

Religious Bulletin
April 4, 1929

The Easy First Friday

If you made the First Friday in January, February, or March, you should have no difficulty getting around for tomorrow -- and yet the April First Friday is usually neglected. The balmy spring weather makes you take everything for granted. If you get to confession today you are quite likely to receive Holy Communion tomorrow.

69,554.

Holy Communions during Lent reached that total this year -- it was 731 below the total for last year. Washington's Birthday was just 728 below the figure for 1928, so that accounts for it. You went dumb, your Lenten resolutions were pretty much of a scrap of paper, you couldn't come back.

55.

That's the number of off-campus students who failed to check in on the Easter Duty. We will give them a rest for a while now, as our attention must be turned to the campus students who have been skidding along. There are not so many of them in proportion, of course, as there are more priests looking after them and giving them the timely shove they need, but there are those who need attention, and they will get what is coming to them.

Rich Man's Daughter - or - Poor Man's Wife.

A weighty problem that is troubling many lovelorn youths at Notre Dame is the economic side of the state of Matrimony. In many cases it receives more attention than it deserves; in some cases it looms as a spectre. In most cases it takes the form of a determination not to get married until you can support your wife in the comfort or luxury to which she has been accustomed.

One must consider the economic side, certainly, but this "to which she has been accustomed" stuff is largely the bunk. If she wants to remain a rich man's daughter, let her stay single. If she wants to become a poor man's wife, let her accept her lot and not pine for the flesh-pots she left behind. A girl who sighs for what she might have had, or used to have, or should have, does not pull well in harness.

The real test is a spiritual one. A student has given permission to publish an intimate episode of his parents' life, and we appreciate the permission not only for the inherent beauty of the story, but for the inspiration it is sure to give to young men in love or in something like love. This student and his father were standing beside the open coffin of his mother. An old friend who had known her in her girlhood days looked at her peaceful face and turned to them, saying: "Ann was certainly a beautiful woman." The father turned his head away for a moment, and then looked at his son and said: "When I first began courting her, I said to myself: 'There is the woman who can save my soul.'" If every Catholic young man would say that to himself honestly, marriage would indeed be Holy Matrimony.

Rich man's daughter? Poor man's wife? It makes not a lot of difference if she has the qualities that will help you save your soul. The Blessed Virgin still has many friends who are single; she will see that they meet her friends if she doesn't want them in the convent. Ask her at the Grotto for the woman who will save your soul.

Prayers.

Tom and George Kassis ask prayers for their sister who is very ill. Three special intentions. Tom Cunningham is very ill with appendicitis. Fr. Kohl, pastor of St. Monica's, Mishawaka, died Tuesday night.