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BULLETIN

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Office of University Ministry
University of Notre Dame

FULL COMMUNION

Around the Table of the Lord

Mary Romer Cline



When I say these words, what comes to your mind? "ADMISSION, RECEPTION, WELCOME." Perhaps you think of your first contacts with this University as an incoming student. Perhaps you think of joining your colleagues as a new faculty member or member of the staff.

ADMISSION, RECEPTION, WELCOME. These are the words the Roman Catholic Church uses to describe the process of receiving a baptized Christian into "FULL COMMUNION" with the Catholic Church.

Aha! A "convert?" Well, not really. Vatican II's Decree on Ecumenism states that "All who have been justified by faith in baptism are members of Christ's Body and have a right to be called Christian and so are correctly accepted as brothers and sisters by the children of the Catholic church." The term "convert" properly refers to one who comes from unbelief to Christian belief. Perhaps you have heard of the R.C.I.A., the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults which is the process of Christian initiation through baptism, confirmation and eucharist into the body of Christ.

What then is involved in the admission, reception, and welcome of an already baptized person into the Roman Catholic Church, termed "full communion?" How can we keep from confusing it with the process of Christian initiation?



Admission, Reception, and Welcome. By decree of Vatican II and Pope Paul IV, the "Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians into Full Communion with the Catholic Church" was revised. This revised rite of 1972 avoids anything which has the appearance of triumphalism, and expresses not conversion, but rather, (you guessed it) "admission, reception, and welcome into the fullness of Catholic Communion." FULL COMMUNION is culminated in the celebration of the liturgy of the Eucharist and the reception of the Eucharist for the first time with members of the Catholic community!

It is expected that this rite take place at a Sunday Liturgy of a local church, so that the "full significance of entrance into communion" may be expressed, and so that the "whole Christian community" may express its welcome and unity.

UNITY - which is expressed around the table of the Lord. As St. Paul states, "Because the loaf of bread is one, we, many though we are, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf." (1 Cor. 10:17) We encounter the Lord and each other as a community in the liturgy. In addition, as a community, we struggle to express the central mystery of our faith, the death and resurrection of Jesus. "Every time, then, you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes!" (1 Cor. 11:26)

Together, we continually celebrate our baptism and our ongoing journey of faith around the table of the Lord. No other community action has this capacity to express or to effect our unity in the mystery of our shared faith. Admission, Reception, and Welcome to Full Communion... Is it any wonder that it culminates in the celebration of the liturgy of the Eucharist?



Welcome to Full Communion of the Catholic Church, Sunday, April 6th
at the 12:15 Mass, Sacred Heart Church

Janel Blount - Diedre Drehmel - Michael Favorite - Jeff Fiocchi
Christopher Gates - Paula Gates - Kevin Hayes - Scott Taylor
Cynthia Heeter - Judy Jenss - Julie Kelly - Chris Knilans
John Kucela - Jeff McDermott - Christine Shelver - Lincoln Stone

"I am very anxious to be accepted into the Catholic Church, to start expanding my knowledge about God and growing in my relationship with him."

Chris Knilans

"A void which had previously existed within my heart has begun to be filled. I know now that I have selected the right path and I wish to continue on this path with confidence, faith, and love of God."

Diedre Drehmel

"If I have learned nothing else, it is that our faith is not something we put on for Sundays prior to attending Mass and take off soon thereafter. I hope that my faith will truly be part of my life every day, every minute, and that it will touch those people with whom I come in contact each day."

Michael Favorite



K of C Blues Brothers Change Shakedown

APRIL 13

Proceeds to
PSB - Logan Center
Protective Services Board
of St. Joseph County

FOR SENIORS ONLY

IS THERE LIFE AFTER COMMENCEMENT?
directed by

Mary Ann Roemer, Jo Giarrante, osf, Cate O'Hare
when

APRIL 18-20
where

CROWE'S HOUSE - MI
contact

UNIVERSITY MINISTRY
sign-up deadline

APRIL 14, 1986

OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY MINISTRY



Be
STILL
and know
that I am
God
retreat