

Religious Bulletin  
March 11, 1929

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22 Days: 72 Per Cent.

Yesterday rounded out twenty-two days since the opening of the season for Easter Duty. The number of off-campus students who have already complied with this precept of the Church was brought upto 72% by those who received yesterday. This is the most gratifying response noted in recent years.

It may look strange to the inexperienced observer that three weeks of Lent should go by with no response to the invitations to the Sacraments on the part of so large a number as 28% of any student group at Notre Dame. Perhaps a bit of explanation is in order. Off-campus students are harder to reach than campus students, and they have much less contact with spiritual supervisors; in addition, there are among them many who live off-campus simply to get away from the spiritual environment of the campus -- for one of the following reasons:

1. A naturally stubborn disposition;
2. A backwoods fear of priests;
3. A home environment hostile to religion;
4. A small-minded reaction against daily Mass in prep school;
5. A love of "liberty" to do things not in conformity with man's Last End;
6. A sway-back attitude towards things spiritual;
7. A pique at something that happened during the year on the campus;
8. A desire to live on corn flakes Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays;
9. A retarded mental growth.

You will find all these attitudes on the campus, but in much less pronounced degree, especially among juniors and seniors. Town is over-stocked with such cases. In fact, it is really remarkable that such a large number of off-campus students -- more than 300 -- receive daily or frequently (once a week or oftener).

Alphabetically, those who have not yet made their Easter Duty line up as follows:

A - 2	G - 9	M - 14	R - 9
B - 9	H - 4	Mc - 9	S - 21
C - 7	I - 1	N - 2	T - 3
D - 11	J - 3	O - 8	V - 2
E - 4	K - 8	P - 5	W - 8
F - 5	L - 5	Q - 1	Z - 2

Will St. Patrick's Day next Sunday help? All of the Os are O's; only one of the Mcs is not Irish; five of the Ds, half of the Ms, and a third of the Esses are descendants of Clan-na-Gaels, if their cognomens reveal anything.

Perhaps the Novena for Exams will help. About fifty per cent of the probation student living off-campus are on the list of those who have not yet made their Easter Duty. This Novena will begin Wednesday.

Perhaps we will have to wait for St. Joseph's Day, when we will offer Holy Communion in petition for the grace of a Happy Death.

God grant we will not have to wait till St. Benedict's Day, the 21st of March, the anniversary of the death of Charles Casey in an auto accident last year and of Wm. Mitchell in another auto accident two years ago:

Prayers.

Leonard Nalty's little nephew was killed accidentally by an auto a few days ago. Three special intentions, one of them very urgent, four deceased persons, three ill.