

RFK Mass At Mission Dolores

By JERRY BELCHER

To Mission Dolores Basilica—named for the Way of Sorrow—came a thousand San Franciscans yesterday to express their sorrow and to pray for the fallen Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Archbishop Joseph T. McGucken, ranking Roman Catholic dignitary in Northern California, offered the Mass for the young Senator.

Bishop Merlin J. Guilfoyle preached the sermon.

In the aisle before the altar was a catafalque spread with the flag of the United States of America—symbolic of that on which the actual coffin of Sen. Robert Kennedy reposed 3,000 miles away in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

It was a solemn and thoughtful gathering of mourners here. There were few tears—perhaps they had shed all their tears earlier.

Bishop Guilfoyle's sermon was short and poetically eloquent.

He described the widowed Kennedy women—the wives of the late President and of the murdered Senator—as "heroines of the passing parade . . . examples of the great family life."

And of the Senator, he said: "We celebrate his illumination as a great star of history."