Don't Take It Out On Our Lord.

And don't take it out on the priest. You don't realize how you embarrass him. Take it out on yourself.

Sure, Christ understands and so does the priest that these days of exams make you jittery. It is evident that you've been burning lights till twelve and one. There's no kick at your taking an extra sleep in the morning.

But don't take it out on our Lord! When you do come around for Holy Communion, for His sake, don't run down the aisle, trip back to your seat, make a nervous sign of the cross, call that your thanksgiving and then dart out for a cup of coffee. That isn't courtesy to Christ. In your haste— which makes waste (and that adage is very true)— you waste the most precious thing in this life: God's grace.

How do you embarrass the priest, you ask? Picture the scene. He has just turned around to distribute Communion. Two men who have been making a devout preparation kneel at the rail. Then you burst through the door of the chapel, out of breath. The priest has the Host in his hand, has just finished saying "Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world," approaches the rail to add "May the Body of Our Lord Jesus Christ keep your soul unto life everlasting." During these sacred prayers, and with Christ in his hands, the priest is not going to wave you aside, is not going to yell "Whoa." He credits you as a college man and a Catholic with sense and reverence and personal love enough toward the Person of Christ to take your time. The priest would much rather, a thousand times, open and close the tabernacle again and repeat the prayers just for you.

So please! When you come to Communion, stop rushing. Five minutes at least for preparation. You spend hours a day with yourselves and your friends. Five minutes at least of thoughtful, prayerful reflection: Who comes? Why? What has He done for me. Or, much truer, what HASN'T He done for me? He made you. He died for you on the Cross. He lives for you in the tabernacle. He waits for you in Eternity. He is your very best friend. Thomas the Apostle prostrated himself, after he had been doubtful and irreverent. Humble and penitent, realizing at last the great truth, he exclaimed: "My Lord and My God!" St. Francis of Assisi went further: "My God and My All!" And is seven minutes too much to ask as minimum for thanksgiving?

After Exams.

When things are back to normal again, lay more emphasis on the Mass. Incidentally, don't anyone pull a McGutzky and go on a weekend spree. You've been asking Christ's help and His Mother's. Don't relax now, ungratefully, by leaving them by themselves. That's what you do when you plan a bad weekend. Beginning Sunday try to make Mass the big thing in your daily life. In reality, since it is the Cross repeated, it is the big thing in your life. The Cross is your only hope of salvation: the Sacrifice in itself and the philosophy of "the hard rough way" of Calvary imitated in your own every day routine. Start the day, from now on, with the whole Mass. Mass is, by all means, the most logical place to receive your Holy Communions. At the Mass you will learn to know Christ. Learning to know Him, you'll love Him. When you love Him, you will walk through life with Him. Let your motto be: "Jesus and I." It meant the world to the saints. More from now on concerning the MASS!

The Denver Register.

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