
The General Confession.

In response to numerous inquiries which have come during the Mission, the following considerations on general confession are given:

1. What is a general confession? A review of previous confessions, good or bad.
2. When is it necessary? Whenever there has been a bad confession in the past which has never been corrected. In such a case the penitent goes back to the last good confession he has made, repeats the intervening confessions, and tells how often he has received the Sacraments sacrilegiously in the meantime.
3. If you are in doubt about some past confession must you make a general confession? No, for from a doubtful fact there cannot arise a certain obligation. It will be well for you to express your doubt to your confessor and follow his advice in the matter.
4. When is a general confession useful, if not necessary? Whenever a person is about to undertake some new state of life, or wishes to make a serious change in his manner of life. Seniors quite commonly make a general confession before they leave school; some freshmen like to make a general confession when they come here, or before they start daily Communion.
5. How does one go about making a general confession? Say a prayer to the Holy Ghost for enlightenment on the state of your conscience and for the grace of solid contrition, and then make as good an examination of conscience as you can with the aid of a prayer book. After you have made this examination and excited contrition you are ready for confession; if you prefer to have the priest ask you questions as an aid to thoroughness, ask him to do so. However, if your general confession is not a necessary confession, you should make a confession of sins committed since the last confession before embarking on a recital of past, forgiven sins.
6. If one has forgotten a sin in the past is a general confession necessary? No. If a sin is omitted through no fault of your own, you have only to mention it the next time you go to confession. It has already been forgiven indirectly, by the inflow of sanctifying grace into your soul.
7. Why do you say that a scrupulous penitent should not make a general confession? Because he will not be satisfied with one, or ten, or a hundred general confessions. What he needs is absolute obedience to his confessor.

The Pledge.

A form of pledge against the use of intoxicating liquor will be distributed at the Mission tonight. Last year, when these pledges were handed out after Christmas, one-third of the students signed them "as the smart thing to do." Liquor never helped any student get a college education; it has stopped many an attempt at a degree. It is suggested that the pledge be signed for a short period of time - say for a month, or three months; it may be renewed at will. Those who sign and keep this pledge will have occasion to congratulate themselves more than once this fall - when the inevitable happens. (It always does.)

PRAYERS: Joe Sexton, '26, brother of John and Larry, underwent a delicate and dangerous operation yesterday. A deceased uncle of Geo. Leyes. Two special intentions.

LOST: A wallet containing twenty dollars. (No claimant has yet appeared for the pen advertised recently. It was loaned during registration.)