Your Attention--Please!

Last Ascension Thursday Pope Pius XII officially announced and promulgated the Holy Year of 1950 in these words:

"Let petition be made to God that all, by prayer and penance may expiate for their sins, strive to reform their lives and acquire Christian virtue, so that this great Jubilee may happily prepare a general and universal return to Christ."

In a brief talk afterwards the Holy Father, who, by the way, as Cardinal Pacelli received on this campus an honorary degree, expressed the hope that it would be a year of "increased faith, of superabundant grace, of pardon and of love, so that all men, uniting among themselves and with God, may be led by it to resume with greater ardor the path toward future holiness and peace."

Devotion to the Holy Father, Visible Head of the Church, illustrious successor of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, demands that every Notre Dame student and Catholic member of the faculty state his loyalty in some tangible way--best in terms of prayer and sacrifice.

Appreciate His Responsibilities.

There is in our land as in every land the most determined revolt against God ever organized by the powers of evil. But the world is only slowly awakening to this grave threat. Pius XI recognized and condemned it in his Encyclical on ATHETISTIC COMMUNISM--March 19, 1937.

Today no other man on the face of this earth than Pius XII stands out as a more powerful force against world Communism. It is highly fitting, therefore, that we pay him our homage by making a novena for him and his intentions. This is the way we urge all of you--ALL WITHOUT EXCEPTION--to do it:

1. Make a novena in honor of the Immaculate Conception for the Pope, consisting of daily Mass and Communion and recitation of the Rosary.

2. Consecrate yourself for life to Our Lady of the Rosary, and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the latter having been requested by the Blessed Virgin of Fatima.

3. If possible, make a pilgrimage to Rome.

During this Novena, which begins November 30, you will be asked to turn in unsigned your spiritual offerings of Masses, Communions and Rosaries. These will be made up into a single spiritual bouquet and presented to the Holy Father in person next summer by student representatives who will make a pilgrimage to the Holy See for the Jubilee Year. Further information about this is forthcoming.

Suffice to say now that a special round trip student rate has been offered for $750. This includes--round trip air transportation; third class railway to places of interest; accommodations in good hotels and three meals per day; transfers from stations to hotels; sightseeing and excursions; hotel service charge; free transportation of 66 lbs of baggage...The itinerary includes Lisbon, Fatima, Rome, Naples, Florence, Venice, Milan, Paris, Lourdes, back to New York: 30 days en route!