

Religious Bulletin
April 13, 1928

Mission Sunday.

The collection in the Masses on the third Sunday of each month goes to the Bengal Mission. We are still out a considerable sum on the horse we promised Father Goodall, and we may have to put the legs together from Sunday's collection. We should not have to do this, however. -- Our New Mexico patient is doing quite well, contributions for his fund now totaling \$259.00. His way is now paid for five months.

Preliminary Note.

Before continuing the series of answers to questions from the questionnaire it should be made clear that not all questions asked can be answered in this way, and that some will not be answered because they are impertinent or because they do not seem of sufficient general interest. If your question is not answered promptly and you are anxious for a reply, call in person.

Questions.

23. Are we to understand that we are perfectly free, as good citizens of the State, to disregard Papal dictates which would interfere with our civil duties? In other words, am I correct in assuming that nothing other than spiritual allegiance is due Rome? (The writer subjoins statements of two cases, one dealing with Spain and the other with Russia. The facts alleged seem inconsistent with Papal policy, and will not be discussed unless they are substantiated by the writer.)

Ans. Yes; always remembering that man's spiritual welfare is higher than his temporal, and that consequently in a conflict his soul's rights take precedence over those of his body.

24. Why, from the spiritual point of view, should we strive for education?

Ans. The obligation God gives us with life to save our souls and make a living. The talents he gives us for these two ends must be cultivated. Recall the parable of the talents. In addition, our knowledge and love of God can be increased by proper education, and since we are put here to know God, and love Him, and serve Him, we should leave no stone unturned to do this as best we can.

25. Why is Latin, a dead language, the universal language of the Church -- or is it the universal language?

Ans. It is the universal language; the minor exceptions allowed for ancient Eastern rites do not interfere substantially with its universality. A dead language is best fitted for universality; there are no changes to alter meanings; and wherever you go you are at home with your little prayer book with its Mass in Latin and English; wherever you go you will find a priest who has studied the same Latin theology as your own parish priest back home. It is a great advantage.

26. Please explain the meaning of the Mass.

Ans. A whole series of Bulletins would be needed for this, and you have good pamphlets that make this unnecessary. See particularly the two, "Explanation of the Prayers and Ceremonies of the Mass," and "Pray the Mass." If you still have particular questions after reading these, ask them.

27. Have we twenty minutes leeway after twelve for breaking the fast?

Ans. No. You have if sun time gives you that much advantage; here it does not, as midnight sun time comes at 11:40 standard time. You have the same privilege in the case of daylight-saving time, but you must be consistent in the use of this privilege on any one night. For instance, if you eat meat between twelve and one o'clock daylight-saving time morning, you cannot shift back to standard time later on in the morning and receive Holy Communion.