

Tonight: Start a Novena
of Rosaries to Our Lady of
Lourdes for the sick.

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Throats blessed after Mass
this afternoon, and also
in Dillon at 6:30, 7:00,
7:30.

The Clock In Dillon Chapel

Old-timers on campus, no less than students just entering school, should know about the clock in Dillon chapel. It has been there for 27 years, serving a very useful purpose. You may be in a big hurry to get a cup of coffee and a roll before class. You may not have too much time for your devotions on a particular morning. The clock in Dillon enables you to be prompt for your next appointment. It is there for your convenience -- especially for Off-Campus men.

Much more important is the fact that Communion is distributed here throughout the morning -- at 10-minute intervals -- until noon. This practice represents an effort on the part of the University to make it possible for every student -- no matter what his limitations may be -- to receive Our Lord daily. That is the great tradition here on campus -- daily Communion. There's not a student here who can conscientiously say that daily Communion is not within his reach. The University makes it virtually impossible for him to make such a statement.

Do Notre Dame men take advantage of these all-morning facilities? Last year, over 101,000 Communions were received in this chapel during the 8 months of the scholastic year. This convenience explains the fact that hundreds of students leave this campus at graduation with personal records of uninterrupted daily reception through their years at Notre Dame. And this habit of daily reception goes far to explain why so many Notre Dame graduates have continued the practice throughout their lives. It helps to explain, too, why Chaplains in all branches of the service are continually on the lookout for Notre Dame men -- they've learned to depend upon N.D. men for their helpers, and the best example of practical Catholic living from Sunday to Sunday.

It's enough to make you ask yourself if you are keeping up this finest of all Notre Dame traditions -- daily Communion. And if not, then why not ?

Archbishop O'Hara, when Prefect of Religion here (1921-33), made heroic efforts to place daily Communion within the reach of every student. Your fathers remember him well, and took advantage of his apostolate of convenience in this respect. His successors have tried to emulate his program, retaining this routine that has provided the means for a virtuous daily life, and the best possible preparation for a Happy Death -- no matter on what day it comes.

Receiving Communion at daily Mass, is of course, ideal. And we recommend it, because that's the liturgical thing to do. Your Communion should be a part of the Mass. Canon Law permits distribution at other times only on the presumption that you cannot get to Mass. Our practice is not intended for merely lazy people -- but for those who must work, for those who have awkward class hours, for those who accidentally oversleep, for Off-Campus men who cannot receive at any other time.

Now, we even have an afternoon Mass for those who cannot come in the morning. And this invitation to receive Our Lord daily is extended to the 1700 employees on campus, too. But if you can't get to Mass, remember that Communion is always within your reach. A reverent preparation and thanksgiving involve about 15 minutes.

Daily Communion should be one of your most important reasons, and one of your greatest rewards, for coming to Notre Dame. If you haven't taken advantage of this great daily source of grace, of strength against temptation, this infallible pledge of Eternal Life -- then start this semester. In all your life, unless you join the priesthood, daily Communion will never again be so easy and so profitable for you.