

Mass Sun., p. 254. 2nd col. University of Notre Dame
of Saints, p. 660; 3rd col. Religious Bulletin
of living & dead, p. 661. March 21, 1936

Mass Mon. p. 257. 2nd col.
of Saints, p. 660; 3rd col.
of living & dead, p. 661.

Are You Afraid?

Reasonable fear, as Father Hoff told you in one of his splendid Lenten sermons, is the beginning of wisdom. A man who has any sense will fear Hell if he habitually lives in mortal sin, because, as you live, so shall you die.

But false fear of what people will say--this is paralyzing. In the current Survey this question is put to alumni: "Do you frequently hide the fact that you are a Catholic?" Only two alumni flatly answer, "Yes"; 11 confess that they hide the fact "under some circumstances"; 12 avoided the question.

Here are typical outbursts of those whose "No" rings with emphasis:

"When I do, count me out!"

"Never! But I detest those who carry it on their sleeve or carry it as a chip on their shoulder. I would lose my job rather than soft-pedal it or fail to defend it vigorously if challenged."

"Everybody knows I'm a Catholic, and I am glad of that. It helps me do right, for I am conscious outsiders watch me."

"I wouldn't do that for Mellon's, Ford's, and U.S. Treasury's holdings."

"I couldn't do it here if I wanted to. There is a considerable tendency here, and I have noticed it elsewhere, to praise Catholicism and Catholics elaborately. Some are still trying to remove the bad odor they acquired by opposing Al Smith on religious grounds."

Tantamount To Denial.

A Notre Dame man who misses Mass on Sunday, here on this campus, is just a step away from denying the Faith. Such a student is either too dumb or too weak to be a good Catholic, and, most probably, if it ever seems to his temporal advantage, he will fall away.

Loyalty to religious convictions and obligations marks the intelligent and strong character. And men of other denominations admit it. Doctor McMahon of the Department of Philosophy has kindly sent in the following story taken from the autobiography of Bliss Perry. Mr. Perry is recounting some of his memories of former President Grover Cleveland:

"His (Cleveland's) account of how his attention was first drawn to Senator White of Louisiana, whom he appointed to the Supreme Court, had the simplicity of a Sunday School story. The President, with a group of Senators, was spending Sunday in Delaware at the home of Senator Bayard. As the party broke up Saturday night, Mr. Cleveland overheard Senator White asking Mr. Bayard if there was a Catholic Church in the neighborhood, as in that case he wished to attend early mass on Sunday morning. 'I made up my mind,' said Mr. Cleveland to me, 'that there was a man who was going to do what he thought was right; and when a vacancy came, I put him on the Supreme Court.'"

You are aware, of course, that Associate Justice White afterwards became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Interest in his Faith kept pace with his worldly advancement. For years the last thing he did before retiring was to read St. Thomas Aquinas' Summa in Latin.

PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of student. Ill, mother of John Koenigshoff (Dil.); father of John Gutowski (Dil.); relatives of Lindsay Phoebus (Wal.) in flood danger.