

"The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if we knew he would never be found out."

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Pick up your feet--you're dragging them for the President's Novena.

Holy Communion Under Both Species.

The question is often asked whether a Roman Catholic may receive Holy Communion under the species of Bread and Wine, just as the celebrant does? Yes, provided you receive while participating in a liturgical rite approved by the Holy See.

Next Saturday you will have the opportunity to attend a high Mass celebrated in the Eastern Rite--Byzantine Slavonic. A choir of 100 will sing the Mass in the vernacular. If you are free at 9:30 a.m. this coming Saturday drop in to the Main Church. The glory of the Mass--we are told by the Liturgists--is brought out more by these ancient rites than by our own Roman Rite.

If you are fasting and in the state of grace you may receive Communion under both species--Bread and Wine.

Biological Freaks.

We could pound away on this typewriter until our finger tips squirted blood and still default in getting across the idea of the importance of living in the state of grace.

Avoiding mortal sin habitually is the normal requirement for living the basis minimum of Catholic life. Living in the state of grace does not mean we are never tempted. Holiness in life doesn't mean reaching a state of never-temptationism. Nor does the presence of temptation make a man reprobate.

Temptation is not sin--it's the solicitation to sin. It may prove nothing more than that a man is normal, just as a growl in the stomach proves that it is normal and the man who own it wants food.

Saints are not biological freaks or de-humanized monstrosities. They were assailed with frequent and violent temptations, even against chastity. But they disciplined themselves, spent long hours in prayers, received the Sacraments frequently, avoided occasions of sin, practiced great love of God and neighbor through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Would You Live With A Crook?

No matter how alone you think you are, you are never ALL alone. You can't escape the presence of God. But, anyhow, when you think you are ALL alone, use this test of character. It's a very practical one. Anyone can apply it. By using it you can tell what kind of a man you are. We refer you again to the Reader's Digest, December 1951, and to the article: "When Nobody's Looking."

Jerome Weidman tells the story on himself. About 30 years ago, when he attended a lower East Side public school, a teacher gave an arithmetic test to her third-grade class. She discovered that 12 of the boys cheated. Mrs. O'Neill simply asked the 12 boys to stay after school. Asking no questions, she merely wrote on the blackboard 21 words of a quote and ordered her cheaters to copy the words 100 times.

Reflecting on this incident thirty years later, Mr. Weidman insists that these 21 words added up to one of the best yardsticks he has ever encountered. Not because they provide us with a way to measure others but because they provide us with a way to measure ourselves. . . Few of us are asked to make momentous decisions. But all of us are called upon to make little decisions, personal ones that really reflect our character. Nobody will know what we did. Nobody except us (and God). But we will have to live with ourselves. And it is always better to live with someone we respect--because respect breeds confidence. And confidence is much better than reassurance. (The quote from T. Babington Macaulay is at the top of this Bulletin.)