Father Leo L. Ward, C.S.C., died Wednesday, 11 p.m.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
January 23, 1953

Funeral on Saturday at 9 a.m. in Sacred Heart Church. R.I.P.

A General Confession

Graduating Seniors are asking about a general confession. The idea is especially sound for one about to enter upon a new kind of life. Such a confession is made either out of necessity, or out of devotion. Think it over: then drop in at Dillon, or Howard, or Cavanaugh, in the evening -- when there is more time for you than during the morning-rush period. It is an excellent way to close this phase of your life, to take stock of your assets, and to embark upon the future with a clear conscience.

A general confession is also one good way to make a complete break with a sinful past. It's like a burial ceremony for past mistakes; or it's like pulling down an "iron curtain" between the past and the future.

God goes all out for prodigal sons. And when He forgives sins, He forgives them good and proper. Their guilt is blotted out; nor will He throw them back into our teeth to reproach us --- but he may remind us of them to keep us vigilant and humble.

Do you need a little courage? Think of the great power of God as manifested in all creation ... then recall the Psalmist declaring: "O God Who dost show forth Thy Omnipotence most of all by sparing and by exercising Thy mercy..." And elsewhere the same voice affirms: "His tender mercies are over all His works."

If you need a little assistance in making your general confession, ask the priest to help you. He knows how to proceed in an orderly and thorough manner.

About This Time

One has but to observe the busy doors of the chapels, these days, to learn that exams are in full swing. Our Lord, His Mother, and the Holy Spirit are very important Persons Whom you must see about a certain matter. Some of you have been strangers, more or less, in His House until this week. Oh, but no longer! The Bulletin recommends exams at the end of Lent -- just to be sure everyone makes his Easter Duty.

You are fortunate in having such wonderful Allies -- and such powerful weapons as the Sacraments -- on your side, in this semi-annual battle with the faculty. And you are to be commended for cultivating Their friendship, and enlisting Their aid. At this time you may well regard the opposition with some misgivings, and affirm that it is as cold, merciless, scheming, and diabolical a group (you are quite sure) as ever appeared to darken the horizon of an Indiana winter morning!

Remember, though, that "God helps those who help themselves." It won't go well with you if you rattle your Beads all day. Spend some time on the books, too. You have no right to miracles -- but only to assistance. Going at it in this manner, you may discover the faculty isn't so cold, merciless, scheming, or diabolical after all-- but fairly reasonable, asking questions you should know and do know. With your normal cooperation, things can work out pleasantly for all.

PRAYERS Deceased: friend of Paul Davis (Off-Campus) killed in Korea; uncle of Bernard McDermott of Fisher; aunt of George Bishop of Alumni; George Carter of Detroit. Ill: brother of Mrs. Angus McDonald (operation); father of Charles Callahan of Alumni (dying); grandfather of Frank Lill of Badin; Father Ralph Carpenter, C.S.P. Five Special Intentions.

Tonight at 6:45 in Sacred Heart Church -- Novena Devotions.