

University of Notre Dame

Religious Bulletin

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Objections to Daily Communion --- I

"I am more fervent when I go less seldom. It seems to mean more to me."

ANSWER. Religion is not an emotion, not a feeling. Emotions come and go, and they are tricky; they let you down hard. You may *feel* glorious when you receive after a long absence from Holy Communion—and you may then commit a serious mortal sin within the next twenty-four hours. The emotions tend to go down as low as they have gone up high. *True fervor consists in avoiding sin.* If in your intellect you want to know God better and in your will you want to serve Him more perfectly, by avoiding sin and practicing virtue, you are receiving the fruits of the Sacrament worthy of a free, intelligent being. Don't worry about the emotions.

"I haven't the time to go."

ANSWER. Who gave you the time you have for other things? God asks very little in return for giving you twenty-four hours each day. From 5:15 till noon every day you have priests waiting to give you instant service; and if you want any opportunity that is not now provided, you have only to ask for it.

"I don't get up in time."

ANSWER. Something *might* be done about that if you could only be aroused to the value of your soul. But suppose it isn't? Holy Communion has been distributed in the Sorin Hall chapel at all hours from 12:10 a. m. till 9:15 p. m. To receive in the morning you have only to ring the bell at the door of the chapel; to receive in the afternoon, look for a priest.

"I am not used to it."

ANSWER. When you come to die you will have to get used to something you know very little about, and that something will be either heaven or hell. There are lots of things that are good for you that you will get used to sooner or later. Why prolong your ignorance of the spiritual life? You were not used to Notre Dame when you came here. If that's an argument, why didn't you stay home?

"I am not good enough to go."

ANSWER. All right; sit down and wait until God makes you a saint in spite of yourself and then you can go. Does a sick man wait until he is well to take medicine? Sin and sinful habits will yield to daily Communion if you follow your confessor's advice.

"I am no better for going frequently."

ANSWER. Then study your dispositions. Do you hear Mass when you receive? Are you making the proper preparation and thanksgiving? Are you doing any spiritual reading, to open your mind to the things of God? Are you trying to avoid habitual venial faults? Are you making any sacrifice? Improvement through Holy Communion may come slowly, just as your food builds up your body slowly, but if there is no improvement it is because there is a poison in your system that neutralizes the effects of grace. Check over your faults with the aid of the pamphlet *Perseverance*, and ask some priest to help you find out what is the matter.

"I am afraid I'll become too holy."

ANSWER. The Lord be praised! If you go so high in heaven that none of the rest of us can even see you, don't forget us. If you are that close to a halo, share us a dividend of prayer now and then.

PRAYERS

Roger Healy was called home Saturday by the grave illness of his father. Sam Gibbons asks prayer for his grandmother, recently deceased, and Tom Bahan for a cousin who died last week. A brother of Frank Slough was killed in an accident Saturday night. Wm. Wilson, of Alexandria, La., a student here two years ago, was seriously injured in an accident a week ago. A sister of Jos. Downes, former student, died Friday in South Bend. Brother Hilary, C.S.C., lost his father a few days ago. Rev. John McGrath, of Auburn, N. Y., pastor of several students here, is very ill. Fr. Thomas Burke, C.S.C., is ill in St. Joseph's Hospital. Joe Gavin, of last year's varsity basketball team, lost his father Saturday. Nine special intentions.