

Religious Bulletin.  
March 8, 1923.

The Fortune Teller.

"One of the fellows on our table has a bad habit of rushing out of church after receiving Holy Communion. If you would stop the distribution in the basement chapel between 6:45 and 7:15 it would do away with this abuse."

While a proper preparation and thanksgiving are required for Holy Communion, you should not pass judgment on those who seem too careless about these obligations. You have been well instructed on this matter: perhaps your friend has lacked instruction. One student who graduated last year stated that he never knew before he came to Notre Dame that thanksgiving after Holy Communion was a duty.

The length of the thanksgiving will depend upon each ones opportunities. In a particular case, if duty calls, it is better to receive Holy Communion and go, remaining as collected as possible: Our Lord remains as long as the Host is undissolved in the stomach, which is ordinarily from seven to ten minutes. This much time should be a minimum for thanksgiving and for breaking the fast.

St. Francis de Sales on Dancing (A.D. 1600).

"I have the same opinion of dances, Philothea, that physicians have of mushrooms: as the best of them, in their opinion, are good for nothing, so I tell you the best balls are good for nothing. If, nevertheless, you must eat mushrooms, be sure that they are well dressed. If upon some occasion, which you cannot well avoid, you must go to a ball, see that your dancing be properly conducted. But you will ask me how must it be conducted? I answer, with modesty, gravity, and a good intention. Eat but sparingly, and seldom of mushrooms, say the physicians, for, how well they may be dressed, the quantity makes them poisonous; dance but little, and very seldom, I say, Philothea, lest otherwise you put yourself in danger of contracting an affection for it.

"Mushrooms, according to Pliny, being spongy and porous, easily attract infection to themselves from the things which surround them; so that being near serpents and toads, they imbibe their poison. Balls, dancing, and other nocturnal meetings, ordinarily attract the reigning vices and sinks together, such as quarrels, envy, scoffing, and wanton love; and as these exercises open the pores of the bodies of those that use them, so they also open the pores of the their heart, and expose them to the danger of some serpent, seizing the favorable opportunity to breathe some loose words or lascivious suggestions into the ear, or of some basilisk casting an impure look, or wanton glance of love into the heart, which being thus opened, is easily seized upon and poisoned. O Philothea! these idle recreations are ordinarily very dangerous; they extinguish the spirit of devotion, and leave the soul in a languishing condition; they cool the fervor of charity, and excite a thousand evil affections in the soul; and, therefore, they are not to be used but with greatest caution."

-- Introduction to a Devout Life.

Prayers.

Ed. Slavin and three other students ask prayers for sick relatives and one for a very special intention.

Tom Byrne is very sick again.

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