

The Laetare Medal

The Laetare Medal will be presented tomorrow -- to an alumnus of Boston College. Only three of the recipients of this high distinction ever came from Notre Dame.

Weak Spots in Character

The man who caves in under sudden temptation has a weak spot in his character. The wise man looks for his weak spots, and seeks counsel in finding them; the poor boob lets them grow until his whole system is infected. A strong character thrives on bad environment.

Environment.

In spite of the atmosphere of grace which pervades Notre Dame, the devil gets in some mighty good licks. The bad spots in your environment are:

1. Smutty talk.
2. Coarse shows.
3. Vile dancing.
4. Brazen girls.
5. Hard liquor.
6. Rotten reading.

Three Young Men in the Fiery Furnace.

God saved his three servants who trusted in Him when the king of Babylon thrust them into the fiery furnace. But bear in mind that they were thrust in; they didn't attempt suicide.

It would take more than the power of God to preserve the purity of any young man who would thrust himself in among the coals listed above. This is said not in blasphemous jest but in sober truth. God would have to take away free will in order to preserve purity in one who thrust himself in the occasion of sin.

The Firm Purpose of Amendment.

One of the great graces of absolution is protection against future temptation. But the words of absolution are of no avail -- there is no grace, nothing but a sacreligious confession -- if the penitent has not the firm purpose to avoid sin, and its occasions.

Novena for Exams

Start tomorrow at the latest.

John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,
Prefect of Religion.