

University of Notre Dame
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The Blood Drive Is On

Pope Pius XII, speaking recently to a special audience of 1500 members of the Association of Italian Blood Donors, observed:

"Your name, 'Blood Donors,' gives you by itself alone, beloved children, a special right toward Our paternal welcome. A special right: because, in turning our gaze of pleasure toward your so numerous group, We see in spirit and adore the supreme and divine Donor of His Blood, Jesus ... Undoubtedly, it is an admirable proof of generosity, love, and devotion, to pour one's own blood in fighting for a noble and holy cause ... It is not, perhaps, that same thing which, in an infinitely loftier way, Jesus did... "

Today, in Korea, besides the definite categories of the living and the dead, there are thousands of American youths in a state of transition. These are the wounded -- not yet dead, but certainly not fully alive. Whether they live or die depends a great deal upon whether blood is available.

Where will they get this much needed blood? Not from themselves, because much of their own has been lost fighting -- for you, for me, for the nation. They are, therefore, forced to borrow blood or, more correctly, foreclose on their debtors.

Debtors! Yes; for we are deeply in debt to them. And when reduced to its simplest, most tangible terms, cannot this debt be expressed in exactly what they need -- blood?

Their blood is the outward, visible symbol of the service they have rendered in our behalf. Is it not fitting, then, that blood be the outward signification of our inward gratitude and devotion to them?

The opportunity to pay an installment on our debt to these men has arrived. The Red Cross will be here May 4-8 to accept donations from all who will give. Those who were donors last year will testify that the procedure is short and painless, with positively no after-effects except a feeling of tremendous satisfaction.

The campus is being canvassed now for pledges. Over 3000 pints were pledged last year -- a great number for any university. But Notre Dame can do better. Sign up now! Few of us will ever have a better chance to save a life.

TOMORROW IS 'EASTER DUTY' DAY

Make your Easter Duty tomorrow, by receiving Communion in your own hall chapel. Designate the Communion as the fulfillment of this particular obligation incumbent upon every Catholic. Go to Confession tonight, and give the Off-Campus men priority at the box tomorrow morning. Tomorrow is also the Feast of the Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin -- reason enough for special devotion!