

Religious Bulletin

April 11, 1927

Go Home Clean.

Your mother's lips -- respect them.

Go Home Safe.

George O'Leary did -- and he went to his final home -- only last June.

Clean.

Wash Your Face -- STERILIZE Your Soul.

Safe.

Why gamble with the tricky devil -- with eternity for the stake.

Holy Week Conduct.

Don't get drunk on Good Friday. Don't dance on Holy Saturday. Don't go out on any wil parties Easter Sunday. The warnings are given because these things have been done. The devil can make sport of you if you give him a chance.

Holy Week commemorates the holiest souvenir of the whole mystery of the Incarnation; it reminds us that none of us would ever see the face of God were it not for the Mercy He showed; it gives us the greatest example of self sacrifice the human mind could conceive -- an example beyond human conception, for that matter, were it not revealed; it takes us into the heart of Christianity.

Make it holy. Don't begrudge God any time, any meditation, any penance, and prayers this week. A sound Holy Week can give you an entirely new mental attitude, can reshape your soul. A happy Easter is made up of a Holy Thursday, a Good Friday, and a Holy Saturday.

Does Compulsory Religion Do Any Good.

This question has come in various forms, including a statement from one who cannot see the necessity of Sunday Mass. It has been answered many times; here's another answer:

Suppose you were the father of an unfortunate child who lacked the appetite of hunger and the sense of taste. Would you compel that child to eat to avoid starvation?

Suppose you were the mother of a child who maintained an unnatural antipathy for his good father. Suppose that each week the good father would make a distribution of beautiful gifts to his children as they appeared before him. Would you compel that unnatural child to visit his father with his brothers and sisters if you felt that sooner or later some gift received would overcome that antipathy and make that child appreciate his good father?

The school takes the place of your parents, who take the place of God, your Good Father. A Catholic school represents to you also the Catholic Church, your Good Mother. If you have lost the taste and the appetite for spiritual things you need to keep from spiritual starvation, do not blame your good mother if she compels you to eat the things she knows are good for you -- not the delicate food of Holy Communion, but the substantial food of sermons and prayers and Sunday Mass; do not blame the Catholic Church if she sends you to Mass on Sunday in the hope that among the gifts God offers you there will be one that will touch your heart and bring you to love God, your Good Father.