

# THE DEVIL'S A GOOFER

The devil is the father of lies. He is working overtime at his trade on the campus-- from the looks of the number of students who have not been to the sacraments recently. His favorite trick is to convince his victim that the confessional is a torture chamber. Have you fallen for his line? Have you stayed away from the Sacrament of Penance for a month, six months, a year? Here are a few excuses Lucifer may be suggesting to you. All of them have holes in them, of course.

"The confessor won't understand my case." That's an old one. If you don't think so, drop into the confessional box tonight and get the surprise of your life. Any confessor you go to will have a sympathetic view of your case. What won't the priest understand? Your fear? Simply start your confession with, "Father, I'm scared to death," and the confessor will give you words of confidence from the start. If war environment has been the cause of your sins, tell the priest that detail, and he will judge your falls accordingly.

"I need more time to prepare." No, you don't. Right now you know what your serious sins are, and you can give their number in a general way, like once a week, twice a month. To take a week to prepare for this confession is only to add to the agony. The confessor knows how to handle your case. If you wish, ask the confessor to take you through the list of sins. Don't delay your confession because you don't have the memory of a genius. God takes you as you are.

"I'll wait until I go home for Easter." That's slick Lucifer all around. That's his mouse-trap play. Don't fall for that gag, and live in sin with the fear of death hanging over you and with all your study and play going to waste, since you can't merit without sanctifying grace. The longer you wait, the worse you will become. It's easier to fall when you are living in sin. Satan is hoping you won't wake up to the fact.

"I'll get a terrific bawling out." Yes, the kind of tongue-lashing Our Blessed Lord gave Mary Magdalene, the prostitute, when she fell at His feet and asked for forgiveness. Christ's only counsel to her after He forgave her was: "Go, and sin no more."

Christ awaits you with His forgiveness and peace of heart in the following places tonight, and every night: After supper in the Basement Chapel of the church (6:30 to 7:30), and after 7:30 in Sorin and Cavanaugh hall chapels (Press the buzzer at the chapel door to call the chaplain.) There will be confessors at night prayer too. Get the load off your shoulders tonight.

Soldiers retreat to take up a better position for the sake of safety or for a more advantage start of an offensive. A spiritual retreat has the same objective. So here is your chance to get off to a good start at Notre Dame. There will be three retreats before Easter. The veterans who have just registered at Notre Dame or reregistered as former students are invited to

make these spiritual get-togethers. The first retreat is for the men in Lyons and Howard halls. The other halls will be invited on a later weekend. There will be informal discussions besides conferences in the chapel. Ex-chaplains will be on hand to hear confessions. "Why come back to college?" -- that's the first subject for discussion (Saturday night, 8:00 P.M. in the Reading Room in Cavanaugh Hall)

RETREAT FOR VETS  
IN LYONS & HOWARD