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PROFILES

by Percy Villa

A favorite in my book, and a man loved by so many, is FATHER JACK ADAM, DIRECTOR OF ST. JUDE'S RANCH FOR CHILDREN in Boulder City.

The beloved Father gets along with people of all faiths. His chief aim in life is doing things for others.

He was born on October 10, 1932 in Pass Christian, Mississippi and comes from a family of lawyers. His father, grandfather, cousins and a couple of uncles were lawyers.

On December 2, 1949, he married the attractive Ranelle Howard. They have two pretty daughters, Nancy, 18,

Beth, 9. Nancy is married and will make her parents grand-parents early next year.

Father Adam smokes a pack of filter cigaret, and hardly ever drinks. He sometimes will go for a glass of champagne. ("I consider it grapes somebody walked on.")

He says that one-third of the trustees for the St. Jude's Ranch are Jewish. ("That's what makes this the greatest city of them all.") He further discloses ("You probably know that St. Jude was a practicing Jew until the day he died.") We didn't, but it is interesting to be



FATHER JACK

so informed.

There are now 29 children at St. Jude's Ranch and the other week they received their first Jewish youngster.

The good Father is well-liked by most everybody and is friendly with everybody. There is no snobbery in him (he is at home when many times a week he has his bagels and coffee with his best booster, Nate Marsh, at Foxy's) and continues, ("Nobody is unimportant. There are only nice people and those not quite so nice.")

Father Adam predicts that the Night of Stars (November 14th) at the Frontier Hotel will be a complete sellout.

Robert A. Maheu is the general chairman and that's reason enough, Says Father Adam: "When the St. Jude's committee was in search for a chairman, we wanted some executive who is a heavy-weight in doing things. Robert Maheu is truly a man with a heart."

Another great man of kindness is Mel Exber, who has sold tickets to every downtown casino, breaking all records.

Father Adam advocates strongly that sheer determination is a great factor in achieving success.

He also lists Alex and Joan Shoofey as doing great things for the Night of Stars. Herb (Wonder World) Kaufman has recently joined our team. Also Faye Peterson and our Nate Marsh. The Father has promised to do a guest column (of thank you notes) after November the 14th.

He loves his work at St. Jude's Ranch. "My big reward is a smile from the face of a child."

I quote the Father: "The St. Jude Ranch would not be there today if it would not have been for the Jewish Community of Las Vegas."

He attended Arizona State University at Tempe, Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest at Austin, Texas and was Ordained a Priest in Las Vegas in 1963.

He doesn't object to the few critics who have panned him and his project. ("They're the same fellows who were right when they liked me.") Yet he takes criticism deeply.

His hobby is being an amateur musician and he has a parrot, Rachael who swears. The reason he keeps her is to try to improve her morals.

Father Jack is a member of the Saints & Sinners and goes for all their tricks 'n treats.

He likes to wear a smile, since his big ambition is to make others and his family happy. ("Sometimes I feel it's a big challenge, but don't get me wrong, I love it.")

He usually walks fast. He appears to be running. He works hard, although he seldom gives the impression he is working.

Father Jack Adam's big thrill comes next Thursday (Nov. 14) at the Frontier Hotel when the 3rd annual 'Night of Stars' will be held. A sure capacity crowd is expected and it couldn't happen for a better cause and a nicer person.

NITE OF STARS

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