St. Joseph is a Good Friend

Last Friday's Bulletin called attention to the fact that St. Joseph is Patron of the Dying. If Bruce Graham read that Bulletin, it is likely that he thought as little as any of us that its message was aimed directly at him. (He probably read the Bulletin if it reached him before he left for Chicago Friday evening, because he never failed to read it. His first question when he returned from laboratory in the afternoon was always, "Where's the Bulletin?" And seldom did he fail to make comment on some paragraph.)

St. Joseph took him Sunday night on the First Vespers of the Feast. Bruce was fatally injured in an auto accident early Sunday morning, but lived through the day.

Friday's Bulletin picked out four virtues of St. Joseph which it proposed to students for emulation. If we had wanted to find the four most striking virtues of Bruce Graham we could not have made a better choice. The four were obedience, fidelity to duty, chastity, and honesty.

Obedience had put order into Bruce's life; he had no patience with disorder. Fidelity to duty was almost a fanaticism with him. If on a weekend the crowd was out late, he rounded them all up for Mass and insisted on being in time for the whole Mass. He had the same exacting fidelity towards his studies, and was one of the best students in the College of Science. He was intolerant of any departure from the strict Catholic ideals of chastity, and that virtue seemed second nature to him. His honesty went over into bluntness when it was a question of right or wrong.

We can only wonder if when he began his Novena for a Happy Marriage he was including also a prayer for the other great grace for which we invoke St. Joseph—the grace of a happy death. At any rate, it was on the ninth day of the Novena that St. Joseph sponsored Bruce's appearance before the judgment seat of God.

In Bruce Graham's life, and even more in his death, we learn what Notre Dame is all about. The purpose of our Lady's school is to teach us how to live so that we may always be ready to die.

On Thursday morning at 6:25 there will be a Requiem Mass in the Church for the repose of Bruce's soul. You are asked to be present and receive the Holy Eucharist in union with the intentions of the celebrant. And during the remainder of Lent thoughtful students will put in a period of adoration for Bruce. His adorations this Lent had averaged one a week, and it is only fitting that his friends should finish out Lent for him in proper Notre Dame fashion.

PRAYERS: Deceased—Dr. Chevigny, father of J. J., ex-'20, and Jack, '30, and father-in-law of Tim Galvin, '16; the father of Oliver Schell, '29; Sister M. Crescentia, ex-Summer School; Miss Irene Turnock, a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital; friends of Wayne Millner, Ralph Else, Bob Byrne, and two other students. Ill—the mother of Bishop Noll; Evron Reinbolt, '32 (leukemia); Phillip Quatman (who left school in January and is still in the hospital); a sister of Jack Davis; an infant child of Jim Pearson, '26; the wife of Prof. Holton; a friend of Chas. Morris. Five special intentions.

MASS—5:45 Tuesday, Dillon chapel, for the repose of the soul of Edw. Quinn's father. (New Jersey Club.)