

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 23, 1933.

A Protest Answered.

"Dear Father: In tonight's Bulletin you say: 'The man who receives worthily every day and still commits three mortal sins a week would be committing a great many more sins a week were he not a daily communicant...' How can you know that?"

Common sense and faith make that a logical deduction. You may say that one cannot tell what a man will do under given circumstances, that it is a denial of free will to make such predictions. Let's look into the case a bit further.

In the first place, it is given in the case that the man is receiving Holy Communion worthily. If he is, it follows that he is receiving additional grace every day. He may resist that grace, it is true, but resistance is not indicated in a man who receives worthily every day. Grace does not force the will; that is also true. But given grace and good will, the results are bound to be much better than in the same individual with good will but without the same amount of grace. If things are bound to be better with these definite graces, doesn't it stand to reason that they will be worse without them?

Experience shows the same thing. Where can you find a better statement of experience with the Sacraments than is given in the various religious surveys of Notre Dame, in which your fellow-students tell frankly what the Sacraments have done for them. Look over these books (you will find them at the pamphlet racks) and see what the Sacraments have done for others in helping them to eliminate habitual sins.

What practical conclusion can you draw from these considerations? If you have been fighting sin and have not made the progress you wish to make, look into your soul a bit deeper. What hidden source of sin are you retaining? What are you doing to weaken in your soul the effects of grace? Get the aid of a spiritual adviser to help you find these weak spots, and put more intelligence into your drive against sin. The man who spends his time at Notre Dame without spiritual profit to himself has only himself to blame. Spiritual opportunities exist by the score; the Sacraments are at your disposal day and night; spiritual direction may be had in most cases by simply walking down the corridor and stating your case to the nearest priest.

See Tonight's Show.

When you have a chance to see a decent show, make the most of it. Enjoy it yourself, and write home about it. Tonight and tomorrow night, as announced previously, we are slated for a preview of a picture dealing with the history of the Church. The advance notices are good. Judge for yourself. And help to support good shows when you have the chance.

But Go To Confession First.

Again we call your attention to the necessity of getting to confession early if you wish to go before the Mass Saturday morning. Perhaps the Rally Club will have you out of the gymnasium in time for night prayer Friday night, but you don't want to take the chance of missing. There is no reason why you can't go tonight, either after supper in Dillon, Sorin or Brownson chapels, or at night prayer in your own hall.

A Special Intention.

The Board of Lay Trustees will meet tomorrow to discuss important problems affecting the welfare of the University. Pray that they may have divine guidance in their work.

Ill - an aunt of Bro. Philbert, C.S.C.; a friend (cancer); a friend (operation). Two special intentions.