

Benediction each  
evening, 5:00 P.M.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
December 9, 1940

Envelopes for Novena  
cards at Pamphlet Racks

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1500 Happy Mothers and Fathers.

About 1500 grateful students have decided to make their mothers and fathers happy this Christmas. They started the Novena for Parents yesterday. Some started today.

This morning the cold weather chilled the ardor and love of some. If you over-sleep, remember the 7:20 Masses and that Communion is distributed in Howard and Cavanaugh Halls until 9:15 and in Dillon until noon.

There should be lots more making such a Novena which does require some generosity and sacrifice. However, love of ease and pleasure, selfishness -- and sin, too -- shrivels a soul to pygmy size, with pygmy gratitude.

Let Scripture Tell You.

"And he that honoreth his mother is as one that layeth up a treasure.

"He that honoreth his father shall have joy in his own children, and in the day of prayer he shall be heard.

"He that feareth the Lord, honoreth his parents, and will serve them as his masters that brought him into the world." (Ecclus. iii:5-8.)

Another Objection to Frequent Communion.  
(And Bishop O'Hara's Answer.)

"I don't feel that I should receive because I know that I will sin again during vacation."

Answer. If you know that, you must have had a special revelation from God, because most of us don't know that we will be alive when vacation comes. Here are a few distinctions for you to keep in mind:

1. If you intend to commit mortal sin during vacation (or any other time in the future) you must not receive Holy Communion either daily or at all until you revoke that intention and go to confession, for the intention to commit sin is a sin of the same class as the sin intended.
2. If you fear that you will commit sin in the future, that is, if your knowledge of your weakness under past temptations leads you to believe that you will not hold out, you should receive Holy Communion daily and make use of other means of grace to strengthen the will against future dangers. That fear is a judgment of the intellect; the determination not to commit sin is an act of the will, and it is the will that is primarily concerned in the purpose of amendment.
3. If you are practicing daily Communion and at the same time you are planning to commit mortal sin, your Communions are sacrilegious and you are committing the sin of presumption, which usually leads sooner or later to despair -- and if you meet sudden death in that state without the Act of Contrition it will be just too bad. All the prayers of your classmates and the tears of your parents and friends will do you no good.

It would seem from these considerations that the person who fears that he will commit mortal sin in the future is in especial need for the graces of daily Communion. If these distinctions are not clear to you, it would be wise for you to ask a priest for advice on them without delay, for they are all-important for your salvation.

TRAILERS. Deceased: Hubert Hermans; Grandfather of Jack Schroeter (O-C); relative of Pat McDermott (Oav). Ill: Mother of Ted McDonald (Dil); Mr. Timothy Cruise.