

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

January 14, 1924.

Power of Endurance

How long can you stand it to remain in mortal sin? Some people can last a day, some a week, some a month, some can go on for years without their conscience driving them to confession -- knowing all the time that if they die in that state they will go straight to hell. You are safe when you can't remain in mortal sin one minute without being worried sick.

Bolstering Up Endurance.

The commonest way of fortifying the power of endurance is looking for arguments against the existence of hell. Whenever a Catholic starts reading atheist literature you can set it down ninety-nine times out of a hundred that he is trying to silence his conscience on mortal sin. One of the finest collections of atheistic books in the country belongs to a Notre Dame graduate who married out of the Church. He is still buying: he hasn't found the right thing yet to silence his conscience -- and he won't till he buys a catechism.

Why waste All That Energy?

The fight against conscience is the most foolish fight in the world -- nine times out of ten you can't silence your conscience, and the tenth man who succeeds, loses everything. It is so much easier to kill your pride and go to confession -- and release all that energy for something useful.

On Knowing More Than The Pope.

Like the Chicago Tribune, many conscientious students know more than the Pope. They have all sorts of unanswerable objections to daily Communion. They should remember that an obedient Catholic accepts authority and that has settled the matter of dispositions. Pope Pius laid down two conditions:

1. The state of grace.
2. A right intention.

If you are honest and have an objection which you honestly believe valid, you will seek advice: ask about it in confession or mail it to the Bulletin. If you still continue to talk about it, your friends can put it down that you are dishonest.

Urgent

James Stuart was called home yesterday by the serious illness of his sister.

John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,
Prefect of Religion.