



# Morrissey Manor

## Official Freshman Handbook

2016-2017 Edition



# FOREWORD

Newest Members of the Morrissey Family,

This year is a momentous year. You've survived graduated high school. You are heading to one of the best and most prestigious Universities in all of these blessed fifty states. You have been blessed with being chosen as a brother of Morrissey Manor, a blessing others both covet and fear.

The lesser dorms of Notre Dame have good reason to fear. Morrissey has a tradition of academic, spiritual, athletic, and social success and has been a campus-wide leader in all four of these aspects over the course of its history. And, being a future Manorite, we expect nothing less than your utmost effort in expanding Morrissey's impact on our Irish brothers and sisters.

This Freshman Handbook was purposefully designed by your Manor Welcome Team to provide a resource for you in your first year at Notre Dame. In it, we hope you will find answers and assurances to all of your questions and anxieties.



## MANOR 101

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Built in 1925, Morrissey Hall is named after Fr. Andrew Morrissey, C.S.C., Notre Dame's seventh president. Today, the dorm is often referred to as Morrissey Manor, and is nicknamed simply, "The Manor." The X-shaped cross on the building represents the crucifixion of St. Andrew, Fr. Morrissey's patron saint. Its shield symbolizes the undying commitment of St. Andrew, as well as the pride of The Manor's residents. The symbols seen on the shield signify scholarship (open book), faith (descending dove), brotherhood (harp), and sportsmanship (winged shoe).

The Manor is one of three residence halls (along with Lyons and Howard) which were formerly known as "the Golden Coast." At the time,



the three halls were located on the edge of campus. Designed by Francis Kervick of Kervick & Fagan Architecture Firm, Morrissey boasts some of the most elaborate architecture of any residence at Notre Dame. With its elaborate masonry and tall tower, Morrissey's exterior is most impressive. The biggest upside: women swoon when they see the Manor. 'Nuff said.

## **DORM LIFE**

### ***RECTORS, AR'S, AND RA'S OH MY!***

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Alright, so here's the low-down on the levels of authority here in the Manor:

First up is the **Rector**. The big kahuna, head honcho, top dog, key player, MVP, VIP, and number one in our hearts: Father Ronald M. Vierling (see dashing image) is our Rector for the Manor. Fr. V, as he is lovingly referred to, oversees the entire Manor to ensure that it doesn't turn into another *Animal House*.

Even though he sounds important (and he is), that doesn't mean he is too important for any of you! He will be one of the people (along with the ARs and RAs) that you can always go to if you ever have a problem with anything dorm related (or even if your problem involves something else). If you make sure to get on his good side right off the bat, you'll be set for your time in Morrissey and will have no problems here. Fr. V's apartment and office can be found on the first floor right off of the main lobby.



**Assistant Rector's** are the next line of defense against the onslaught of boyish stupidity that can envelope the Manor at times. AR's are typically graduate students who may or may not have previously lived in the Manor. They assist Fr. V in watching the Manor and can be found on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors.

Because Morrissey is divided up into eight sections, there are eight **Resident Assistant's** that oversee each section. The RA is someone who you can turn to for minor problems that don't need the expertise of Fr. V or the AR's. RA's are like the older brother you never had (or wish you could replace your actual

older

brother with). They do the usual RA list of chores around the dorm, but they also are instrumental in organizing section-related events, like Super Smash Bros. tournaments and section dinners. If you have any ideas for such events, be sure to let your RA know.

You may have heard horror stories about RA's from other state universities, but the RA's at Notre Dame are here to help you, not get you into trouble. This goes for all authority figures here in the Manor.

If you are troubled by anything or have an issue on your hands, make sure to talk to Fr. V or your RA. For instance, if you happen to get in trouble, it's best to tell them what happened so they can help assist

#### **SECTIONS:**

All of Morrissey is divided up into eight "sections" of rooms labeled by a number (based on floor) and combination of letters (based on side of the Manor you are living on). For example, 1CD would be the cluster of rooms located on the first floor and nearest to Howard, a girls' dorm next to Morrissey (you'll understand when you move in, trust me it's not that hard of a concept). As a freshman you will be living in 1AB, 1CD, 2AB, or 2CD along with the other freshmen coming in. Also, there will be intentional sophomore quads dispersed in the freshmen sections. Each section consists of a ten-man wing (five doubles), an eight-man wing (four doubles), and a hallway that contains the quads (two doubles and a common room) of each section. Your section will be the first group of guys you will meet and bond (oh, how you will bond...) with, so take advantage of it right away!

## **ROOMS:**

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Morrissey has the biggest rooms on campus. Not really. In fact, the doubles in Morrissey are just about the smallest rooms on campus. However, don't fret because it is really not that bad at all. You sacrifice some living space and gain a whole lot of brotherhood. You'll probably spend most of the time you're not studying in the lounges or common rooms anyways. You can check out the size of the rooms on the Morrissey website so you are not completely shocked when you get here. The way your room will be set up (most likely) is your bed residing on top of your dresser on one side and on top of your desk on the other. This modular furniture is very convenient and allows you to fit two people in a room! You may not understand right now, but we are convinced the smaller the rooms, the closer you will become with your section mates.

## **COMMON ROOMS:**

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One of the less known facts about Morrissey is that each section comes with two common rooms (a small one for the eight-man wing and a large one for the ten-man wing). These rooms are completely bare when you arrive so be sure to bring along stuff to furnish them with! Some ideas of things you should bring for the common room include futons, mini-fridges, a TV, carpet, and some gaming systems. You should probably try to coordinate this with your section mates before you get here. You don't want to have to scramble to buy everything for the common room during the busy first weekend. They are much larger than the rooms you will be living in and are perfect for "socializing" in and just general bro time.

## **ROOMMATES:**

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By now you have been assigned a roommate (or three) that you will be living with for the entire year. What you should NOT do now that you have a roommate is never contact him and then be extremely awkward when you first

meet in August. Seriously, talk to him. The system is completely random but I have never heard of someone (well, a guy at least...it's different for girls apparently) who has been completely unhappy with their roommate. More often than not he will be a cool guy and will be one of your best friends right away. Talk to him, find common ground, and work on what you will both be bringing.

### **LAVATORIES AND SHOWERS:**

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Surprisingly, sometime during your stay in Morrissey you will most likely need to use the bathroom. If you somehow manage to get around this, I will be both impressed and slightly disturbed. Each section has one bathroom for everyone to share. There's not really much more to say here...bathrooms are bathrooms and I assume you know how to use them by now. *Shower shoes are essential*, however, as spreading your foot fungus throughout the dorm is not entirely preferable.

### **STUDY LOUNGES AND CENTER LOUNGES:**

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Located in the basement, on the first floor, and on the third floor, Morrissey has three study lounges where you can study if you so desire. Rumor has it that several Morrissey residents have successfully avoided these "dead zones" throughout their four years at Notre Dame. I applaud these gentlemen...and wonder how they passed... Furthermore, in the center of each floor, there is a lounge that has several cozy couches and a TV. These lounges are a great place to take a break, watch some sports, and talk to the boys. These places are there for your benefit, so don't do anything dumb to mess it up like throwing a chair out of a third floor window (true story).

### **CHAPEL:**

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Morrissey's own magnificent chapel is the Little Flower Chapel located on the

first floor off of the main lobby. The chapel is in the throes of a half-million dollar restoration, which will hopefully be completed by August 2015.

Morrissey offers daily Mass every weekday at 10PM, Fridays at 4:45, and on non-home football game Saturdays at 11:30AM, as well as Mass on Sunday at 10PM. Seasonal liturgical offerings are also available. If you want to escape the hustle and bustle of college life for a bit, retreating into the chapel is a good way to get some alone time and reflect on your day.

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### **24-HOUR LOUNGE:**

Like all dorms, Morrissey is equipped with a 24-hour space where girls are allowed to stay even after parietals (a novel concept huh?). Morrissey's lounge, located in the basement, is furnished with comfy couches, a big screen LCD TV, and ping pong (bring your own paddles and balls), pool, and foosball tables to make sure you have a warm and homey place to retreat to when it is 4:00 AM and the weather in South Bend becomes akin to that of northern Canada (which is often) but you are not quite ready to stop talking to that cute girl you met from Walsh who is probably not interested in you at all.

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### **YAZ'S:**

One of the glorious benefits of living in Morrissey is access to the most celebrated restaurant on campus, the one and only "Yaz's." Named after Carl Yastrzemski, a Hall of Fame first baseman for the Boston Red Sox and famous resident of Morrissey, Yaz's serves only the finest frozen food to the residents of Morrissey. Yaz's, open late nights from Sunday through Thursday throughout the school year,

is located in the basement across from the 24 hour lounge and is one of the reasons I am thankful for living in Morrissey. It is also a 24-hour space so you



can treat your ladies to a late night snack after studying together for an exam. Try the Zachos or a Hood Brother. You'll enjoy them going in and regret them going out. Also, check out the Yaz's Morrissey Facebook page; they'll keep you updated on their specials and new food.



## **MAILROOM:**

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Among the less exciting benefits you receive for living in Morrissey is access to campus mail. Located in the basement, Morrissey's mailroom is where your mailbox is located and where you will pick up all your incoming mail (if you are luckier than me and actually get incoming mail...). To ensure a letter is delivered to your mailbox correctly, make sure whoever is sending it addresses it in the following way:

**Your Name** (and please, don't have them write "Your Name")

**XXX Morrissey Manor** (XXX = room number, not the Vin Diesel flick)

**Notre Dame, Indiana, 46556**

And ta-da!

## **KITCHEN ACCESS:**

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On the third floor and in the basement are two kitchens every student living in Morrissey has access to. Tired of dining hall food and want to cook up a gourmet meal? Bam! Use the kitchen! Once again, a kitchen is a kitchen is a kitchen. It is a fully functional kitchen with a stove, fridge, utensils, and whatever else your little heart desires! It's also best to bring your own cooking pans as ours have a tendency to disappear. But just remember to clean up after you use it!

## **LAUNDRY:**

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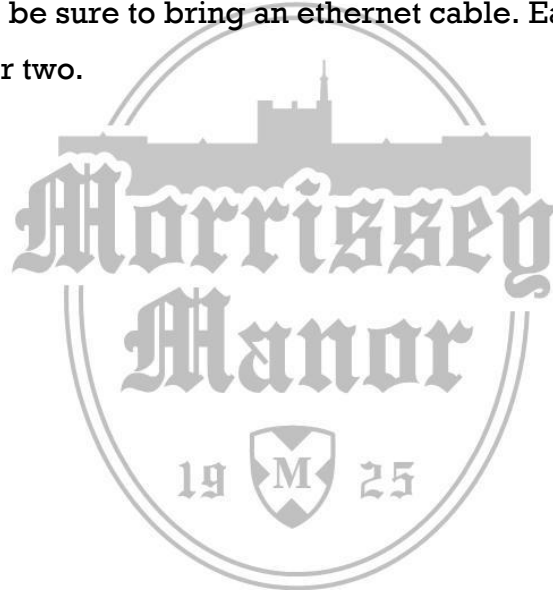
The most exciting benefit of living in Morrissey is the privilege of being able to do your own laundry. Unless you subscribe to Saint Michael's Laundry Service (you will be getting information about this in the mail), you will inevitably have to do your own laundry (located, like most of our other amenities, in the basement). I have heard that all the ladies on campus respect and admire a man who knows how to do his own laundry, so think about that

before you complain. If you use cash, a load of laundry (washing + drying) costs \$3.00; however you save fifty cents if you use Domer Dollars via your ND ID.

### **WIRELESS INTERNET:**

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Like all of campus, Morrissey is equipped with wireless internet. OIT will be getting to you early on about how to set up your computer in line with the Notre Dame network, so I won't both to mention that here. However, take it from me, the internet in the dorm is fast and rarely goes down. If you really want fast browsing, be sure to bring an ethernet cable. Each room has an internet wall plug or two.



# THE RULES

## **PARIETALS:**

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As you most likely know by now through a current student or from reading *DuLac*, Notre Dame has a late-night visiting policy known as parietals. In addition to this, all dorms at Notre Dame are single sex. Sunday through Thursday from 12am-9am and Friday and Saturday from 2am-9am are hours when absolutely no members of the opposite sex are allowed in the dorm save for the 24-hour space. This may sound weird at first. However, you will see that parietals really do have a positive side. While it may seem like parietals are just in place to prevent students from having sexual relations, the administration has made it clear that this is really not the case. Basically, parietals are in place to quiet the dorm down so people can sleep. Breaking parietals is a serious offense, so please be smart and do not try to beat the system and break them. If you do get caught breaking parietals, you risk being kicked out of the dorm system permanently and are subject to further disciplinary action. Trust me it is easy to build good relationships with girls even though parietals exist. If you take advantage of the 24-hour space, make good use of the time when girls are allowed over, and make an attempt to be a good guy, you will have no problems building awesome relationships.

## **ALCOHOL/DRUGS:**

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The legal drinking age in Indiana, like the rest of the United States, is 21. Notre Dame's policy is simple: it is illegal to buy or consume alcohol if you are under the age of 21. It is against the rules to have alcohol in the dorms if you are underage. It is against the rules to have alcohol in the hallways. Alcohol in the hallway, if caught, is punishable by fines and disciplinary action. BE SMART! In addition, abusive use of alcohol – including drinking games, hard alcohol, and the use of drinking paraphernalia – is strictly prohibited. The official policy can be found in the *DuLac* handbook. Furthermore, Fr. V, your RA, and everyone else on campus, will make sure

you know the drinking policy as soon as you arrive on campus. Also, NO DRUGS! It is as simple as that. If you attempt to use drugs in Morrissey or around campus, you will get caught and be in some serious trouble. Don't risk it, it is NEVER worth it. As Tim McCarthy of the Indiana State Police once gloriously said, "Remember: if you're getting stoned, you might hit rock bottom."

### **CARS:**

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I hope you are not planning to bring up your car first semester because, well, you can't. You can bring up your car second semester with parental permission, but even then you really don't need it. Notre Dame has everything you will ever need within walking distance, so unless you have a sudden irresistible inclination to go off campus and grab some food (try J.W. Chen's, it's really good!). Even then, there are plenty of ways to easily get off campus without much hassle. Taxis are cheap, the public TRANSPO bus is easily accessible, and Fr. V as well as many upperclassmen are willing to cart you around.

### **SOCIAL**

### **FUN THINGS TO DO YOUR FIRST WEEKS AT ND:**

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Your first weekend at ND will be action packed and full of adventure. You will be thrust into countless situations in which you and your fellow Manorites will be forced to "mingle" with whole groups of girls. Now even though you may have been revered as demigods at your high school for your strong ties with all the coolest bros and popular chicas, more than likely you still will feel pretty awkward meeting a bunch of new people whose names you'll forget in seven minutes and who are unaware they are in the presence of the coolest freshmen on campus. Despite any sort of social hesitation, it would be to your advantage to meet as many people as possible and to be as friendly and

outgoing as you can. Don't be afraid to introduce yourself to complete strangers (it's what we all did and we turned out...okay), and don't be afraid to say something stupid because most people are nervous too. After a very short while, you will begin to feel comfortable living here and enjoy it more than you can ever imagine. Now to help you out and get you ahead of the game, here are the four big questions that you will ask everyone and everyone will ask you.

What's your name?

Where do you live?

No...I mean like geographically. If I wanted to mail you a letter where would I mail it?

What's your major right now? (Or: how long until you switch to business?)

Try talking about movies, music, or something else to spice it up so you stick out. And remember to always get their number (in the least creepy way as possible) because you never know when they can come in handy.

### **DORM EVENTS:**

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Morrissey is lucky to have a charismatic hall council that continuously puts on events for you throughout the school year. Of particular fondness to me are the "cultural nights" and section sporting events. However, there are a couple of Morrissey "Signature Events" that you will see happening throughout the course of the year. These are the Christmas Formal, the Medallion Hunt, and the brand-new Gilded Age Ball. Of these three the Christmas Formal Dance is the most famous and, naturally, the best dorm dance on campus. However, Morrissey also has its "signature week" also known as Manor Madness Week, where the men of Morrissey enjoy a weeklong celebration of being a

Manorite (more to learn in your first few week). But in terms of campus events, the more participation we get in events the better chance we have of winning the coveted title of “Hall of the Year.” *Don’t let us down.*

### **SISTER DORM:**

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Every dorm on campus has a brother or sister dorm with whom they may do activities or co-sponsor events. Well, actually, there are 15 guys’ dorms and 14 girls’ dorms, so inevitably one of the dorms gets shared. For example, we got the short straw a few years ago and had to share PE with Alumni Hall.

### **WHAT HAPPENS ON AN AVERAGE WEEKEND:**

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Assuming you are not an engineer or architecture student, your social life here (aka your weekend) is what you make of it. Besides partying, there are always a ton of things to do on campus. If you sign up for the many Rec Sports League or club sports, you’ll be able to show off your athletic prowess every weekend. The Student Union Board (SUB) provides a lot of opportunities for you to break out of a social rut (not even sure what that means...). Every weekend they show different recent movies in one of the big lecture halls on campus that get very good attendance assuming they are not Nicholas Cage movies. Every Thursday night SUB hosts Acoustic Café where talented students can show off their musical prowess. In addition to this, they routinely bring concerts and comedians to campus over a wide range of talent and popularity. In addition to SUB, the class councils, ethnic clubs, and theater department will all have multiple events going on each weekend (I recommend the Humor Artists). Don’t worry about being bored on a weekend because, as you soon will see, that just doesn’t happen here.

### **FOOTBALL:**

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Notre Dame = Football. It’s true. Football weekends are absolutely amazing and will be some of the best weekends you will experience at ND so make

sure to take advantage of them. Friday evenings of football weekends there is always a pep rally to get everyone pumped up. These pep rallies are always awesome to go to, especially the first home game pep rally (which for you will be Rice) that is hosted by Dillon Hall (the only thing they are good for...and it's still not that good) and takes place on South Quad. On game days, the spirit of Irish football enters everyone on the Notre Dame campus (including the mobs of parents and alumni who flock to campus) and a magical bubble of football frenzy materializes in dreary South Bend (it really isn't that bad in South Bend...could be Detroit). If your parents wish to attend any games, it is crucial to secure tickets and lodging very early! My parents learned that the hard way... Most of the hotels in South Bend get booked very early, so you might need to stay twenty minutes or more away in order to secure yourself lodging. Since South Bend Regional Airport will be swamped with alumni and other fans, you can easily fly into O'Hare or Midway airports in Chicago and take the Coach USA/United Limo bus back to campus. The bus costs \$35 each way (\$70 round trip) and has comfy seats along with plenty of room for all of your personal and emotional baggage.

### **SPORTS AND RECREATION:**

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Notre Dame is a very athletic community. Sports Illustrated ranked us as the #1 Jock School in America a few years ago due to our RecSports program (which includes the only full-tackle inter-hall football league in America). Even if you are not a member of a varsity sport, the university provides numerous outlets to release pent up frustration through a pretty awesome non-varsity athletics program. Intramural sports at Notre Dame are one of the best ways to get to know people from both within and outside the dorm. It seems like everyone on this campus is involved in some intramural sport or another. Inter-hall athletics, run by RecSports, sponsors all sports from badminton to full-contact football. Morrissey is one of the few dorms that typically excels (or at least competes) in every inter-hall sport from cross-country to baseball to racquetball. As of this

publication, Morrissey is predicted to win the O'Leary Cup. The cup is given to the highest scoring men's dorm in the inter-hall league. Look at the entryways of Morrissey for signup sheets for the inter-hall sports!

Two other popular sporting events at Notre Dame are Bengal Bouts and Bookstore Basketball. Bengal Bouts is a boxing club that trains throughout the fall semester in preparation of holding a tournament in the spring semester. All funds from this tournament aid the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh. Bookstore Basketball is the largest single-site 5-on-5 basketball tournament in the country. Hundreds of "serious" teams compete each year; however some just compete in order to come up with a funny name and make a joke out of it.

Now you may be asking where you can go to work out or play some casual racquetball with your section bros. Have no fear! Notre Dame has several recreation centers where you can go to work on your game and your bod. Closest to Morrissey is "The Rock" which houses two basketball courts, eight racquetball courts, two weight rooms, a climbing wall, and a swimming pool. Rolf's Aquatic Center, the JACC (Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center), Loftus Center, and Rolfs Center are other places located on the far side of campus that many students utilize for recreational purposes. In addition to these indoor facilities, there is a great deal of open grassy spaces on North and South Quads, as well as fields by the Stepan Center and McGlinn Hall. Notre Dame also has a 9-hole golf course located just south of "The Rock." Another beautiful 18-hole golf course is also just a short walk off campus. There are also over twenty tennis courts, indoor and outdoor, at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. If you happen to be a jogger, Notre Dame is a wonder place. There are numerous paths around campus and around the two lakes that allow for a good six mile run with minimal traffic interference. St. Mary's is not too bad of a place to run to either – they have beautiful trails. LaFortune Student Center also houses plenty of America's finest bar room sports including billiards, darts, Ping-Pong and

many arcade games if that's your thing.

## **FAQ**

### ***Should I bring a bike?***

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Yes and no. Yes, because the campus is rather large. If you have an 8:20 AM class in Jordan, give yourself 15 minutes to walk there (not joking). With a bike, that gets cut in half. And being able to sleep in longer before getting up every morning is worth it. However, I would say no as well because with the notorious South Bend weather, you'll only really be able to use it in the mild months (Sep-early Nov, late March-May). And having to lock the bike can get annoying. If you don't lock it, don't be surprised if you see it in the nearest tree later on (again, not joking).

### ***Should I bring a printer?***

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I wouldn't. The printer in the basement is pretty reliable and being on the 1st or 2<sup>nd</sup> floors, it won't be too far for your lazy butt. If the printer fails (upperclassmen may sabotage it), you can always walk 30 seconds to Lyons or Howard to print something. At least it'll give you an excuse to talk to some ladies. Besides, you need to make the most of the room you have.

### ***Where do I bank?***

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Notre Dame switched their sponsored bank from Notre Dame Federal Credit Union (which they have been using since nearly 1824) to 1st Source Bank. This means that all of the NDFCU ATMs on campus will be switched to 1st Source. So 1st Source will be your go-to bank to open an account. This will allow you to withdraw money from your checking account all over campus. Sure beats wandering around downtown looking for a bank.

### ***How's the food?***

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If it means anything, I've been eating this stuff since last August and I'm still alive. Attribute it to my iron stomach or what have you, the food here is above decent (I've heard horror stories from other colleges). It's not five stars, but you will more than often find yourself taking that cute girl from Walsh (who's probably not into you) to the dining hall more than anywhere else. Don't worry mom, the dining halls have plenty of healthy options (three salad bars in South Dining Hall alone). I heard the dining halls run through more spinach than fries.

There are two dining halls on campus, one on North Quad and the other on South Quad. You will most likely be attending South Dining Hall more than North, due simply to its proximity to the Manor (<2 min).

There are also other food joints on campus that are pretty good. Au Bon Pain in Hesburgh Library is really good (similar to Panera). Recker's is a cheap joint on the opposite side of the South Dining Hall entrance and serves everything from burgers to smoothies to salads. LaFortune Hall (by the Main building/Basilica – known as LaFun) is home to Subway, Burger King, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell. Also, LaFun has a little market called the Huddle that sells basic everyday groceries and hosts a salad bar, among other things.

### ***So, school work?***

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Depending on how you start the year (actually doing the readings or playing Super Smash every night), it can turn out passable or just plain awful. Some college students have the skill of being able to slack off the entire semester, pull an all-nighter before the exams, and be able to scrape a high B or even an A-.

It's not easy and not everyone can do it. So instead of experimenting with

your GPA this first semester, bite the bullet and do the assigned homework (you know its bad when you can spell words with your report card). Go to class every day. It's hard for those 8 AM classes, but you won't always be able to get the notes from someone else. Also, the book won't always cover what your profs say in lecture.

Lastly, talk with your professors, *especially if you're unsure with your college or major*. These guys/girls love what they do (they obviously didn't do it for the money) and they love it when you want to hear about why they love it. If you ask them about their dreams, who knows, you may even discover yours.

### ***What clothes should I bring?***

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My advice: **bring only one season of clothing at a time**. You don't have a lot of room in your closet, so being able to bring warm clothes in August, and then switching them out at home with winter clothes during fall/Thanksgiving break will save you room.

Be sure to bring some form of waterproof rain boots too, as giant puddles form all over campus when it rains (which happens often enough to be annoying).

Guys from California, Texas, Florida (represent), or any other warm weather state listen up: make sure to pack cold weather clothes for the winter. It gets cold here. So cold that last winter (which happened to be my first winter ever), the entirety of South Bend was shut down due to the *cold*. Not snow, *cold*. Lows of -20 or -30 with wind chill were common on those early morning walks to Jordan Hall (again 15 minute walk). Be sure to wear layers and always have a windbreaker, as the quads turn into giant wind tunnels where the wind blows both ways at times (don't believe me? Wait until you get here). If you pack well, you may be able to survive the next wave of polar vortexes.

**Be sure to have a set of dress clothes consisting of suit, tie, dress shirt and dress shoes. You will have the opportunity to order the Manor's Blazer which is worn throughout the year on special occasions and functions.**

***I'm too busy to read this whole thing, where else can I get info?***

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Check the website: <http://morrissey.nd.edu> or email Fr. V with any questions you have. He will be in touch with you over the summer and is great in returning emails. Be sure to reach out to him with any questions or for advice!

