

SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION

Why do you go or not for Sunday Mass?

Note:

The jottings here below were taken from a Spanish Religious Magazine. They were the result of a survey conducted among a large number of youth about *The Sunday Mass Obligation*.

Only two questions were given to the youth:

First : For those who regularly go for Sunday Mass: _____

“Why do you go for Sunday Mass?”

Second: For those who regularly do not go for Sunday Mass

“Why do you not go for Sunday Mass?”

Some of their answers were collared as given below.

WHY DO YOU GO FOR SUNDAY MASS?

1. Because my family members go.
2. Because it is compulsory.
3. Because if I do not, I feel guilty.
4. Because my friends go.
5. Because I like to go.
6. Because I have always gone.
7. Because I find it meaningful.
8. Because I gain a lot from it
9. Because my girl friend goes.
10. Because I decided to go
11. Because if I do not go, my parents shout at me.
12. Because it makes me feel close to God.
13. Because at Mass I can pray.
14. Because at Sunday Mass I meet my friends.
15. Because otherwise I may become a lapsed catholic.
16. Because I like the priests of my parish.
17. Because it makes me feel part of the Parish Community.
18. Became If I do not go, people will talk about me
19. Because, to tell the truth I do not know why I go.

WHY DO YOU NOT GO FOR SUNDAY MASS.

1. Because it is boring.
2. Because it is meaningless.
3. Because I have no time
4. Because on Sundays I want to rest.

5. My parents hardly ever go for Mass, why should I?
6. Because when I was in school or in the boarding, they forced us to go for Mass every day. I heard already enough Masses for the rest of my life!
7. Because I get nothing out of it. It's a waste of time.
8. Because the sermons are too long.
9. Because I do not want to be a hypocrite
10. Because it does not make a difference in my life.
11. Because my friends do not go.
12. Because if I go, my companions make fun of me.
13. Because I do not like our priests.
14. Because Sundays are days of rest.
15. Because I do not like others to decide what I should do.
16. Because the priests preach one thing and do the opposite.
17. Because I wonder how any one can make it compulsory for me.
18. Because I can pray at home as well.
19. Because I go already for Mass on some week days.

Suggestions on how to use the jotting above.

The replies above given by the youth, may offer you a beautiful chance of discussing with the them – and even with grown ups – the points hinted below and other similar ones.

1. How did the actual Mass come to be what it is? What is its history and development?
2. The structure of the Mass and its different parts.
3. How to find meaning in our Mass Celebrations?
4. How to participate in the Mass with profit?
5. Should Sunday Mass attendance be made obligatory or not? Give your reasons for and against it.
6. The Sacraments and the sacramental system?
7. The need man has for rituals and rites - at all levels (religious, family, social, political cultural, national, etc.)
8. What's the meaning and function of the Liturgy and of religious rituals? Are they necessary? Why? What are their dangers? How to avoid them?
9. Common Christian Worship is wanted to preserve our Christian identity.
10. If in today's modern world, Christian community worship and Sunday Celebrations would disappear, Christianity would be doomed
Someone said: It is not that the Jews that kept the Sabbath; it is the Sabbath that kept the Jews as a people. The same could be said of our old Traditional Christian Communities

People who pray together stay together

