If you realize that life is a trip to Heaven, you're a wise man. Leon Bloy puts it this way: "There is only one sadness; and that is not to become a Saint."

There are times when you sit down to ponder this ultimate goal in relation to your life -- and that particular path that will lead you unfailingly to this happy destination. Should it be the married state, priesthood, Religious life, or dedicated life in the world?

We Go To St. Joseph

With the grace of God, you can discover with a fair degree of certainty which path is for you -- the path for which you are best fitted; the path that will give you peace of mind and heart, and assure your ultimate sanctification. March is the month to pray for vocations -- that's why Father Dougherty spoke at all Masses last Sunday. That's why we are having the Marriage Institute here for the Seniors. That's why we are now starting a Novena to St. Joseph -- to help us discover our vocation in life.

This weekend, we have the Senior Class Retreat under the direction of Father Vincent Ferrer, O.F. At the same time, there will be a Weekend of Recollection in all the halls -- affording all an opportunity to appraise our spiritual assets and liabilities at the midway mark of Lent. It will afford us, too, an excellent opportunity to study the matter of vocations. It's a weekend to plan a little serious thinking -- about ourselves and Eternity, and the path we must choose in life to bring us safely to our destination. Off-Campus men may join classmates in any hall chapel.

Aside from praying for our own vocation in life, we also devote these 9 days in asking God to call many other souls into His own Vineyard. This appears all the more urgent when we pause to realize that there are still 819 counties, embracing 73,000 towns in the U.S.A. that are still priestless -- where millions live, and laugh, and love, and die -- beyond the reach of the Sacraments. This should jolt you, and prove that "mission" country is much closer to us than we think. Start the Novena Saturday, or Sunday, using the Novena leaflets you will find in all hall chapels -- adding your daily Mass and Communion to bolster the efficacy of your petition.

TONIGHT AT 6:45: The Brief Lenten Series in Sacred Heart Church for all Notre Dame students exempted from the general laws of fast and abstinence.