

Say the Rosary at
Benediction at
5:00 tonight.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
October 22, 1942

Big War Stamp Drive
tonight. Dig deep,
and buy a batch.

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Notre Dame Man Dies In Action Over Britain.

The news of the death of Captain George Wassell, B.S. '31, has just reached Notre Dame. Death came in action while fighting over the British Isles on October 3. After receiving his bachelor's degree at Notre Dame, George entered St. Louis University Medical College and obtained his medical degree. A year ago last April he left an expanding medical practice in Sharon, Pennsylvania to enlist. He was flight surgeon with the Army Air Forces.

An observation may increase the fervor of your prayer for George and the living and dead Notre Dame Service men. Captain Wassell was the second graduate to die for his country on October 3. Early this month the Bulletin announced the death of Pilot Officer Lionel Smith, '33.

They Were Ready.

"More than 400 Catholic sailors and officers on the Yorktown, aircraft carrier lost after the battle of Midway, went into that gigantic sea and air struggle fortified by the reception of Holy Communion, it has been revealed.

"The Yorktown, with a complement of approximately 2000, had no Catholic chaplain, but, shortly before the big carrier began its historic voyage, Chaplain Walter A. Mahler, a priest of the Pittsburgh diocese, came aboard to conduct services for the Catholics, who made up 20 percent of the ship's crew. Invoking special war-time powers, Chaplain Mahler, who was unable to hear individual confessions because of lack of time, gave general absolution, and offered up the Holy Sacrifice. . .

"Father Mahler explained to the sailors that they would have to make a firm act of contrition and at the first opportunity go to confession. Fasting was not required. The Mass was celebrated on the flight deck, from which a few hours later, navy planes took off to deal the Japanese navy its worst defeat in history."

(The Register)

A Chaplain Tells A Story.

"Boxing in the navy trains men in the virtues of self-discipline, perseverance and fairness. It strengthens the character of the man-of-war's men. The most successful boxers I have known in ships were modest, upright, and good sports. My friend, Joe Fisher, now a chief bosun's mate, long held the All-Navy lightweight championship. In his fighting days Joe would chase his handlers from the dressing room just before he entered the ring.

"When he was alone, he dropped to his knees and prayed. It interested me to know what sort of a petition Joe made when he prayed, and I asked him to tell me one night after he had whipped the champion of the west coast. Joe replied, 'I pray that I won't hurt the other fellow, and that I may win the bout fair and square.'"

Letter From A Leatherneck.

"...we had a chaplain from New York on our boat. He was a great friend of Father Dan Gleason, C.S.C., so we hit it off 100%. Each morning we were able to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion. I have been with my unit for three months, but never knew there were so many Catholics in the gang. Christ certainly drew out the crowd during those 16 days. When we landed (somewhere) we lost our chaplain, and what an empty, lonesome feeling came over the boys. It's tough living months without a priest, especially for Confession."

PRAYERS: (deceased) grandmother of Jim McClurkin, (Cav); mother of Ernest Zimmer (Sor).