

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION
I'll live in the state - -

University of Notre Dame
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- - of grace so that I may
receive Christ daily.

Welcome Back --

And a Holy and Happy New Year to you.

You return on the Feast of the Epiphany, the Feast celebrated January 6th in honor of the visit of the three Wise Men to the Christ Child. They saw His star in the east and came to adore.

The Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, symbols of charity, prayer and penance. They laid them in the presence of Our Lady before her Divine Son.

Not three, but three thousand of you men return today from north and south, east and west, the shining Dome being your guiding star.

May you be not just three thousand men, but wise men, too, coming to offer to your Saviour charity, prayer and penance, and a worthwhile year.

Being wise, you saw, while home, that your country is feverishly preparing for defense. Your Eucharistic Calendar made preparedness the watchword of the year. Its message applies all the more now that you return chastened with the threat of war.

Prepare!

"Before graduation, you may have to fight for your country; but, come war or peace, you must fight daily for your soul. The weakling in modern warfare hasn't a chance against the enemy of his country or the enemy of his soul.

"This year -- PREPARE. Take the offensive; harden yourself morally, intellectually, physically. Bring into your life self-discipline, denial -- denial even of lawful pleasures. Become a soldier of Christ. Pick up your cross. Want to do hard things for the love of Christ. Then you'll be the man He wants you to be.

"Come war or peace, you will go forth better prepared to serve your country, best prepared to serve Christ, your King."

The foundation for that preparedness is the state of grace. You can't get a Notre Dame education unless you live in the state of grace. No truer word was ever spoken.

Requiescat.

Few of today's students knew Father Joseph Burke, C.S.C., whose sudden death in New Orleans, December 30th, marred the joy of the Christmas season.

Old students knew and loved this genial, warm-hearted and zealous priest. Twenty-two years of service here at Notre Dame, from 1907-1925 and 1933-1937, as professor, Director of Studies and rector of Dillon Hall made him known and cherished as a devoted friend and confidant by a whole generation of students.

Besides his long career here, Father Burke served as President of St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas; and as head of St. Thomas Military Academy, St. Paul, Minnesota. After three years as pastor at Watertown, Wisconsin, he was transferred in July, 1940, to the pastorate of Sacred Heart Church at New Orleans, where his death occurred at the age of 64.

Buried Saturday in the Community Cemetery at Notre Dame, he merits a grateful remembrance in your prayers at Masses for those long years spent in helping to make Notre Dame what it is today.