

Tony Ray was not good, his mother said yesterday.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin

Prepare for exams
by a period or two
of Adoration in Church.

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Sudden Death

They buried Jim Costin yesterday. Through his daily sport column in the South Bend Tribune, Notre Dame was brought to many a fireside near and far. In Jim's death the University has lost another of its old faithfuls.

At the cemetery yesterday an awakening thought came upon one of Jim's friends, namely the suddenness with which death has taken many of Notre Dame's greats. Jim was found dead in bed. In the same cemetery with him, Knute Rockne is buried; he was killed in an air crash. Not far from "Rock" rests Coach Nicholson, of Notre Dame track fame; he dropped dead in South Bend. George Keogan, too, is buried near Rock and Nicky; he slumped over dead one night. Tommy Mills, former football and minor sports coach, and Director of the Rockne Memorial dropped dead in the locker room of the Memorial.

In recent years there has been a suddenness about student deaths too.

Last year, Tom Buono turned up missing, and then he was found drowned near Chicago. The year before, Don Juster was injured in an auto accident near Michigan City. He seemed to improve, and then all unexpectedly he took a turn for the worse and died within a few hours. The year before that, Joe Hailer was killed almost instantly when hit by a car at the St. Mary's gate.

God seems to be telling you to be prepared. Are you?

If you are not prepared, then you are unprepared, which is a more sweet-sounding way of saying you are living in mortal sin. And that ought never to be--your living in grave sin. One habit a person must form is that of reciting an Act of Perfect Contrition when he comes to his senses after committing a mortal sin. Why should one wait a day, or for weekly or monthly confession time? Such delays do not make sense. If death comes when a soul has upon it the guilt of mortal sin, even one, the penalty will be Hell for all eternity.

It takes but a second to make an Act of Perfect Contrition. "My Jesus, mercy," could have hidden within it the necessary motive for sorrow. God looks at the heart and not at one's words. If He sees in that heart sorrow because of His Goodness, or Mercy or Omnipotence, or any other Divine Attribute, then He will forgive immediately all sin. He who frequently makes Acts of Contrition will find it easy to express real sorrow in moments of crisis.

An Act of Perfect Contrition will wipe out the guilt of all mortal sin, even before one goes to confession. Confession ought not be delayed, because the Act of Contrition implies that one will confess his sins to a priest when convenient.

Man can be daring in many ways. But the most daring act of all is for a person in mortal sin to retire at night without making an Act of Perfect Contrition. A person with a good heart will not even close his eyes at night even though he has venial sin or no sin at all, without making his Act of Contrition.

"As you live, so shall you die." And you are going to die, like Jim Costin, Rockne, Keogan and the rest. Will you be ready? Death can be terribly sudden.

PRAYERS: (deceased) father of Bill Castellini, '22. (Ill) Father John Payne, CSC (in Chile); Leonard Condon Sr, University benefactor and friend. Eight Special Int.