

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
April 24, 1934

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Questions From the Questionnaire.

47. Why should the soul of a baptized infant go to heaven and the soul of an unbaptized infant go to Limbo?

Ans. We don't know too much about the mind of God, and we are wise not to enquire too deeply into mysteries. That problem will become practical for you only when you have children of your own and have the obligation to see that they are baptized. -- However, you probably approve of the action of the manager of the theatre who admits only those who have tickets. The child who lacks a ticket to heaven never knows what it misses, and has natural happiness - not supernatural.

48. How often should one go to confession?

Ans. 1. As often as he has the misfortune to fall into mortal sin; 2. If he has no mortal sins, once every week or two is a good practice. Penance is a sacrament, and confers special graces, including the removal of temporal punishment due to forgiven sins and grace to overcome future temptations. Always repeat a sin from your past life if you are not certain that you have matter for absolution.

49. Why does the Church forbid marriages between negroes and white people?

Ans. She doesn't. Most states do.

50. Give a more thorough discussion of birth control. I don't really see the Church's point.

Ans. The law of God forbids it. The Church could not change that if she wanted to. If you want a discussion of the natural law involved, call around for a pamphlet.

51. Are all students at Notre Dame equal?

Ans. Don't get mixed up in these "equality" arguments. They lead nowhere. There is in the world the greatest variety of talent, opportunity, temptation, will power, everything. Get these two notions straight: 1. Every man receives enough grace to save his soul, if he will cooperate with this grace; 2. Notre Dame is about as democratic an institution as you will find anywhere.

52. Why aren't students allowed to have cars?

Ans. For the same reason that babies are not allowed to play with matches. We know one alumnus who insists that his children be allowed to touch the hot stove early in life. He wants them to learn the hard way.

53. What should a student receive from his religion course?

Ans. 1. A passing grade; 2. Enough knowledge of his religion to enable him to save his soul and do a little missionary work in his lifetime.

54. How can a fellow know if he is following the right course?

Ans. His report card will tell him more than a fortune-teller can. If he is in doubt, he may go to any member of the faculty for advice on the matter.

55. Why should one get married?

Ans. So that his little troubles, as they come, will make him forget his big troubles.

56. Do you advise frequent reading of the Bible? What are the advantages?

Ans. Pope Leo XIII granted a special indulgence to Catholics who read the Bible. There is no better spiritual reading; there is no better literature.

57. Why don't we have two missions a year?

Ans. We do. The second one is strung out through the six weeks of Lent.

PRAYERS: Ill - James Bookwalter's mother. Three special intentions.

MASS - 6:30 Wednesday, Sorin Chapel, for the repose of the soul of Joseph A. Smith's father (Boston Club).