CENTENARY
The sputtering red fuse on the shell that was lobbed from the mud flats of Charleston towards Fort Sumter one hundred years ago today should serve as a reminder of how, in times past, Americans have been at odds on how to achieve the national purpose. Perhaps it's fitting today, therefore, that we should pray for an ever deepening appreciation of our country's purpose, and work for its achievement.

RETREAT
Dick Howell is still signing up Juniors for the Retreat at St Joseph Hall this week-end. Interested Juniors should make arrangements with him in 223 Dillon.

CONSECRATION
For the second time this year, Sacred Heart Church will be the scene of an episcopal consecration. On May 17th, Bishop-elect Vincent J. McCauley, C.S.C. will be consecrated for the new diocese of Fort Portal in Uganda. His Emminence, Cardinal Cushing of Boston will be the consecrating prelate.

THE GROTTO
See very few candles burning at the Grotto these days. Hope this doesn't mean that few have found their way back there after a vacation that ended in everyone getting back here safely. Go out of your way to say "Thanks". Or have you already?

KNIGHTS
The Knights of Columbus will gather for the 8:00 o'clock Mass in Sacred Heart Church on Sunday next. Following the Mass, breakfast will be served at Moreau Seminary.

LOSER ?? Lose something? Money, for instance? And, yesterday? Have an idea where you might have lost it? If the answer is "yes", stop by 116 Dillon. Be glad to compare notes.

5:10 MASS
It's very like an aviary hereabouts in the late afternoon. The tempo slows so the bird-sounds are so much more noticeable. A keen pair of ears could pick up the sound of more than a few stacking zzzzz's. Yet just about anyone who is awake can hear the the bells announcing the 5:10 Mass. So....where are all those who were attending during Lent? Going in the morning? Not where I am, they're not.

IN YOUR CHARITY
The question and answer set forth below is from the Fides Album entitled "The Mass". Only one of many publications edited by the Fides Press here at Notre Dame. Get acquainted with the many good books and pamphlets prepared by this apostolic group. Many are available at the Pamphlet Room in Dillon.

The host and the drops of wine which are offered are the fruits of human labor. All the labor and suffering of mankind are presented to God when the priest pronounces the words: "Receive, O Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, this host without blemish . . ."

CAN A MASS BE PAID FOR?

Sometimes you overhear someone say in the sacristy, "Father, how much does a Mass cost?" The misunderstanding is two-fold: The Mass cannot be bought or paid for, and the Mass does not belong to an individual. Mass belongs to the whole community.

The Mass offering means that the priest to whom the sum is given for his day's upkeep, applies the "special fruits" of the Mass to your intention. This does not hinder the Mass from having as the "general fruit" the procuring of the Glory of God, the enrichment of the whole community of the faithful —living and dead.

Wealthy people who can afford to offer numerous Masses are not, therefore, the privileged ones. We do not know how God, in His justice and mercy, re-distributes the various fruits of the Mass.

Mass stipends are something like a tax, a contribution to the material needs of the priest. Wealthy people should, therefore, give more than the poor. This does not imply that they will be better situated in Paradise. Let us recall the Gospel parable of the widow's mite, more precious in the eyes of God than large offerings.

In this connection, tariffs imposed by diocesan regulations are at a minimum. You are not forbidden to give more when you can.

To have Masses said for the deliverance of the deceased is proper. But it is still more certain, more advantageous for souls, and more to the glory of God to offer Masses for the living who can still grow in charity and sanctity.

You have Masses said for such and such temporal favor. Do you have Masses said in thanksgiving? Above all, the Mass is a sacrifice of thanksgiving.