

Religious Bulletin.

Jan. 10, 1922

Objections to Daily Communion.

The following objections are taken from the religious survey. The answers are based on experience in spiritual direction incidental to 550,000 Communions in the past five years.

Laziness.

No excuse. No matter what time you got up in the morning, there is always an opportunity to receive. Come to room 207, Walsh Hall, after 8:15.

No Objection.

This is dangerous. It smacks of indifference. St. John wrote to the Church of Laodicea: "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. I would that thou wert cold or hot. But because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will begin to vomit thee out of my mouth." --- Apocalypse, 3:15, 16

Scruples.

Bogus. A man has no more right to scruples than he has to infected tonsils. Surgery will cure both. As a rule, the only sin the scrupulous man commits are two sins he never thinks about: pride and disobedience. All he has to do is to place himself in the hands of a spiritual director, and accept his word as law. A Novena of Communions in honor of the Sacred Heart will cure stubborn cases.

No Devotion.

A mental short-circuit. Sensible devotion, "the feeling-good-all-over" that comes at times with frequent Communions, is like the candy we give to children to get it to come back. It is not only not essential but it may be dangerous. The essential devotion consists in a desire for the mind to know God better and for the will to know God more. This may be intense even where there are constant involuntary distractions.

Fear of Routine.

Then no good habits should be formed, because habit takes away from the subjective merit of an act, since it makes it easier to perform. A good intention and an honest effort at preparation and thanksgiving will take away any danger of unworthiness.

Fear of Irreverence.

"Sacramenta propter homines" -- The Sacraments are instituted for men. If Our Lord had instituted the Blessed Sacrament primarily for reverence He would have given it another form. He gave it the form of bread, our commonest daily food. 329 students stated in the survey that Holy Communion increased their respect for the blessed Sacrament.

Rev. John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,
Prefect of Religion.