

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.
Feb. 4, 1925.

"Where Have I Seen That Face Before?"

One gets a strange thrill blessing throats. It is quite an experience to have a long-forgotten face turn up at the altar rail---for a sacramental, not for a sacrament. You wonder where you've seen the face before. And there are lots of faces you never saw before---poker faces, a lot of them.

It smacks of superstition, this use of the sacramentals to the neglect of the sacraments;---rabbit's foot Christianity.

Is This Indictment Just?

A freshman who read "Neglect of Divine Calls and Warnings" felt moved to write the following commentary:

"The tendency of the young people at present is decidedly not religious, and constant association with young people who have no religion to restrain their passions is demoralizing for any young man. I know this from experience as well as from observation, and God was good to let me come to Notre Dame. This sermon confirms a lot of ideas I had in September and strengthens my purpose to remain in the state of grace as much as possible as well as to take every advantage of the spiritual strengthening course at Notre Dame.

"I have talked with a number of fellows who say they are Catholics. I have seen them approach the Communion rail with all appearances of devotion. Yet when I talk with them afterwards I find that a number of them frankly admit immoral practices and show no abhorrence of the idea of immorality, much less any regret for their own misdeeds. They seem surprised indeed when I say that I have always avoided and loathed such conduct. I ask them if they know the Sixth Commandment, and if so, how they can reconcile their actions with the law of God. If they answer at all it is to claim that they only follow human nature, or to offer some such excuse that they know in their hearts is no excuse at all. They must, if they are mentally responsible, realize that every Communion in such a state must be an unworthy one. How can they recall the words of St. Paul, "Whosoever eateth and drinketh the body and blood of Christ unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself", without repenting and making a firm resolve never to sin again?

"The only possible solution to the question is that they have been in the world and of the world so long that they no longer recall anything, or think at all. Their conscience has become numb. They need a hard jolt, and Cardinal Newman's sermon has the puch to deliver it....."

Questions: Is this indictment just?
 Are these facts?
 Have they any explanation, if they are facts?
 Is there any explanation, if they are not facts?

Two dozen letters should come in in answer to this letter. The matter should be thrashed out. Frequent and infrequent communicants should state their views. The indictment is serious. Is it true? Is it just? Please state your views.

First Friday.

Make the adoration Friday an act of thanksgiving for the brilliant close to a brilliant victory. This means that the monogram men should go to confession tonight or tomorrow morning. The football banquet tomorrow night will interfere with confessions---and the football men should not let anything interfere with their First Friday Communion this time.

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