

First Fri. Mass at
5:00 P.M. for
Servicemen.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
September 1, 1944

Are you leaving for a
weekend in the state
of grace?

Rules For Weekenders.

1. The Precept of the Church. Catholics must attend Mass on Sunday and holy days, even though they are vacationing or taking a weekend respite from daily duty. Rarely is one excused from the Sunday Mass obligation because of a pleasure excursion. When one thinks his case exempts him from the law, he should bring it to a confessor before the trip is planned. Let the priest judge whether or not the excuse is legitimate.
2. Take No Chances. Weekenders are not permitted to take a gamble about Sunday Mass. "About Mass? oh, we'll take a chance that there is a church at the lake." That sort of comment manifests a conscience that needs repairs. Taking a chance is serious neglect, and a mortal sin. No Mass, no weekend. No Catholic is permitted to plan a vacation which will place him in a position to miss Sunday Mass.
3. Use The Telephone Saturday Night. When visiting a city in which you know there is a Catholic church, look up the Sunday Mass schedule Saturday night. Ask the desk clerk for the information, if you are staying at some hotel. Ask your host, if staying in a private home. If in no position to make inquiries from those around you, pick up the telephone book and call the rectory of the parish nearest your stop-off.
4. No Late Saturday Nights, If You Can't Rise Sunday Morning. If recreation interferes with Mass, then there is an obligation to change it, or to modify it at least its prolongation.
5. Ask Someone to Awaken You, The Hotel Clerk, Your Host, Or Set Your Alarm. Preparations must be made to rise on time for Mass. It is a serious sin to take a gamble in this matter, too. It's a second-rate Catholic who will not mention to his non-Catholic host that he must rise for Mass on Sunday. If you are afraid to carry the embarrassment of waking a non-Catholic household on Sunday, then seek lodging elsewhere.

Strict Mother Church? Yes, strict in seeing that Her children honor God their Father in Heaven through the perfect adoration of Christ at Mass, and at the same time, very careful to see that Her offsprings take advantage of this wonderful source of grace and blessings.

These Lax Catholics.

Number one on the list are those commandos who come to the 7:30 A.M. Sunday Mass and rush out before Mass is over, even leaving during the time the congregation is receiving Holy Communion. They are hereby served notice that they are guilty of sin. They did a poor job of learning the Third Commandment. The principal parts of the Mass are the Offertory, Consecration and Communion, but there are minor parts and all Catholics are expected to include those in their Sunday Masses. To skip a minor part without legitimate excuse is sinful. And the inconvenience of waiting a short while in the breakfast chow line is not an excusing cause. If there is an excusing cause, the chaplain would like to hear it.

Number two. The architects of the church designed the columns to support the church, not for students to sit behind during Mass. On occasion the only available seats are behind some column. Only when the church is packed may one legitimately take a seat which cut him off from a view of the altar. The Lord would like to see you, and you should desire to see Him at Mass.

PRAYERS: (deceased) killed-2 friends, injured-5 friends of Harry Siemonama (B-P)