



## WORLD WAR II – THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

[The Four Chaplains](#) were four US Army chaplains who gave their lives to save other military and civilian personnel as the American troop ship SS Dorchester sank on February 3, 1943, during World War II. They helped other soldiers board lifeboats and gave up their own life jackets when the supply ran out. The chaplains joined arms, said prayers, and sang hymns as they went down with the ship. They included A Methodist minister, a Jewish Reform Rabbi, a Roman Catholic priest and a Reformed Church in America minister Reverend Clark V. Poling. Three had served as leaders in the Boy Scouts of America. They met at the Army Chaplains School at Harvard University and were sailing on board the Dorchester to report to their new assignments in Europe.