Religious Bulletin
May 28, 1926

The Awkward Squad.

Tremendous faith and maternal affection were behind the remark of the mother who saw the regiment pass by, "They're all out of step but my Johnnie." It must be an affliction to have two left feet that can always keep you out of step.

Only tomorrow and the next day remain for the awkward squad to join the Catholic Church and step right. The drill sergeant gives up on Trinity Sunday.

Ember Days.

Today and tomorrow are Ember Days. Offer your mortification for those who have failed to make their Easter Duty. Get them the grace they need to get back to God. Fear of confession is a very real affliction; it can be cured only by grace.

Talk Up the Jubilee.

Those who read the Bulletin these days (ten out of ten seem not to, judging by the questions asked that are answered on the Bulletin for the day) should make it a point to inform their less fortunate fellow-students that the Holy Father has proclaimed a Jubilee Indulgence that may be gained any time within this year.

Prayers.

Urgent prayers are requested for those students who have failed to make their Easter Duty. They are in a bad way. Riley McGreevey's sister died Wednesday. Three special intentions are recommended. George Gallner's sister died yesterday.

General Confession.

A general confession is highly recommended for the Jubilee, although it is not required. Its purpose is to increase detestation of sin, to intensify purpose of amendment, to deepen love of God, to lessen the temporal punishment still due forgiven sin, and to strengthen character.

A general confession is required if there is a bad confession in the past that has never been remade. In such a case the penitent must repeat that confession and all the other confessions he has made in the meantime, telling at the same time how often he has received the Sacraments meanwhile, because each reception of the Sacraments was a sacrifice. Such a confession is necessary only when one is certain that he concealed what he knew certainly to be mortal sins, or knows certainly that he had no purpose of amendment. If any one has need of such a confession he should ask the priest to help him make it, and should not be overly disturbed about it.

It may happen that a penitent has not confessed certain sins in the past because he did not know at the time that they were sins, or had only a hazy notion of their malice. It is useful for the penitent to mention such things in a general way, but they do not give rise to an obligation to make a general confession.

When a general confession is not necessary, the penitent who wishes to make one need not do more than make a general review of the sins of his past life, without specific mention of the number. He must be prepared to answer to the best of his ability any questions the priest may wish to ask for his guidance.

The hearing of confessions in the church at 12:30 and 5:00 will continue today and tomorrow. If one wishes to make a general confession, he should choose some time other than during the morning Masses, Sunday or week-days, in order not to inconvenience other penitents.