It is edifying, even amazing, to note the seriousness that attends the Lenten effort of good Catholic people in the parishes throughout the nation. To watch the crowds at daily Mass, you'd think every day were Sunday. The evening devotions are jammed to the doors, especially for the Lenten Series. In addition to this display of fervor, the able-bodied observe the laws of fast and abstinence.

Someday soon, you will be taking your place in the active life of the parish. You will be expected to imitate, even augment, their Lenten zeal and fervor. And so, here at Notre Dame, where you are exempted from fast and abstinence, we make some effort at indoctrination for the future. We have a Lenten Series in our program, as the Bishop wants us to have -- and wants you to attend. Chances are you will relish the sermon of Father Thomas Brennan, C.S.C., tonight and the following Wednesdays of Lent. We begin at 6:45. We'll be finished before 7:15.

**About Marrying Your Own**

Recently, when the American Catholic Sociological Society gathered for its annual convention, members were treated to the latest statistics on mixed-marriage. Just why the Church would frown on these unions will come more easily if you consider merely the arithmetic involved:

Those who marry into different faiths have four times as many divorces and desertions. They have between two and three times as many children with at least one arrest for delinquent acts. They likewise have more trouble in keeping their children in the educational system after 16 years of age.

One third of Catholics marry outside their Faith. Of every ten Catholics who do so, four are lost immediately to the Faith, since their marriage is outside the Church, and hence invalid.

And what of the six remaining in the faith? Two more are ultimately lost because their interest and conformity gradually wane.

Studies made in the Midwest revealed that when Catholics married non-Catholics, only 34% of the children became practicing members of either religion.

Studies in Michigan, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. revealed that the divorce rate is three times higher in mixed Catholic-Protestant marriages than in marriages where both parties are of the same faith.

You see, it is with much good sense that Lutherans encourage marriage with other Lutherans -- because there is a greater likelihood that both will remain good, active Lutherans. The same is true of the logical attitude of members of the Jewish faith.

The Church, in her wisdom, has a commandment forbidding mixed marriages.

**Tonight at 7:30:** The Marriage Institute for Seniors, in Washington Hall.