

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Notre Dame, Indiana

Holy Family's Feastday

Sunday, January 11, is the Feast of the Holy Family, and many families will approach the Communion rail--together. The practice of family Communion has grown in recent years, with good results--a strengthening of the family bond, an increase in weekly Communions, a deeper consciousness of the family as a unit. Partly responsible for this is the Family Communion Crusade. This Crusade actually dates back to 1912 when a small group of students at Fordham Med School agreed to receive Communion on the first Friday of each month. A few years later, the father of one of the boys passed away. The family chose to honor his memory by the practice of receiving Communion each month. On the Feast of the Holy Family in 1950, twenty-eight members of the family received Communion and breakfasted together. Moved by gratitude for the many blessings they had received, they resolved to promote the practice of family Communion. Thus began the Family Communion Crusade.

● Dr. Fidel Castro, in an interview with Fr. Amado Llorente, director of Cuba's Catholic university students' movement and a former teacher of the revolutionary leader, said: "Cuba is beginning a new era in which the Christian spirit will prevail....The new Cuba needs men who are honest and trustworthy. Cuba's Catholics are outstanding for these qualities."

● "The tone-deaf and the croakers should sing at Sunday Mass with the same abandon they use in the shower....The Lord didn't come to set up a concert bureau, but a happy, joyful family." So speaks Jesuit Father Johannes Hofinger, head of Manila's Institute for Mission Apologetics and a professor in Notre Dame's Summer School of Liturgy, in an interview carried in the current issue of Sign magazine.

● At a recent meeting in Rome, Pope John XXIII warned that we should not be prejudiced against modern liturgical art just because it is modern. He said that he personally favors it. Addressing the International Institute of Liturgical Art, the pontiff reiterated that "art, when inspired by truth and beauty and when animated by the true spirit of faith, has a legitimate function."

HOPELESS
DESPERATE
IMPOSSIBLE

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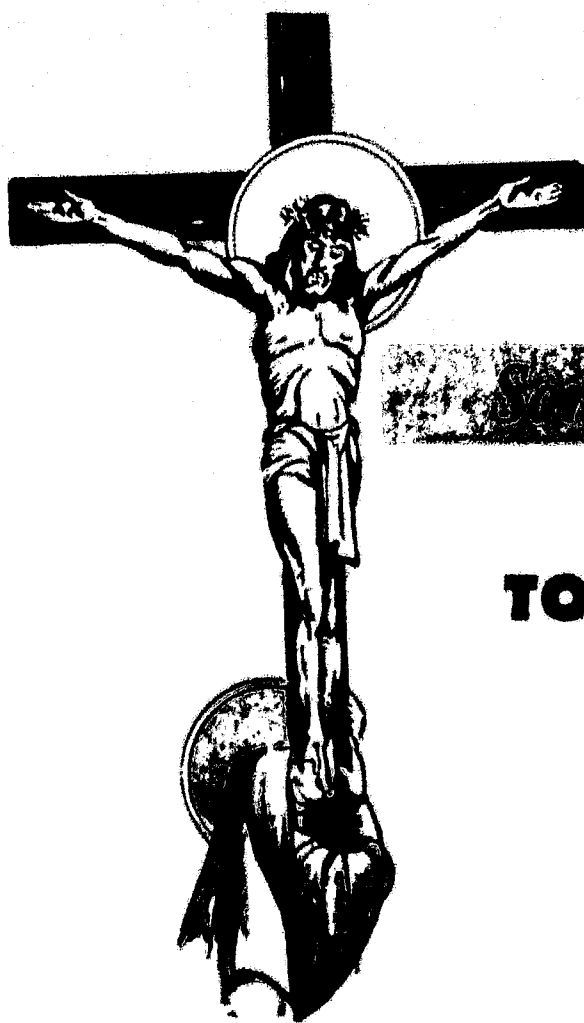
Have faith in St. Jude!

But, if you've been doing your work daily, and are in good shape for the examinations, then you need only make the Novena for Examinations, January 16-24. Make it!

THE CHAIR OF UNITY OCTAVE WILL SOON BE OBSERVED. JANUARY 18-25, TO BE EXACT. PRAY FOR THE CONVERSION OF UNBELIEVERS.

YOUR PRAYERS have been requested for one special intention. Also, for the following who are ill: Fr. Walter Mc Inerney, C.S.C.; Fr. Elwood Cassedy, '38; father of John Hubbuch of Cavanaugh; three relatives of Edwin White of the library staff. And, for the following deceased:

Father of Dick Benkendorf of Pangborn; Paul J. Smith, '16; Vincent B. Welker, '01; aunt of Tom Greene of Badin; Max Fisher; grandfather of Paul Nissi of Cavanaugh; uncle of Dan Scanlon of Pangborn; Mother Bernadette, O.S.U.; uncle of Denis Owens of Lyons; Julia Tarrant; grandfather of Larry Kolasa of Lyons.



TONIGHT AT 6:45



AS USUAL, a goodly number came back to school after the holidays with a tiny high school ring wedged on their "pinkie". What it means is anybody's guess. How long before it's soaped and pulled off is also anybody's guess. As Jack McAllister would say, "Time will tell."

WITHOUT GOING INTO the codes and symbols employed to indicate "going steady" status, I'd like to say something about such status today and Monday. A Jesuit theologian has said some interesting things about it in the current issue of a magazine called, Homiletic and Pastoral Review. We'll cover his arguments Monday; for the present, here's his conclusion:

There is a danger latent in the form of the current attack against steady dating. It is that of making it the whipping boy for the whole youth-dating problem. At least there is the danger of thinking we have solved a much broader problem simply by eliminating steady association of the sexes. In reality we shall have eliminated but one symptom of a whole symptom cluster. Catholic sociologists make it clear that we are dealing with a much larger issue. John L. Thomas, S.J., calls attention to the general lack of supervision by parents and the lax moral attitude of the dominant culture group regarding petting, resulting in the sexual stimulation of our unmarried youth. Dr. Alphonse H. Clemens also blames the practice of prematurely early dating and the ignorance of parents and youth of the dangers inherent therein; the excessive amount of liberty given young people; the lack of supervision by parents of their children's leisure-time habits: movies, companions, parties, television and radio programs. To this can be added the widespread use of alcohol. Since these other elements integrate the problem of

adolescent association, we cannot demand the discontinuance of steady dating as if it were the sole cause of the moral danger. To the extent that it has been blamed for all, or most of the problem, we have exaggerated the reason required to tolerate it and have demanded, sometimes unjustifiably, the prospect of marriage.

What is required is a total reorganization of the pattern of youth association involving the elimination of too early association of the sexes, of undue liberty given them, etc. This in turn requires a program of education of youth and parents alike, in which church, school and family co-operate. We are looking for an easy way out if we hope for the abolition of steady dating by holding the big stick of mortal sin over young heads.

I oppose, in general, steady dating among adolescents. But I also oppose that oversimplified solution which consists in teaching that all young people place themselves in a proximate occasion of serious sin by dating steadily; that marriage within a reasonable time is the sole cause which permits this danger to their virtue.

FATHER SPRINGER, the author, says there is reason to doubt that for most young people steady dating is a proximate occasion of sin. The reason for this, he says, is that the association of the same two individuals does not continue, usually, for a sufficient time. I've no intention of wishing you any misfortune in your love-life, but I do hope that your steady dating is not a proximate occasion of sin for you. But more about that on Monday.

John Boorman, c.s.c.
Prefect of Religion