

Corpus Christi.

This feast was instituted by Pope Urban IV, in 1264, as a boon to frequent communicants, who were numerous at that time. It is the most beautiful public act of faith in the Blessed Sacrament to be found in the liturgy of the Church.

Notre Dame and the Blessed Sacrament.

Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament has always been characteristic of Notre Dame. Father Sorin began nocturnal adoration here seventy years ago. The Eucharistic Congress of the United States was organized here twenty-seven years ago. The members came back here for the Silver Jubilee Congress two years ago. The apse of the church (the part behind the main altar) was designed for perpetual adoration. Study the altar, which is as a repository of the Blessed Sacrament; and the windows which picture the devotion to the Sacred Heart. Perpetual adoration will come.

Daily Communion at Notre Dame.

It began among the students twelve years ago, in Carrol Hall, and spread rapidly to the rest of the campus. Statistics have been kept for the past four years. There were 98,000 Communions in 1919-20; 119,000 the following year; last year 146,000; and this year the figure will pass 16,000.

This Year and Last.

The average daily attendance this year will be about 658. Last year it was 600.6. The average daily enrollment of Catholic students for this year (making allowance for discontinuances, the late opening of Freshman Hall, absences, etc.) will be about 1320. This means that the average number of communicants per student per week established last year (3.5) will be continued this year. In other words, on the average, every student has received Holy Communion every other day.

Reasons for Gratification.

Although this is the first year that has not shown a proportionate increase in the number of Holy Communions, there are many reasons for gratification:

1. There were three times as many dances this year as last, and the religious discipline was freer; consequently, the devotion of the students required more voluntary sacrifice.
2. While none of the high points of last year were approached this year in spite of the larger student body, the low points were much higher than last year; devotion was sustained;
3. Although the Saturday Mass in honour of the Blessed Virgin was neglected, largely as a result of Friday night dances, Sunday Communion came into its own.