

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 11, 1932.

Does God Feed The Hungry?

From the current issue of the Ave Maria we gather two interesting items which have a bearing on the so-called "economic argument for birth control." The first is an item from the London Universe, detailing a method used by Soviet teachers in driving out of children their belief in Divine Providence:

A hungry scholar is told to pray to God for some bread. The Russian child crosses himself and prays. "What," says the teacher, "has God not sent you any bread? Why don't you ask me?" -- "Please, teacher, give me some bread," says the child. And of course the bread is promptly forthcoming.

We of the faith may expect that one of these children will some day recognize the fact that God is not particular about His messengers of Good, and will remind his teacher that his prayer to God was answered when the teacher gave him the bread.

The other story is from the report of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Woonsocket, R.I., on the size of the families it has been feeding. It was disclosed, according to The Ligourian, that according to size the 1999 families were as follows:

13 children.....	2 families	6.....	89
12.....	6	5.....	119
10.....	5	4.....	192
9.....	21	3.....	263
8.....	42	2.....	349
7.....	60	1.....	348
No children.....		493 families	

In other words, 25% of these families had no children, and 60% had two or less. And don't get the idea that there are no large families in Woonsocket. It is predominantly a French Canadian town, and large families are proverbial with French Canadians. (The five French parishes in the city report an average of 784 pupils in the parish grade schools - a total of 3939.)

We recall a similar survey made in the relief center of one of the foreign districts of Pittsburgh during a minor depression some years ago. A similar result was noted, except that not a single family of more than five children was represented in the bread line. As Bishop Smith said in his remarkable pastoral letter on Matrimony two years ago, "God never sends a mouth into the world but He puts something into it, if we but seek Him and His justice."

To "A Senior in Doubt."

Call for your answer, either at the office or in the confessional. The subject-matter of your letter is not proper material for public discussion, but you need an answer which will be given privately.

MASSES: Saturday, 6:25, in the church - for the team.

Monday, 6:25, basement chapel - for the repose of the soul of Bro. Maurilius' brother.

6:25, Sorin chapel, for the repose of the soul of Al Canepa's father.

PRAYERS: Deceased - a friend of Harold May, killed in an accident; Wm. Mahoney's grandmother; Leo Beaulaurier's grandmother; Ralph Rogers' father (anniversary).

Peter Kern's brother is in serious condition following an accident while hunting.

Four special intentions. -- Mrs. O'Connell wishes to thank those who attended the Mass for her deceased husband, Prof. Eugene O'Connell, and offered Holy Communion for the repose of his soul.