

# Eulogy by Cardinal

Boston, Mass. — P — Here is the text of the eulogy by Richard Cardinal Cushing at Sunday's nationally televised mass of requiem for President John F. Kennedy:

"A shocked and stricken world stands helpless before the fact of death, that death brought to us through a tragically successful assault upon the life of the president of the United States. Our earliest disbelief has slowly given way to unprecedented sorrow as millions all over the earth join us in lamenting a silence that can never again be broken, and the absence of a smile that can never be seen again.

"For those of us who knew the president as friend as well as statesman, words mock our attempts to express the anguish of our hearts.

"It was my privilege to have been associated with John F. Kennedy from the earliest days of his public life, and even prior to that time, to have watched him mature with ever expanding responsibility, to have

known some of the warmth of his hardy friendship, to see tested under pain and loss the steely strength of his character.

"I have been with him in joy and in sorrow, in decision and in crisis, among friends and with strangers, and I know of no one who has combined in more noble perfection the qualities of greatness that marked his cool, calm, calculating intelligence and his big, brave, bountiful heart. Now, of a sudden, he has been taken from us and I dare say we shall not see his like again.

"Many there are who will appropriately pay tribute to the president as a world figure, to his skill in political life, and to his devotion in public service. Many others will measure the wide interests of his mind, the swiftness of his resolution, the power of his persuasion, the efficiency of his action and the courage of his convictions.

"For me, it will be proper to recall him on this day of mourning as husband and father, surrounded by his young and beloved family. Although the de-

mands of office carried him often on long journeys and filled even his days at home with endless labors, how often he would make time to share with his son and daughter those few minutes that could be his. What a precious treasure it is now and will be forever in the memories of two fatherless children!

Who among us can forget those childish ways which, from time to time, enhanced the elegance of the executive mansion with the touching scenes of a happy family life—the charming Caroline stealing publicity, John-John, and a loving mother enjoying it like all mothers.

"At his side, in understanding and affection, has stood always his gracious and charming Jacqueline. True always to the obligations of her role as mother, she has given new dimensions to the trying demands of being America's first lady. The pride in her husband, which he so eminently justified, was so plainly reciprocated in his pride of her."