CLASS OF 2011

INTERFAITH
BACCALAUREATE SERVICE
OF THANKSGIVING

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2011
4 P.M.
BRYANT UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT TENT

University Chaplains:
Rev. Philip Devers, M.Div., Protestant Chaplain
Steven Jablow, Jewish Chaplain
ORDER OF CELEBRATION

Gathering Music

Greetings
President Ronald K. Machtley

Opening Prayer
Steven Jablow, Jewish Chaplain

Words of Welcome
Rev. Robert L. Marciano, Catholic Chaplain

Address by Senior Class Chairs
Arielle Katz ’11, Michelle Vinci ’11

Reading – The Ethics of the Fathers, Ch. 4
Toby Maltz

Celebration Song
“Hymn to Joy”

Reading – from Matthew 5:3-9, 43-48
Rev. Philip Devens Protestant Chaplain

Introduction of Speaker
President Ronald K. Machtley

Baccalaureate Address
Louis Zamperini

Prayers for the Graduates and Their Future Endeavors:
Bryant Christian Fellowship, Ian Parenteau
Hillel, Toby Maltz
Fellowship of the Unashamed, Alphorse Asare
Roman Catholic Student Community, Ryan Taravella

Benediction, Rev. Philip Devens, Protestant Chaplain

Closing Song, “Let There Be Peace on Earth”
Pianist, Ronald Blanchard
Celebration Song: Hymn to Joy

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love; 
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above. 
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; 
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!
All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays; 
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise. 
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, 
Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.

HYMN TO JOY, FROM THE 9TH SYMPHONY OF 
LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN, WORDS BY HENRY VAN DYKE.

Closing Song: Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. 
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. 
With God as our Father, we are family. 
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. 
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now. 
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow. 
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. 
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. 
Let it begin with me.

Congratulations to the Class of 2011
Louis Zamperini

Louis Zamperini, age 93, survived a phenomenal odyssey as a World War II veteran and POW, the basis for Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption, the best-selling biography by internationally recognized author Laura Hillenbrand.

A member of the 1936 Olympic team and America's top finisher in the 5,000-meter run in Berlin, Zamperini joined the U.S. Air Corps as a bombardier during World War II. On a routine reconnaissance run, his aircraft crashed into the Pacific Ocean. He and another crew member survived in a life raft for 47 days, drifting 2,000 miles into hostile Japanese waters. His rescuers were also his torturers.

When the war ended, he returned home to a hero's welcome but lacked a sense of direction. A chance meeting with the young evangelist Billy Graham changed his life. Zamperini became a missionary to Japan, preaching the gospel of forgiveness to the very guards who had tormented him. When he returned to the United States, he created a camp for wayward youth. Today, he speaks around the world.

At Bryant University's 148th Commencement Exercises on May 23, Louis Zamperini will receive an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.