

Your Faith Is At The Crossroads.

Four weeks ago last Saturday the total number of Holy Communions received by the students this fall was just 84 higher than the total for the same period a year ago. Then came November. The total last Saturday showed a loss of 5,225 Communions for this year. The totals for the four weeks, this year and last, are as follows:

<u>1932</u>	-	10,000	9,644	8,129	7,716	Totals	35,519
<u>1931</u>	-	11,536	10,730	10,058	8,370		40,744

There are approximately 2550 Catholic students now enrolled at Notre Dame. When 50% of these receive Holy Communion every day, the total for the week is 8,790. During the past two weeks, of course, there was a student trip and a Thanksgiving recess. But making all the allowances in the world, the trend is unmistakably downward, and for the first time in years the Devil seems to be getting the upper hand.

Make of it what you will. Where faith is lively, daily Communion is the rule; it sets the pace for Catholic life. And when faith cools off, it has a tendency to disappear rapidly - and God has a way of giving to those who are more worthy of it. The depression is sending people back into the church in droves; it seems to be having the opposite effect on you. That's perfectly all right with us. If you don't appreciate what you have at Notre Dame, we will be glad to turn our back on you and give our attention to those who want God. Your faith is at the crossroads.

Vera Cruz Becomes Very Cross.

On top of the Vera Cruz dispatch proclaiming state control of births comes another announcing a government decree providing new names for 200 towns, villages and ranches named for Saints or Christian mysteries. Exception is made of the name, "Vera Cruz", which means "True Cross."

This reminds us of the story told of Sir Thomas Massey-Massey's bill in parliament to drop the "Mass" from Christmas, substituting the particle "tide". Sir Thomas was reminded by a colleague that the same principle applied to his own name would give "Sir Thotide Tidey-Tidey." Parliament had some sense of humor; his bill failed.

In our own day we have witnessed the metamorphosis of St. Petersburg, first into Petrograd and then into Leningrad. We may expect the bolsheviks of Vera Cruz to change El Carmen into El Crimen, Santa Ita into Sovieta, and La Soledad into La Suciedad, while El Rancho San Hipolito will henceforth be known as Sal Hepatica, and San Antonio will be converted into Sin Aliento. We might also suggest that these saviours of Mexico visit the graves of their ancestors and hack from the tombstones the Christian names brought to Mexico by the friars who gave civilization to savages who offered smoking human hearts to idols.

How Much Money Have You Spent On Sin?

If you would spend as much on the poor there would be much less suffering among the unemployed who apply to us for charity. And what about the money you have spent on bad liquor? It would have saved many souls in Bengal. "What I spent, I had; what I gave, I have." -- The Ligourian.

PRAYERS: A sister of Chas. Ryan is ill. A deceased aunt of John D. Clancy and a deceased uncle of Tom Nelson are recommended to your prayers. Four special intentions.