

May 12, 1927

Do You Fear The Summer?

Here and there on the questionnaires appears a note of fear that the summer vacation will tear down all the religious and moral training that Notre Dame has given. Any student who has this feeling needs to have a talk with a priest before he goes.

Questions From the Questionnaire.

21. How can I be a true Notre Dame man at home this summer? I haven't been home since September.

Ans. Be yourself. Be the boy your mother thinks you are. Do what you know is right regardless of public opinion.

22. Tell us how to refute modern philosophy.

Ans. You will find a good discussion in Hull's "Why Should I Be Moral?" Most of the false principles you will hear can be offset by referring them practically to the family life of the speaker. Show him that the present chaotic condition of morals - divorce, break-up of family life, dishonesty, murder, and so forth - is due to the fact that each man draws up his own code, with no sense of responsibility to a Higher Power.

23. Do daily communicants go to Communion because of habit?

Ans. Do you stay away from your meals for a week at a time for fear of contracting a habit of eating? Study the Survey; see what they have to say for themselves.

24. Why must a priest be a witness at a marriage?

Ans. Marriage is a Sacrament as well as a contract. Read "The Wonderful Sacraments."

25. How can one decide whether he has a real vocation?

Ans. If he likes the life and is not afraid of sacrifice, he should pray earnestly and consult a priest.

26. What are the true symptoms of love, so as to insure tranquility on marriage?

Ans. Mutual respect -- and mutual sacrifice. Read "You and Yours" for the Catholic principles of matrimony; read "The Betrothed" for a story of great love.

27. Please discuss the Saturday night dance question.

Ans. The whole matter of public dances is discussed ad nauseam in the Bulletin for 1925-26 under the following dates: September 29, October 6, 7, 9, 30, November 3, 4, and April 17. The bound volume is in the Library. It should not be necessary to discuss the matter of public dances on Saturday and Sunday nights. The diocesan synod has forbidden them, and that settles the matter for Catholics.

28. What about the Vanderbilt annulment? Are the children legitimate?

Ans. 1. See the Bulletin for Dec. 7, 1926. 2. Yes.

29. Why is morning prayer at 6:30 better than Communion at eight?

Ans. In morning prayer the student makes the sacrifice of (somewhat) early rising. In Holy Communion at 8:00 (or 11:00 or 12:00) the priest makes the sacrifice. (There is often plenty of sacrifice on the part of off-campus students who come late, but that is not so evident in the case of campus students.)

30. Why don't you print frank, unfavorable answers? Hasn't Notre Dame as much guts as Boston College?

Ans. There is a train leaving for Boston in 15 minutes; you needn't wait to pack up. There are plenty of patriots here who will be glad to rid the place of every vestige of your unwelcome, disloyal presence. And when Boston College prints a Survey, send us a copy.