

Mother of Bishop O'Hara, C.S.C.  
former Pres. Of N. D.  
died Thurs. morning.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
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If you arrive home  
Sunday, you must go  
to Mass. Take no  
chances. Write home  
for time of Masses.

### Christmas Questions.

Shouldn't visits to the crib be left to the youngsters?

Resp. The angels, shepherds and the Three Kings did not think so. But, you say, they saw the Christ Child in the flesh. This is all imitation; all the eye sees now is a flesh-colored doll. Be careful, It took more than the human eye to see everything at the stable in Bethlehem. The eyes of the shepherds and Magi saw the flesh and movements of what looked like only another baby. What told them that there was never a Babe like this one? What convinced them that this was the Messiah, their Savior and Lord? Their Faith.

You must take your Faith to the crib and see beyond the plaster statues. You must go back in spirit to the first Christmas itself, and then pray at the crib as if you were actually present with the shepherds who came to the Divine Babe on the day of His birth. Aren't we over a thousand years late for the first Christmas? No. Then, in the stable, Our Blessed Savior saw the visit you would make to the crib 1944. He considered you kneeling with the shepherds. What you would have said to Him then, say every time you visit the crib in your home church or hall chapel. The shepherds and Magi received special lights and graces and favors in return for their adoration, Faith and love. The Infant Savior has the same favors for you. Go up to the crib after your Christmas Mass. Go up often after Christmas to the cribs in the chapels on the campus. You are right after all, the crib is for youngsters, for "unless we become like little children, you cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven."

How long should one fast before receiving Holy Communion at Midnight Mass?

There is no strict law regarding this fast. It is recommended that you abstain from food and drink for four hours before Communion time. Since this is only a recommendation, if you should forget and take food or drink, you may still receive Communion at the Midnight Mass. If Communion will be distributed at about one A.M., then start your fast at nine o'clock.

What should I do with the Spiritual Bouquet card left in my room?

That's for your mother and father. Without doubt you are praying for them in some special way, as every good son should. But your folks deserve to know what you have done for them. It gives them an extra thrill and satisfaction to get proof that you remember them in prayer. Even your father will be touched by this token of your love, though he might not display his appreciation before you. If you have heard a number of Masses for your folks, mark down the number beside "Masses Heard" on the card, and do the same with Communions and the other devotions indicated. You should mail the card home, if you will not be with your parents over the Christmas recess. If you will be home Christmas day, you can present the Bouquet with your other gifts. If you have done nothing for your folks, pledge yourself to a number of Masses, Communions and Rosaries, and then get going.

Is the day before Christmas a day of fast and abstinence?

No, the law does not hold this year because the Vigil falls on a Sunday. You may eat meat and as many full meals as you wish. Catholics should, however, get into the spirit of the day and do something extra as an immediate preparation for the coming of Christ. They should certainly receive Holy Communion Sunday morning.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS: At morning Mass, night prayer, Sorin - all morning, Sorin and Cavanaugh - all evening, Basement Chapel; 6:30 P.M. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: all morning (Sorin), all afternoon, till 5 and all eve. (Sorin and Cav)