

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
April 21, 1934

Questions From the Questionnaire.

38. What are special intentions on the Bulletin?

Ans. Miscellaneous matters. Here are a few samples: employment, mortgage difficulties at home, the averting of a threatened scandal, the preservation of purity under grave temptation, vocation, the return of a brother who has strayed from the faith, the prevention of a divorce in the family, the cure of a liquor addict, success in a business venture. You can see from the samples submitted that often these requests are urgent matters. Always pray for these intentions. You may want prayers yourself some day.

39. Is it wrong to go with a girl who does not practice her religion?

Ans. "Evil communications corrupt good manners." You don't want to have to dress the kids and get them out for Mass and Sunday School while your wife reads the funny paper on Sunday morning. If she is a Catholic who does not practice her religion, how do you suppose she will get the notion that it is important for the children to practice theirs. You don't intend to marry the girl? Then don't be taking up her time.

40. Give a little explanation of Canon Law.

Ans. A little explanation may be worse than no explanation at all - but we'll risk it. Canon Law, or Ecclesiastical Law, is the Church's legislation for the government of her spiritual subjects. The Church's power to make laws is contained in the nature of her social organization; it was communicated specifically to St. Peter and the other Apostles when Our Lord gave them the power to "bind and loose." -- In case you want an explanation of any specific point of Canon Law, or want to see just what the Church Law comprises, there are plenty of editions in English. Ask any priest.

41. Please give the 15 mysteries of the rosary and show the proper sequence of prayers.

Ans. The mysteries are given on your morning prayer card. If you haven't one, pick one up at the pamphlet rack. The sequence of prayers used in this country quite generally is as follows: 1. On the crucifix, the Apostles Creed; 2. On each large bead, the Our Father; 3. On each small bead, the Hail Mary; 4. After each set of Hail Marys, the Glory be to the Father.

42. My girl is a Protestant, but she is two-timing me. Shall I toss her over although I love her? There is a Catholic girl I like, but she does not love me. What shall I do?

Ans. You wouldn't be doing any two-timing yourself, would you? Your affliction is common enough among freshmen. Spring football is a good cure.

43. What common proof have we of the immortality of the soul?

Ans. Theological proof? Scripture refers frequently to life after death, and the Church has defined the matter in many ways. Philosophical? Here are two: 1. The common consent of mankind - shown even in savages by their burial of food, hunting implements, and the like, with the dead; 2. the universal desire for happiness and justice, which is never fully satisfied in this life.

44. How can a freshman meet a nice girl at Notre Dame?

Ans. Cultivate the friendship of some senior who knows a nice girl and is anxious to will her to someone who will be nice to her next year.

45. Explain in full how to go about becoming a Catholic.

Ans. See a priest for instructions in the principal truths of the Catholic religion. After you have seen these, you may seek admission to the Church if you are satisfied that it is the true Church (provided, if you are under age, you have the consent of your parents). If you have never been baptized, Baptism admits you. If you have had Protestant Baptism, usually there is conditional Baptism with confession and conditional absolution.