FACTS ABOUT THE CRUCIFIXION

Reflection on the instruments used in punishing Our Blessed Savior will give you a better appreciation of the sufferings of His Passion.

The Scourge. This was a whip of four leather thongs, each tipped with a rough piece of bone or small square of metal. Repeated blows on the body with this whip ploughed up the skin and exposed nerve endings, thus causing intense pain. The loss of blood added shock to this ordeal.

The Cross. It weighed about 225 pounds. It was from seven to nine feet long. This was the instrument Christ had to carry on His shoulders bruised by the scourging. It dug deeper and deeper into His flesh as He dragged it over the bumpy streets on the way to Calvary.

The Nails. These metal pieces were 3.9 inches long and a third of an inch thick. When they were driven into Christ's hands they must have injured a nerve so that every movement of His body would send pain through the hands and up the arms.

The Agony on the Cross. "The soles of the feet were applied flat to the upright of the cross, the knees being bent in order to put the feet in this position, and the nails hammered through... When the cross was raised, the body would swing helplessly; to prevent the hands being torn away from the nails, the body was fastened to the cross with a rope, which was removed as soon as the cross was fixed in position; then the body would be left suspended on the nails and supported on the peg on which the perineum rested. The sufferings caused by the prolonged immobility, the body hanging vertically with the knees flexed must have been terrible. If He tried to relieve the pain in His hands by taking the weight off them He would press the more heavily on His feet. If He tried to relieve the pain in His feet He would throw more weight on His hands; and all the while the rough peg would bite cruelly into His perineum. At length His poor body would hang exhausted until He died." (For a more complete account of Christ's suffering, see Catholic Digest for March, on Sorin pamphlet rack.)

What, No Rosary?

A surprisingly large number of students told the beads on their fingers last Wednesday night at Lenten services. If you do not possess a rosary, pick up one at the pamphlet rack in Sorin hall, where there is a limited supply. These rosaries are blessed and indulged. Form the habit of carrying your rosary with you. There is an indulgence of 50 days for each day you carry the rosary on your person. You gain this indulgence for the Poor Souls by doing nothing more than having it with you.

Student Comment About Adoration.

"So far I have spent four periods in adoration, and I can already feel the effect of this devotion. I feel that I have more strength. The temptations I feared would be too much for me when I take my summer vacation now seem much less formidable. I know I have reinforced myself against them. In the adoration books I found passages which expressed exactly the thoughts I had wanted to think and they have brought me nearer to God."

PRAYERS: (deceased) sister of Jerry Cuttle (D11); mother of Lieut. Comm. Calix Miller, '21 and grandmother of Calix Miller Jr. (0C). (Ill) Msgr. William Grady; wife of W.T DeBaene (Detroit); mother of John Sullivan (St. Eds). Two Special Intentions.

"Virgin most sorrowful, pray for us."