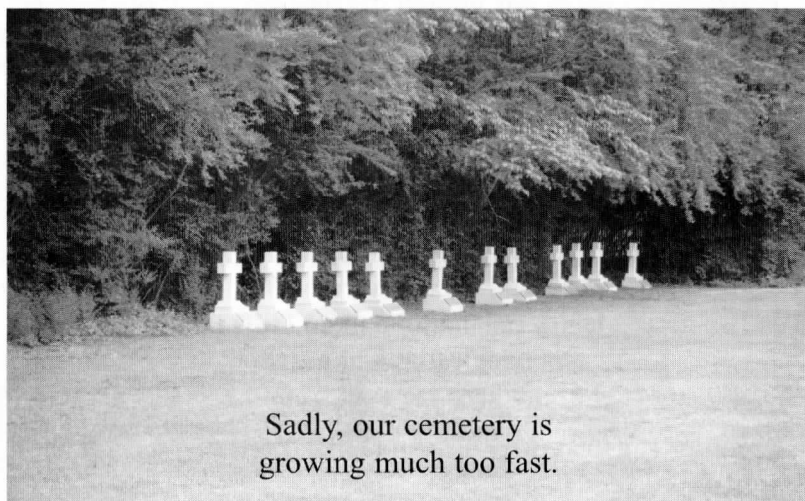


## OF MORTAL SIN

The first step in carrying out the Will of God is to avoid mortal sin. Where there is a habit of mortal sin, WHICH ONE DOES NOT INTEND TO GIVE UP, there is no spiritual life. When this condition exists, the soul of such a one is dead. If a man is in that state, he has urgent need of making a good confession and of making the decision to fight manfully against his bad habits. The DECISION to avoid mortal sin is vital to the spiritual life. The fight may not be easy; he may perhaps even fall again and again; but he must be resolutely determined that even if he falls down again, HE WILL NOT STAY DOWN, and he must follow out that determination grimly. The argument that since he continues to fall again and again, what is the good of going to confession, is simply not a valid or sensible argument. The argument that the confession of the same sin over and over again is embarrassing and boring, is not a convincing argument. If a person is the source of one's sin and the cause of one's sin, then one must decide between that person and God. If a place is the source of one's sin and the cause of one's sin, then one must decide between that place and God. If a thing is the source of one's sin, and the cause of one's sin, then one must decide between that thing and God! It is quite impossible to possess both. Mortal sin must be regarded as the greatest possible evil - one to be avoided at all or any cost. On this point there can be no compromise. An offense against God is an offense against God, and no human speculation or analysis can change the fact that GOD MUST NEVER BE OFFENDED. Neither can any human agency or tribunal remove sinfulness from an offense which God has preordained to be sinful and offensive. The law of God is unchangeable, and its application is not open to anyone's private interpretation! □



Sadly, our cemetery is  
growing much too fast.