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Religion and Football.

Yesterday's Bulletin carried an editorial from the Catholic Standard and Times on "Athletic Mysticism." The writer drew a beautiful lesson from the practice, quite general now among Catholic football players, of receiving the Sacraments before a game. Today we have a letter giving the vivid impressions of an on-looker at Philadelphia last Friday morning. It is of exceptional interest to us because it shows how our athletes, our "Ramblers," if you will, have stimulated devotion to the Holy Eucharist. Scores of such letters have come to us in the past; and we have watched with interest and satisfaction the spread of frequent Communion throughout the country as Notre Dame athletes have carried their own devotion, as players or as coaches, to more remote sections. The letter follows:

"Philadelphia, November 2.

"What is it they say of the college youth of today? He is irreligious, even atheistic; careless in his manners, indifferent in respect to women, and in general, not so good.

"On the First Friday about a quarter of eight in the morning, one of the priests in our Cathedral cleared some boys out of the front pews in the middle aisle. These seats were soon occupied by fifty big, husky chaps -- young, and a delight to the eye.

"Word was passed down the line that the priest was in the first box on the right, and, with no halting human respect, a few arose and went to confession, acknowledging to the whole church that they were sinners like the rest of us. At Communion time all the men received.

"On leaving the church we saw three buses with Notre Dame penants on them.

"This was a football team, visiting in a distant city, away from restraining influence; a team from the college that published one of the most beautiful pamphlets there is on the Blessed Sacrament, written by the men of the college.

"What do they say of college men?

"Leo Paul McCloskey."

(The pamphlet to which referencd is made in the letter is "Frequent Communion for College Men." You will find it at the pamphlet rack in Sorin Hall.)

"Friday and Saturday for the Team."

You were told at the beginning of the year that when that sign goes up it means that the football team has made a special request for a remembrance in your Holy Communion on those two days. And you are reminded that you were told by the S.A.C. representatives that on Saturday morning there will be a Mass for the team in the church at 6:15. Those who do not wish to be called for this Mass will leave their names with the rectors of the halls; they will not be disturbed, but the rest of the school will be thrown out of bed -- biolently or not, according to the dispositions of the respective representatives of the Blue Circle. "Friday and Saturday are for the Team."

The players will receive Holy Communion on their arrival at Harmon Friday morning; Saturday morning they will receive at Rye, N.Y. On Sunday their train will stop for two hours at Syracuse, where they will receive at the Church of St. John the Evangelist.

Prayers.

Father Boniface Iwaszewski, C.S.C., died yesterday. Remember a special intention.