How About Chewing Gum, Hard Candy, Etc.?

Query: Must one abstain from chewing gum, hard candy, etc., for 3 hours before receiving Communion? They are not swallowed until entirely dissolved in the mouth.

Reply: Anything taken into the mouth as a solid, whether swallowed whole, chewed, or dissolved in the mouth, is a solid food. Chewing gum and candies are solids, and enter the mouth as such. Hence, they come under the rule that "solids taken in any quantity within three hours before Communion break the fast."

However, the fact that you must not put solids into your mouth within three hours before receiving Communion does not mean that you must swallow the solids three hours before Communion.

A Holy Send-Off

Tomorrow evening at 7:30, in Sacred Heart Church, we bid Goodbye to a segment of the Notre Dame family -- this year's contingent of Holy Cross missionaries bound for Bengal. It takes solid stuff to be a missionary. This send-off won't have the noise, or the flares, or the cheering of a pep rally; but it will be a stirring sight. And you'll be mingling with the nobility of the Lord. And their heroism will bring God's blessing not only on their own labors, but also upon us who are likewise part of the Notre Dame family.

Ever stop to think of the blessings that have come to Notre Dame -- how good God and His Blessed Mother have been to us? It could be, you know, that many of these blessings are earned by that portion of our family not even on the scene here. That's the way God works at times -- one sows, and another reaps the harvest! That's why we should all be interested in our missions; and why we should be present tomorrow evening to give them a holy send-off.

First Friday Coming Up

Friday of this week is the first Friday of the month -- the day on which Our Lord strongly recommends that we make reparation for our sins; and that we pray for the grace of a Happy Death. October is an excellent month to start making the Nine First Fridays. And there will be Adoration, too, in the Lady Chapel all day - from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Pick out a convenient half-hour and spend it there before the Blessed Sacrament -- in reparation for past sins, and in petition for the graces you will need this semester. Canvassers will rap on your door tonight.

Here's Your Chance

Do you know of any non-Catholics interested in the Faith? Tell him, or her, about Father O'Brien's Inquiry Class beginning next Monday evening (7:30) at the Fatima Retreat House. Better still, come along with the inquirer to the initial meeting. Attendance does not mean that a non-Catholic is committed to entering the Church. It is merely an opportunity for such a one to discover what the Catholic Church believes and teaches.

Don't Forget: We begin the Sorrowful Mother Novena this Friday evening at 6:45.

FRAYERS REQUESTED - Deceased: Frank McCarthy, '25; mother of Bernard Niezer, '37; father of Mike Canavan of Morrissey; John Egan, '55; Ray Reuland, '33; cousin of Father Leo Ward, CSC. Ill: grandmother of Tom Burick of Vetville; father of John Landry of Howard; friend of Mike Leyden of Alumni; friend of Ralph Dana of Howard. 3 sp. int's.