

# RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

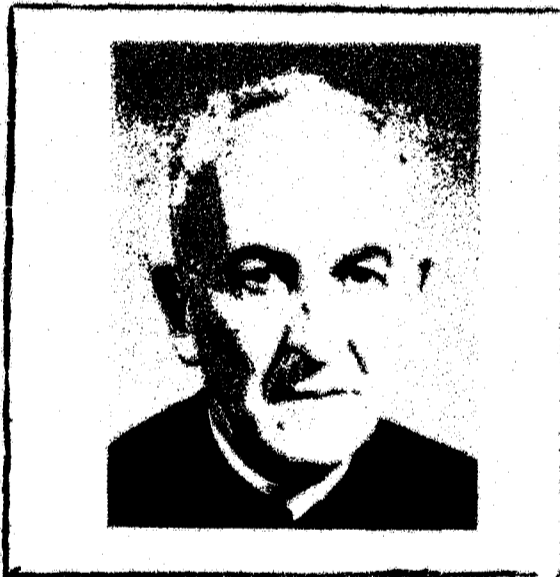
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Wednesday, February 28, 1962

Notre Dame, Indiana

## FIRST FRIDAY

Reparation on the First Friday of every month is Our Lord's own idea. He chose the day Himself. He has also indicated what He would like us to do each First Friday. He wants all of us to gather about the altar, and receive Holy Communion in reparation for the coldness so many show towards Him in the Blessed Sacrament day after day. He also wants special devotion to Him in the Blessed Sacrament exposed upon the altar. Friday is First Friday. You're free to sleep in, if you wish. No one's going to knock you for going to a later Mass. Just be sure you go. And you can busy yourself with a lot of things during the afternoon, and not bother to stop by the Church for a visit while the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, but you will have passed up an opportunity to prove, in a special way, your love for Christ and your hatred for sin. The years ahead will see you wishing you had taken advantage of each of these opportunities.



Whenever the church bells toll slowly to announce, as they did this morning, the death of another member of of the Congregation of Holy Cross, we pray twice. Once for the soul of the departed Priest or Brother, and once for someone to take his place. This morning the bells tolled for Father Robert Sheehan, former Head of the Biology Department. Pre-meds of recent years will remember him for his course in Medical Ethics. His colleagues in the College of Science and his fellow-religious will remember him for his unfailing charity. May he rest in peace.

## DURING THE FORTY HOURS' DEVOTION

I will make a half hour of Adoration at the following time(s):

SUNDAY \_\_\_\_\_

MONDAY \_\_\_\_\_

TUESDAY \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Hall

## IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Rev. Robert Sheehan, C.S.C.; Brother Herbert, C.S.C.; mother of Mike Meek of Dillon; father of Rev. Thomas Waldron, C.S.C.; grandmother of Phil of Pangborn and Jim Grace of Keenan; grandfather of Jim Zmigrocki of Fisher; friend of Bill Shepard of Farley; Blair Burwell. Ill: Father Ken Coughlan of Alumni; mother of a Badinite; mother of Sr. M. Rosina, R.S.M.; Sr. Margaret Mary. One Special Intention.



Just about everywhere one goes, he still encounters talk about Astronaut John Glenn. Mr. Hope talked about him last night. And tomorrow all New York will be talking about him, and toasting him.

Of all the talk there's been about him, we liked best the words of James Reston. Reston pointed up a well-known fact--that the examples placed before a nation are vital. Those things we constantly observe, we find ourselves beginning to copy. What we admire and reward, we perpetuate. And that, contends Mr. Reston, is why John Glenn himself is almost as important as his flight into outer space. John Glenn dramatized the noblest qualities of the human spirit. Read for yourself Mr. Reston's remarks. I think you'll agree with him.

Outside of the morality-play of our cowboy movies, where the hero always gets the girl and the villain always gets slugged behind the saloons, courage, modesty, quiet patriotism, love of family and religious faith are not exactly the predominant themes of our novels, plays, TV shows, movies or newspapers these days. Yet Glenn dramatized them all coast to coast and around the world.

This was no insensitive robot who landed here from the heavens yesterday morning, but a warm and thoughtful human being: natural, orderly, considerate and, at times, quietly amusing and even eloquent.

His departure from Cape Canaveral in a blaze of orange fire was a technical triumph, but his return was a human triumph. When he came back and saw his lovely wife, Annie, he put his head on her shoulder and cried. Thereafter nothing ruffled him, not the President, or the clamorous press, or the whirring cameras, or the eager shouting crowds.

This memorable performance, of course, may not stamp out juvenile delinquency overnight, but the models of the nation—not the uncovered cover girls of today but the larger models of human character—are probably more important than this age believes.

When Walter Bagehot, the English editor and scientist, made his famous study 100 years ago of why some nations progressed, he concluded that what a nation admired and despised was almost as important as its military power.

"Slighter causes than is commonly thought," he said, "may change a nation from the stationary to the progressive state of civilization, and from the stationary to the degrading."

It all depended, he insisted, on the model of character emulated or eliminated. If the enduring qualities of nobility, intelligence, perseverance and courage were uppermost, then he felt all was well.

For then, he asserted, "a new model in character is created for the nation; those characters which resemble it are encouraged and multiplied; those contrasted with it are persecuted and made fewer.

"In a generation or two, the look of the nation becomes quite different; the characteristic men who stand out are different; the men imitated are different; the result of the imitation is different. A lazy nation may be changed into an industrious, a rich into a poor, a religious into a profane, as if by magic, if any single cause, however slight, or any combination of causes, however subtle, is strong enough to change the favorite and detested types of character."

If this was true in the middle of the nineteenth century it has even more validity in this age of instantaneous communication. Only a few hundred people heard Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. New models and styles are now set by television every day, but most of them are models of cars and styles of dresses and hairdos.

What transcontinental television did for the nation on the Glenn story illustrates the wider application of the idea. It almost made up for what it does to us the rest of the time, but not quite.

Meanwhile, the question remains: how many more John Glens and Al Shepards are hiding in this country?

Outer space is a long way to go to discover a new generation of leaders of men, but if we have to recruit them there, why not?