

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COMMUNION FAST

1. "Does cleaning the teeth before Holy Communion break the fast? I know that some water remains in my mouth."

Reply: Brushing the teeth before Communion is even recommended, not only for sanitary purposes but also as part of the preparation of the body for the reception of Our Blessed Lord. The fact that the flavor of the toothpaste or powder and the moisture remains after rinsing out the mouth, does not break the fast. It is permitted to swallow one's saliva, and the few drops of mouth-rinse or water or some manufactured preparation, like Listerine, that remain becomes part of the saliva. Only when one is certain that a quantity of liquid, too great to become saliva, has been swallowed, must he remain away from Communion. If a doubt arises as to whether you swallowed enough water to break a fast, take advantage of the doubt and receive Communion.

2. "Do nose drops break the Communion fast?"

Reply: No, even though one is certain that a quantity of the fluid passed into the stomach. Normally the few drops taken as a treatment never get as far as the stomach, but if they did, the fast would not be broken because the substance must pass through the mouth. For the same reason, food injections taken through the arm do not break the fast.

3. "The other night a group of us came in late and through forgetfulness all took water after midnight. We wanted to receive Communion in the morning too, which was Sunday. Could we have received?"

Reply: Forgetfulness does not excuse one from the law regarding the Communion fast. If you recall in the morning, with certainty, that you took something to eat or drink after Midnight, you may not receive Communion. Your good intention is not an excusing cause. At Mass make a Spiritual Communion at Communion time when this forgetfulness takes place.

4. "Does smoking before Communion break the fast?"

Reply: No, but it is highly recommended that you deny yourself this pleasure, making the sacrifice part of your preparation for Communion.

Midnight Mass For Students Making Trip Only

The permission for the midnight Mass Friday was granted by our Bishop for the convenience of the students making the trip to the Navy game. The other students are to attend Mass later in the day. Saturday is a Holy Day of obligation. So if a Cleveland bound student misses the midnight Mass he must assist at Mass in Cleveland.

PRAYERS: (deceased) relative and friend of Frank Tripodi (Far). (Ill) sister of Buck Bustard (Morr), pneumonia; uncle of Jim Fritsch (Ly), serious. 6 Spec. Ints. Hospital reports) Vernon Burkhardt (B-P), serious skull fracture, hopeful outcome if no complications; say a rosary for him. Al Conway is fair. Leo Condron continues to improve.

GO TO CONFESSION NOW NO CHANCE AT MIDNIGHT --
MASS FRIDAY