

Ill: Joe Boivin, Ed
Dargis, and Herb Kern
(all accident victims).

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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Remember in your prayers
the grieving families of
the deceased students.

"Like A Thief in the Night..."

That's how Death came for James Byrnes and Clinton Core of Dillon Hall, late Saturday night, as they were riding back to the campus. Others from school had left minutes earlier in other cars -- and returned safely.

Suddenly and swiftly the end came. In a matter of seconds the Angel of Death had singled out these two Juniors, touched them on the shoulder, and led them into Eternity -- up before the Judgment Seat of God!

And so we have this terrible truth brought home to Notre Dame again: the moment of death is uncertain; nor is it any respecter of age -- for men die at all ages. And death is one fact beyond all controversy.

As students, you are wont to think of death as an event shrouded in the distant future. These are the years you invest in studies geared to bring success in time to come. Your minds are intent upon a future of action in the busy market place. And yet, even into your ears here at Notre Dame comes the tragic story of Saturday night; and the overtones of the words of Our Lord:

" Be you ready; for at what hour you know not, the Son of Man will come."

It is natural for you as students to plan and to dream of the years ahead -- of life beyond Graduation -- because Notre Dame is a preparation for life, a useful life in an active world. Commencement Day, you are told, is so named because it opens the door to opportunity, and to a career.

But oh, how deceitful can be the view that school is only a preparation for life... when it may be the only life you will ever know in this world!

For Jim Byrnes and Clint Core, Notre Dame was just that -- the only life they will ever know in this world. It was the climax of their earthly existence -- it was their preparation for Eternity!

How Will You Die ?

There is one reliable answer to that question -- As you have lived.

Even a gambler likes a sure thing. And there is only one sure way to have a happy death -- live as you would die!

Sudden death may be a great mercy of God. So often we see in the cases of people who receive Our Lord every morning, a sudden, painless death. It would seem in these cases that the Purgatory of a long, agonizing sickness is not needed; and that when God wants them, He takes them quickly.

Your Daily Life At Notre Dame ...

might be your only preparation for Eternity, too, you know. Death here is a blessing if you are living a healthy, spiritual life. Good men have little reason to fear either life or death. If Death suddenly reached into your life tonight, grabbed you by the lapel, and led you off to Eternity, and up before the Judgement Seat of God -- would you be ready ?

"As a man lives, so shall he die." Are you living as you would wish to die?