

Why I Am a Catholic - By a Third Sophomore

I am a Catholic because, aside from the fact that I was born one, in the past year and six months I have become convinced that it is the true Church. Prior to my entrance into Notre Dame I knew little about the doctrines of the Church and cared less. My Catholic instruction was as complete as it should have been, but it did not take in the manner common to most others. In religious arguments I was inclined to take a position opposed to the doctrines of the Church. Some of my convictions at that time were decidedly humorous as I recall them now.

Since entering Notre Dame, however, there has been a gradual change. On entering the school I imagined myself turning all established religious traditions upside down. But after several months in my religion and history classes I found my old convictions losing force. Prior to this time I had read several volumes that were on the Index, although I did not know it at the time. Their contents had seemed to me to be fool-proof, but one by one they were brought up and disposed of.

I believed, for example, that all priests were laboring under a delusion; that Christ was not divine; that materialistic evolution accounted for the existence of everything; that the Mass was a device to keep the mobs in check. There were more that I cannot recall.

The delusion about materialist evolution disappeared first; the others were more slow in leaving, but one by one they dropped off, and I became a Catholic by conviction. (Note.-The three papers on "Why I Am a Catholic" were answers submitted to an examination question in Apologetics. The series is now concluded.)

Don't You Ever Feel Ashamed?

Doesn't your self respect ever rise up in rebellion when you constantly turn a deaf ear to the requests for prayers that appear on the Bulletin? Most of you, it is true, are very good about responding to such requests, but many will let a classmate sicken and die, will let the relatives of students suffer in Purgatory, rather than humble themselves to make a good confession.--But perhaps self respect is lacking.

The Lock-Outs.

If you are locked out of the seven o'clock Mass tomorrow, go to the basement chapel if you want to receive the Sacraments. Father Ward had two dozen there last Sunday. Another note: After the seven o'clock Mass Sundays Holy Communion is distributed in the Church, not in the Sorin chapel.

Prayers.

Mr. George Benaglia, C.S.C., of Moreau Seminary, asks prayers for his father who died recently. Two requests for conversions, one for a return to the Faith, and one for a Catholic of weak faith have come in lately. A telegram from Walter Goff reports that his father is still holding on, and requests a continuance of prayers. There were thirty Communion in the Corby chapel for this intention yesterday morning, and quite a number from Corby Hall in the basement and Sorin chapels.

Mailing Surveys

In sending out Surveys remember that this office sends them to all Catholic colleges and high schools; this year they have gone to the parish priests in the following dioceses: Wheeling, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Nashville, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Springfield, Mass., St. Louis, Seattle, Manchester, Oklahoma, Alexandria, Denver, Fall River, and Grand Rapids. Don't duplicate. The supply is limited.