Question: What about daylight-saving time in regard to the Eucharistic fast? How does it work here?

Reply: You may eat solids until 1 a.m. by our clocks now. You may even eat meat on Thursday evening until 1 a.m. Friday, during the time of year that daylight-saving is in effect. The reason: it is not yet Friday according to the natural, sun time.

You may also gauge your day according to daylight-saving time. For example, you may eat meat after midnight on Friday night, reasoning that Saturday has begun, and that the Friday abstinence is no longer binding.

But you cannot burn the candle at both ends. For example, you cannot reason that on Friday night at 12:01 it is no longer Friday, eat meat — then reason that it is not yet Saturday according to sun-time, and so receive Communion on Saturday morning.

You cannot say it is Saturday in one breath; and in the next breath say it is still Friday. In any 24-hour period, you must choose either sun-time, or daylight-saving time, and abide by that reckoning.

If The Shoe Fits ----

After Communion the real Presence of Our Lord lasts as long as the appearance of bread remains --- say 7 to 10 minutes.

St. Philip Neri once noticed that a young friend of his was in the habit of receiving Communion, and almost immediately getting up and going out. So, one morning Father Philip fetched from the sacristy two altar boys with lighted candles and told them to accompany the young man home, one on each side of him. Naturally, the young man stopped and asked the boys what in the world they were doing.

"Father Philip sent us to escort you home," they innocently observed.

Going back into church, the young man found Father Philip and asked for an explanation. "When the priest is carrying the Blessed Sacrament," said the saint, "he is accompanied by two acolytes with the lighted candles; and it seemed to me the same escort is due to anyone who is carrying the Blessed Sacrament in his breast."

The young man stayed and made his thanksgiving.

A Tip To The Lovelorn On A Spring Day

Oh it's easy to sing
When you're having your fling
And all's in accord with your wishes,

But the girl for a king
Is the girl who can sing
When she's washing and wiping the dishes!

--(The Queen's Work)