

When you want to criticize
the Bulletin drop into 117.
(R.I.P.) Mrs. Augustine Rempe
(Operation) Mrs. Whittinghill.

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(Recuperating) Hugh Parker
(Taunton, Mass.). (1st an.)
father of John Mack (Wal)
(Ill) friend R. Houlhan-Cav.

What You Need Is An Intellectual Showdown (I).

Catholics-- and that includes college Catholics-- and that includes you-- are constantly kidding themselves. At least they can easily do so.

Confession each week, Communion more frequently. And still do the same old sins recur? Is there never any substantial improvement?

Where is the kidding? *** Take confession. IT is the SACRAMENT of SORROW and AMENDMENT. It is not merely an institution for telling your sins. It is not merely a psychological laboratory. If your norm of a good confession is, "Gee, I feel better now with that off my mind," your norm is wrong and you had better change it if you want to stop kidding yourself and don't want to wind up in the fire of hell.

Before you laugh that antiquated, Dark Ages, monkish threat off with a hasty shrug, think it over. You can invalidate your confessions-- which means no absolution even though the words are pronounced by the priest-- no matter how exactly you tell the kind and number of your sins IF YOU ARE NOT TRULY SORRY or IF YOU DO NOT SINCERELY MEAN, "I will amend."

As long as you haven't been released from your sins, your guilt weighs you down-- you can't be raised up to the Sight of God. And when that happens forever, it's hell.

But about this kidding yourselves. One of the best tests of the sincerity of your sorrow is the strength of your statement: "I firmly resolve never to offend Thee for the future. Amen."

Make a specific application. (If it doesn't mean you in real life, skip it serenely.) You go with a steady girl-friend. You love her and you believe she loves you. That should mean the two of you have an admirable mutual respect for one another; that you would rather die than occasion in one another a mortal sin. CHECK YOUR OWN CASE. Is your story in the confessional week after week the same? How much do you mean it: "I will NEVER offend Thee again." What do you do IN PRACTICE to avoid the usual set-up, the circumstances you KNOW (from the past) have tripped you into the ditch of grave sin? Have you tried NOT BEING TOO MUCH ALONE? Have you taken safeguards against EXCESS in the legitimate ways of expressing affection? Have you really made it a point to get help from the priest or have you not rather TRIED TO COVER UP or to AVOID LEARNING THE EXACT CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE in these matters which may mean your eternal salvation? Have you ever tried being HEROIC?

Look into your appreciation of HOLY COMMUNION, especially you seniors in Alumni, you ~~fellows~~ Gentlemen of Walsh, you Dead End Kids in the Subway of Scrin. You're forever reminding us that you've come of age or are mighty near it, that you can take care of yourselves, that you know a good thing when you see it and will VOLUNTARILY use it. Last Saturday only 36 of 176 Scrinites knew a good thing and voluntarily used it!

Back to your need of CHRIST'S HELP for your girl-problem: Considering your need for the Bread of Life to keep nourishing a vigorous, spiritual life; considering the ease with which you can receive every day and assist at the world's ONE REMEDIAL SACRIFICE, you certainly do not show much appreciation of the Blessed Sacrament.

CHRIST is the one Person who has the power, the willingness, the almighty, unconquerable LOVE to assist you EFFECTIVELY to court your girl CHASTEY. You've heard this times without number. Yet away from daily Mass and Communion you stay. Don't cry about trouble in courtship. When you do go, TOO OFTEN YOU RUN IN AND OUT OF THE CHAPEL as a farmer's kid runs in and out of a barn, TOO MANY OF YOU ARE NOT MAKING ADEQUATE PREPARATION AND THANKSGIVING FOR YOUR MASS AND HOLY COMMUNION.

These facts explain, in part, why "things bog down." (To be continued tomorrow)