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Your Last Chance To Reject Grace.

There was an accident yesterday morning - one of those reminders we seem to need from time to time that death is no respecter of youth. By the grace of God it did not end fatally, and the physician's report seems to indicate that the two students most seriously injured will have a good recovery.

Such events show the wisdom of Notre Dame's plan. When you are told on your entrance to this school that our first principle of education is that it will profit you nothing to gain the whole world if you suffer the loss of your soul, a great many of you heed this warning for a week and no more. When the mission is over so are a great many good resolutions.

How many of you have been faithful to daily Communion through the year - throughout your four years here? A goodly number, it is true, but how many of you there are who, like the grain that fell by the wayside, believe for a time and then fall away, distracted by the silly attractions of the world!

The responsibility of the Notre Dame man is something terrifying, if you stop to analyze it. Nowhere in the world, probably, have secular students to pursue diversified subjects with so much opportunity for an intense religious life. It is not only opportunity you have - the environment, the example of fellow-students, eliminates the element of human respect that so often interferes with pious practices among boys.

But every grace offered carries with it a responsibility. If you accept it, you get more grace, you grow in holiness. If you reject it, you are not only guilty of infidelity to grace, but you lay yourself wide open to the temptations you are sure to meet, here and elsewhere. No one can be worse than a bad Catholic - a fallen angel who has stood within the portals of heaven.

If America is not entirely Catholic, it is because of the bad example of Catholics who should know better. Non-Catholics, at least those of some enlightenment, make allowance for the lack of opportunity on the part of those Catholics who are ill-instructed, who haven't had a chance. But when a non-Catholic listens to the filthy talk of a Catholic college man, or considers his evil life; when a non-Catholic finds a graduate of a Catholic college a crooked business man or a grafting politician; when he sees the well-advertised Catholic principles of social justice, of marital fidelity, of sobriety and chastity violated, his impulse to study Catholic truth further receives a shock.

This week may offer the last chance for you to reject the grace of daily Communion. It may be that never again will you be so situated that you can begin the day with God - and few of you will again have a chance for daily adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It may be that this is the last chance for most of you to spend every day as a perfect preparation for the death that may come at any moment. Reject this grace if you will, but remember that you do so with your eyes open.

Easter Duty.

Don't forget to say a few extra prayers this week for careless Catholics who are in danger of missing their Easter Duty this year. Next Sunday is Trinity Sunday - the last day. Nine out of ten people who miss, do so because they have an unaccountable fear of confession.

PRAYERS: Deceased - Cyril Curran, '12; the father of Tom Plouff, '23; a friend of a student. Ill - Mike Fox's mother (operation); Brother Isidore, C.S.C.; Father Hoover O. Cist.; the seven children of a cousin of Father O'Hara, C.S.C.; the father of Father Vincent Mooney, C.S.C.; Coulter Gibson's father. Three thanksgivings and two special intentions.