

# RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Notre Dame, Ind.

## AFTER IT'S OVER

The last thing that many want to think about after vacation is the state of their soul--and yet, isn't it true that it's the very last thing they're going to be thinking about on this old earth? What's the state of your soul after vacation? Should you get to confession tonight? Until further notice, confessions will be heard in Sacred Heart Church from 4:00 until 6:00 each week-day afternoon.

## EPIPHANY

Every year, just before the Feast of Epiphany, Brother Boniface (Sacristan at Sacred Heart Church for the past 37 years) begins looking for old gold to be blessed on the Feast of Epiphany and used for the replating of sacred vessels. So, if you have a ring or watch or cuff-links that are gold and no longer used and you want to put them to good use place them in an envelope, write "Epiphany Gold" on the envelope and leave it at the sacristy in Sacred Heart Church.

## FIRST FRIDAY

Friday is the First Friday of the month and of the new year: a good time to start making the Nine First Fridays, if you aren't already making them.

## TONIGHT

When you say your prayers tonight, don't forget a prayer of Thanks for your safe return, your own and others'.

## IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Father of Brian Butler, Off-Campus; father of George Bednar of Lyons; father of Bob Szczerba of Alumni; father of Charles Callahan, Director of Sports Publicity; father of Cecil Mast, Off-Campus; Rev. Thomas A. Steiner, C.S.C.; father of Hugh McGuire, '59; father of Carl, '31, and James Christianson, '39; father of Robert A. Richard, '56; Hugh E. Carroll, '16; Edward G. Mason, '33; Joseph Druecker, '37; grandmother of John Dicks of Alumni; Mrs. Nora O'Grady. Ill: Grandfather of Murray Olsen of Morrissey; mother of Cecil Mast; Pat Caine, '60.

## A STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT KENNEDY

reflects his deep concern over  
the physical fitness of our youth:

*"Despite our unparalleled standard of living, despite our good food and our many playgrounds, despite our emphasis on athletics, American youths lag far behind Europeans in physical fitness.*

*"Softness on the part of the individual citizen can help to destroy the vitality of a nation. The physical vigor of our citizens is one of America's most precious resources.*

*"No matter how vigorous the leadership of the government, we can fully restore the physical soundness of our nation only if every American is willing to assume responsibility for his own fitness and the fitness of his children. We are, all of us, as free to direct the activities of our bodies as we are to pursue the objects of our thoughts. But if we are to retain this freedom, for ourselves and for generations to come, then we must be willing to work for the physical toughness on which the courage and intelligence and skill of man so largely depend.*

*"All of us must consider our own responsibilities for the physical vigor of our children and of the young men and women of our community. We do not want our children to be a generation of spectators. Rather, we want each of them to be a participant in the vigorous life"*



# LOOKING AHEAD

WHATEVER YOUR FEELINGS about the old year, you have to admit it was unlike most. As James Reston put it, "For some reason, things suddenly seemed to get turned around last year. The natural girl went out of fashion for the first time in 1000 years and took the curl out of her hair with glue and put black shoe-polish on her eyes. Nobody knew why.... The male, on the other hand, went plain, narrow, and soft in 1961: soft shoulders, plain vests, narrower lapels, trousers, ties, and minds." (sic!) These recurring comments about the softness of the younger generation might be discounted as the criticism of those who are too committed to the middle-age set, except for the occasional remark like the one by Ted Swartz. Ted is 18 and quoted in the SATEVEPOST's Gallup Poll of American Youth. He says, "Too many kids are lazy and soft. Their parents haven't made them work; they think they can start at the top instead of working their way up."

MAYBE THERE IS SOMETHING TO ALL THE TALK. And maybe we should give some serious consideration to the words of President Kennedy regarding physical fitness. We are told that ten years ago the entering class at Yale saw 51% passing the physical aptitude test. In 1956, only 43% passed. In 1960, only 38% passed.

No one can say that the American youth is going to hell. He's not. But he is a pampered hothouse plant and likes it that way. The beatnik is a rarity; the delinquent is a minority.

Our typical youth will settle for low success rather than risk high failure. He has little spirit of adventure. He wants to marry early—at twenty-three or twenty-four—after a college education. He wants two or three children and a spouse who is "affectionate, sympathetic, considerate and moral"; rarely does he want a mate with intelligence, curiosity or ambition. He wants a little ranch house, an inexpensive new car, a job with a large company, and a chance to watch TV each evening after the smiling children are asleep in bed.

He is a reluctant patriot who expects nuclear war in his time and would rather compromise than risk an all-out war. He is highly religious yet winks at dishonesty.

He wants very little because he has so much and is unwilling to risk what he has. Essentially he is quite conservative and cautious. He is old before his time; almost middle-aged in his teens.

While he has high respect for education, he is critical of it—as he is about religion—and he is abysmally ignorant of the economic system that has made him what he is and of the system that threatens it.

In general, the typical American youth shows few symptoms of frustration, and is most unlikely to rebel or involve himself in crusades of any kind. He likes himself the way he is, and he likes things as they are.

The United States has bred a generation of nice little boys and girls who are just what we have asked them to be and what we so frequently say they are not. They will one day shape the nation. And there are those who say the world will trample a gentle generation. As Leo Durocher has said, "Nice guys finish last."

The above quote is from the SATEVEPOST article that's the subject of so much talk today. All I want to add is this. If you see yourself mirrored in this description, now is the time to start doing something to correct the undesirable aspects. Now is the time, as St Paul says, to put off the old man.

*Glenn Boorman, etc.*  
University Chaplain