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FRIEND AND SPIRITUAL ADVISER of the Kennedy family, Richard Cardinal Cushing, kneeling in prayer in a chapel of his Lake Street residence in Boston yesterday.

Cushing Visits Elder Kennedys After Day of Prayer for Senator

By JOHN H. FENTON
Special to The New York Times

BOSTON, June 5—Richard Cardinal Cushing made a sorrowful journey today to comfort and console the parents of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

The 72-year-old prelate shaken by the new Kennedy tragedy, was driven to the family summer compound at Hyannis Port on Cape Cod in late afternoon. All day he had been busy carrying out his regular daily schedule.

Cardinal Cushing's final episcopal act of the day was to confirm a class of 57 children at St. Vincent de Paul Church in South Boston. Accompanied by Judge Francis X. Morrissey of the Boston Municipal Court, the Cardinal headed into the early evening rush-hour traffic on the southeast expressway toward the Cape.

From early morning, when he celebrated a special mass in his private chapel for the recovery of the New York Senator, until he led the confirmation class in a recitation of the Roman Catholic petition of three Our Fathers and three Hail Marys, Cardinal Cushing dedicated his day to prayers for Mr. Kennedy.

Comments on Shooting

"There is something wrong, and I think this whole business is an indication of the extent that crime is flourishing in this country and it's an indication that there may be somebody behind all this or some propaganda in all this," the Cardinal said. "No one can convince me that Oswald was alone responsible for the death or assassination of Jack Kennedy, even though I couldn't prove it."

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy, the parents of Senator Kennedy, were at the summer compound in Hyannis Port. Mrs. Kennedy heard the news of the shooting on television shortly before 6 A.M. when she arose to attend early mass, as is her custom, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Hyannis.

Mrs. Kennedy was met at the church by the pastor, the Right Rev. William D. Thomson, who ushered her inside. She received Communion, then remained behind after the 50 or so other communicants left, as she often does, to make the 14 stations of the cross.

Edward Kennedy Phones

On her return to the family home, Mrs. Kennedy went to the side of her husband, who suffered a stroke in 1961 and is incapable of speech. About 8:25 A.M., according to Miss Ann Gargan, a niece, Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, the youngest of four Kennedy sons, telephoned from the West Coast and told his father the details of the shooting.

A close associate of the family said that the parents had taken the news bravely. Mr. Kennedy was reported to have wept silently for several moments.

Cardinal Cushing said the first mass for the nuns who keep house for him in the same chapel in which he celebrated a mass for Patrick Bouvier Kennedy, a son of President Kennedy who lived only a few hours in 1963.