Because of an old Mosaic Law any Jewish mother was considered "unclean" for forty days after she had given birth to a male child. For her "purification" she visited the Temple and, if she were poor, presented two turtle doves or two young pigeons to the priest who would pray for her and formally declare her "cleansed."

Mary's miraculous motherhood was beyond all laws. Nevertheless, forty days after the birth of her Son, she and Joseph journeyed from Nazareth to Jerusalem to fulfill the law and, solemnly, to present their Son for the first time in the Temple.

Simeon the just—who, like all pious men of his race, lived for the coming of the Redeemer—happened to be the priest officiating in the Temple. As soon as Our Lady arrived Simeon took her Infant into his arms and, in a moment of ecstatic prayer, uttered his Nunc Dimitiss:

Now thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word in peace,
Because my eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel.

Simeon had seen His Savior, held Him in his arms. Simeon was ready to die in joy and gratitude.

Tomorrow on the feast of Our Lady's Purification and of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, Mass will be at 8:15 in the main church. Candles will be blessed at this Mass.

Blessing of Throats.
St. Blase, holy bishop of the fourth century, is recognized by the Church for his prerogative of healing diseases of the throat because he once saved the life of a child who was choking to death. On St. Blase's Feast, Wednesday, throats will be blessed between 6:30 and 7 in the basement and Dillon Chapels, and in every other chapel at hours to be announced by the respective rectors. At 12:30 in the Dillon Chapel throats will be blessed for the last time during the day.

Novena To Our Lady of Lourdes.
Our Grotto is, as you know, a replica of the Grotto of Lourdes, made famous by the apparitions of Our Lady and by the numerous miracles that have taken place there. (Important reviews of some of these miracles will be presented in the Bulletin by Mr. Lunn during the Novena.)

Who on the campus has not found new knowledge and love of Our Lady in the heavenly silences of the Grotto? What Notre Dame man will not want to pay honor to Our Lady of the Grotto?

February 11 is the feast of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Lourdes in France. The Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes starts Wednesday. It is annually a novena for the sick—for those who are, or will be, sick, here or at home, during the year. Let us remember especially all families exposed because of the floods.

You may include, too, other intentions. Some make it a point to pray for the blessing of a good wife and for the grace of one day being a good husband. Others thank Our Lady for the help she gave them during exams. In addition to daily Mass and Holy Communion the novena should include a daily visit to the Grotto.

P.A.M.C.: (Deceased) Fr. Leahy, Pastor at St. Joe, Mich. Ill, mother of Frank Moran; father of Jerome Leahy (how); parents of Dan Murphy (Ills.); friend of Mr. Mills.