University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin September 19, 1940

Priceless Glory.

Some two hundred of you sophomores missed the Mission Monday night. You consequently failed to hear Father Burke describe the dignity and beauty of the state of grace.

The state of grace is not just absence of sin, of sin which is death. The state of grace is a gloriously, positive thing. It is the very life of God within your soul. Thereby, you participate in the Divine Nature. It makes you God-like. Possessing that life and nature, you are adopted sons of God.

These are not meaningless phrases. The Church uses them, not hesitatingly, vaguely, but fearlessly and exactly. With vigor and certainty, she teaches, trying to impress you with, trying to rouse you to, your dignity.

"If anyone love me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him and we will come to him and will make our abode with him." John XIV, 23.

That is your dignity when you are in the state of grace. You possess His life. He lives within you. He nourishes you too with His Blood in the Eucharist.

That Price Glory.

It's a French hospital during the June drive on Paris.

A young German, captured and wounded, lies close to death from loss of blood. A French nurse bends over and rouses him, telling him to get ready for a blood transfusion, the only chance for his life.

"Whose blood am I being given?" he asks with effort.

"We had a hard time finding anyone," she answers, "but a French soldier has finally volunteered."

The young Nazi, weak to the point of death, by sheer force of will and ideals raises himself in bed. His eyes speak the same message as his lips:

"I am a German. I will have nothing in my veins but German blood. Before I will taint my blood with any other. I will die!"

And die he did!

Tragic and pitiful, yes; but courageous and inspiring, too. Yes, youth still can rise to heights of sacrifice when sold on an ideal and trained to hardship.

What Holds You Back?

When faced with sin no matter how violent the temptation, no matter what the cost, would you raise your head and say, "I am a Christian, nourished by the Blood of Christ. I have the Life of Christ within me. Before I'll taint that Blood and Life, I'll die."

Vould you? Did you this summer?

If not, have you the courage to come back? Christ had the love and courage to die for you - that you might come back.

PRAYERS: Deceased, Mother of Frank Gunter, '40; Cousin of Anthony Maloney (Bro.)