Tonight at 6:45, the Novena to Our Lady of Sorrows, as usual.

This coming week -- beginning Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. -- the Holy Cross Fathers will be hosts to the entire Catholic area in a giant public display of devotion to Mary. It is part of their contribution to the Marian Year Celebration advocated by the Holy Father. All eyes will turn to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, on the western edge of the campus, while the feet of many thousands of pilgrims will tread the holy place -- bringing praise and petition to the Mother of God -- in a Solemn Public Novena.

This spot has been officially designated as a pilgrimage shrine where all the indulgences attached to visits and pilgrimages may be gained. You -- along with St. Mary's, the numerous Catholic parishes, schools, and organizations of the area -- will have an interest and a part in the Novena.

Many of you will want to attend services each day of the Novena. That's good! But, in order that the University may be officially represented each evening in this great, public tribute to Our Lady, two (2) halls will be designated as the official pilgrimage group to represent the 5200 Notre Dame Student Body.

Each evening, therefore, at 7:40, the hall bells will notify the particular groups of that day to set out for the Shrine. Evening services will begin at 8 p.m. On the closing evening -- Monday, May 17, -- there will be an outdoor Mass, and distribution of Communion.

The Novena opens on Sunday at 3 p.m. On Monday evening, Fisher and Alumni halls will comprise the first official pilgrimage group from the University. They are to attend the services in the name of all of us. It is a great honor, as well as a responsibility.

Indeed, We're Lucky!

Just how well off we are on this particular occasion is detected in the sad lines of Nathaniel Hawthorne, that Puritan of Puritans, who reveals his appreciation of our Lady's intercession with God for sinners, when he laments:

"I have always envied Catholics their Faith in that sweet, sacred Virgin Mother, who stands between them and the Deity, intercepting somewhat of His awful splendor, but permitting His love to stream upon the worshipper more intelligibly to human comprehension through the medium of a woman's tenderness." -- (Blithedale Romance)

Sunday Is Mother's Day

Remember her in a spiritual way. Give her the best -- your Mass and Communion! She deserves the best expression of your love. In her estimation, nothing was ever too good for you. Indeed, that's how all mothers are made. If you didn't make the Novena, you can at least give her this day filled with your best prayers.

PRAYEERS -- Deceased: father of Joe Kalbas of Morrissey; Harry F. Wunsch,'36; father of Jack Guthrie (Off-Campus); father of Louis Maggiore of Farley; uncle of Fred Eckart of Dillon; father of Carl Elberger (Law); James F. Silver,'26; father of Richard Trosset,'53. Ill: father of Lieut. Thomas Fitzgerald, USN; father of Richard Hicks of Badin; mother of Tom Marshall of Socrin; infant daughter of Lieut. Richard Daly (NRCTC); father of Rev. Michael Murphy, CSC; mother of a priest, (dying). 1 Sp. Int.

Note: Center aisles at 8 o'clock Mass, Sunday, reserved for Juniors and guests.