

University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin

November 20, 1931

More Objections to Daily Communion --- V

"Daily Communion is too often. Once a week is fine."

ANSWER. Why don't you start your own church? Our Pope has settled the matter for us.

"There is too much religion around here."

ANSWER. Too much religion for whom? There is too much irreligion for the majority of us, both faculty and students. And you can't say you were not warned. The catalog, the Undergraduate Manual, the Eucharistic Calendar, the *Religious Bulletin*, the opening sermon, the Mission—everything proclaimed the nature of this institution before you got fairly started, and while you still had time to transfer to another school. You are an inconsistent faker if you remain here and complain that there is too much religion. We can't expect you to leave of your own free will, however; an inconsistent faker is always selfish, and once his feet are in the trough you have to cut his throat to get him out.

"I break my fast after midnight, and if I miss one day it is at least a week before I get going again."

ANSWER. 1. Did you ever try taping up your mouth at 11:55? 2. If you miss a meal do you stop eating for a week?

"Unless one is watchful he is likely to become careless."

ANSWER. True enough—but what's the harm in being watchful? You expect to grow up some time, don't you? When you get out of here you are likely to lose your job if you are not watchful. When you come to die you are likely to go to hell if you haven't been watchful. You have a good idea there; let it grow.

"When I went daily it didn't stop my sinning any."

ANSWER. Of course not. Why should it? You wouldn't want it to take away your free will, would you? Only two things can stop your sinning—yourself and death. The graces you receive in daily Communion are powerful aids to your will in overcoming temptation and eliminating sin from your life; but grace is only an aid to the will, not a substitute for it. Your will can hardly be so far gone at this age that it has ceased to try; if you are afraid that it has reached that state, better see a priest about it without delay.

"I haven't time for a proper preparation and thanksgiving."

ANSWER. The words of the decree on daily Communion which refer to this matter are as follows: "Whereas the Sacraments of the New Law . . . produce a greater effect in proportion as the dispositions of the recipient are better, therefore care is to be taken that Holy Communion be preceded by serious preparation, and followed by a suitable thanksgiving, according to each one's strength, circumstances, and duties."

If duty interferes with what you would regard as a proper preparation and thanksgiving, you see that the decree permits you to do what duty demands. If laziness interferes, you would be wise to correct the laziness before it gets you down. Let your whole day be a preparation for the next day's Communion and a thanksgiving for the last one. If you *must* leave the chapel early, be recollected as you go.

"I have grown indifferent to everything."

ANSWER. Then what are you doing in college? Get out and wheel brick for a year and you will learn the value of a college education.

OBITUARY

Herbert George Roesener, a student in the Graduate School, died Wednesday evening at eleven o'clock, after an illness of only four days. Pneumonia was the immediate cause of his death. He leaves a wife and small child. The University extends its sympathy to the bereaved family, and his widow, a Catholic, will appreciate your prayers for the repose of his soul.

FOUND

A sum of money was found Thursday at the Grotto. The loser may apply to the Prefect of Religion, 141 Sorin Hall.

PRAYERS

Norbert Backes asks prayers for his grandfather who is to undergo an operation on his eyes. A friend of a student was killed in an auto accident a few days ago; another person recently injured in an auto accident is recommended to your prayers. Four special intentions.