Dr. Cooper, in his Religion Outlines for Colleges, advises: "If you have, say, 10 or 15 minutes to give to preparation before going to the confessional, spend 7 or 10 respectively on your contrition, and then 3 or 5 on the examination of conscience."

The disposition of the Prodigal in the Gospel goes from imperfect to perfect contrition. To help you make this progress in your preparation for Confession, the following parallel is drawn:

Luke XV, 11... Attrition,—fear of the Lord, beginning of wisdom.

"A certain man had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father: Father, give me the portion of substance that falleth to me.... And not many days after, the younger son went abroad... and wasted his substance living riotously... And after he had spent all, there came a mighty famine, and he began to want, and he cleaved to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him to his farm to feed swine... And he fain would have filled his belly with the husks the swine would not eat; and no man gave unto him... And returning to himself, he said: How many hired servants in my father's house are bound with bread, and here I perish with hunger? I will arise, and will go to my father, and say to him: Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before thee. I am not worthy to be called thy son; make me as one of thy servants. And rising he came to his Father....

The Christian, returning to himself, seated on the dunghill of his misery and deformity, scarred, torn by mortal sin, experiences the surge of a holy fear. The grace of repentance drives him on. He cannot perish, he must not forever miss his destiny. He cannot afford to be homesick everlastingly. His proper self-love and natural intelligence will not permit it. The grace of God prevents, aids, elevates fear. Home he must go, he must make himself the friend of God. "I will arise, and will go to my father." His sorrow includes the yearning: I want to love Thee, O my God! His hope embraces the vision of the "true country," "the lasting city," which is the friendship of God. His purpose of amendment contains the pledge of a firm loyalty to God's commands, the love of God above all for His sake and the love of all else in God. Like a free man he goes to the Sacrament of Penance. He is on his way home.

PRAYERS: Deceased—Charlie O'Connor's mother; Professor Delander's brother-in-law; Rev. Francis C. Ryan, Milwaukee, Wis.; Rev. John Snyder; an aunt of Bob Lee; the wife of John Gerrits; a friend. Ill—Don Fullem's mother. Three special intentions.