

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
October 17, 1955

These "Revolving -Door" Saints

These "Revolving-Door" Catholics who enter the chapel, receive a Sacrament and depart immediately, are hardly disposed. Nor are they surrounding the Sacrament with the reverence it deserves. They're saints with faulty brakes.

Much of the fruit derived from the reception of the Sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist depends upon our dispositions. But it takes time to dispose ourselves properly -- not too much time, mind you -- but some time.

For example: 1) Take 5 minutes to prepare for Confession. Use 1 minute to examine your conscience (unless you haven't hit the box for months), and use the remaining 4 minutes to tell God you are sorry for all your sins. After Confession, take 5 more minutes -- say your penance; then thank God for His infinite mercy. Finally, ask for the courage it takes to put some determination and self-denial into your firm purpose of amendment.

For example: 2) In your little Notre Dame Prayerbook, there are some wonderful prayers before Holy Communion. Use them. Their purpose is to dispose your mind and heart for the great privilege that is yours. Receiving Communion is the most important event in your life today, or any other day. And the moments after Communion are the most precious time of your life. Make the most of them by a heart-to-heart talk with Almighty God. There are additional prayers to help you dispose yourself properly at this time; and they will help you keep out distractions.

A becoming and reverent preparation for and thanksgiving after, Communion should consume a quarter of an hour. At Notre Dame, Holy Communion is distributed very frequently to enable everyone to make a reverent preparation and thanksgiving during the course of a busy morning. It is not to be regarded as a "Between-Classes" event, or as a "cafeteria-style" type of devotion. The effects of Communion are not automatic; they depend upon the dispositions of the recipient.

Big Fumbles !

Founder's Day passed un-noticed by all but a few. That was the day you were to attend Mass in Sacred Heart Church, and pray for the founders--the good priests, Brothers and Sisters who preceded you here and provided you with Notre Dame. Only a handful showed. But what a treat for the few! They heard Father Eugene Burke at his best, as he explained to them the real spirit of Notre Dame. The Bulletin alerted you for this eventful phase of a Notre Dame education --this chance to fathom the "heartbeat" of the school. But you fumbled it away. Wherever you were, it was the wrong place at that time, because it was something you won't pick up from sportswriters, or the Walgreen Ph. D.'s, or the Rexall Rangers, or the men-about-town who stand on the busy downtown corners passing judgment on the feminine traffic up and down the avenue. The attendance at the Novena on Friday evening was very spotty. And very small was the crowd that turned out for Mass and Communion on Saturday morning-- the day we all show for the team. That team members were spared from injury is due largely to their own prayers--not to yours. Finally, a healthy number came late for Sunday Mass. Our verdict: On all fronts there is much room for improvement! The fumbles last week, were not confined to the stadium in East Lansing. And no one met the team!!

PRAYERS REQUESTED--Deceased: aunt of Father Victor Dean, C.S.C.; grandmother of Jerry Driscoll of Fisher; grandmother of Tom Corrigan (Off-Campus); Mr. Franz Natchway; Sister M. Ligouria, O.S.F., '48; brother of Rev. Francis Boland, C.S.C.; Francis M. Coady, '26. Ill: father of John Marshall of St. Ed's; aunt of John Fixari of Dillon; Peter Gillespie, N. D. warehouse manager (auto accident).

This after noon at 5, in Sacred Heart Church -- October Devotions.