. exports go to developing countries (\$88.3 billion in 1982).
- Imports** —45% of U.S. imports come from developing countries, including \$56 billion of petroleum in 1982).
- Jobs** —About one in six U.S. jobs is directly dependent upon trade with other nations.
- Poverty** —2,000,000,000 people live on incomes below \$500 per year.
- Hunger** —450,000,000 suffer from hunger and malnutrition, including an estimated 15-20,000,000 in the U.S. despite the fact that the world currently produces enough grain to provide 3,000 calories a day—an adequate diet—for every one.
- Sanitation** —2,000,000,000 do not have a dependable supply of safe water to drink.
- Education** —120,000,000 young children of school age have no school to go to.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

2nd Sunday of Lent More than 6 million people found starvation in Ethiopia as a result of a famine of unprecedented magnitude. Catholic Relief Services, which has operated a food and nutrition program in Ethiopia for many years, has expanded its efforts and is currently distributing 90% of the American food reaching Ethiopia. By the end of 1984, CRS distributed 50,000 tons of food to 650,000 people. Please help Catholic Relief Services continue to serve the poor through your donations to Operation Rice Bowl.



AUDITION NOW
for participation in the
NOTRE DAME FOLK CHOIR
(12:15 Sunday Liturgy, S.H.C.)

We need **ALTOS, TENORS AND BASSES**. Experience in part singing and sight reading is recommended. Call **STEVE WARNER** at University Ministry for details, 239-5242.