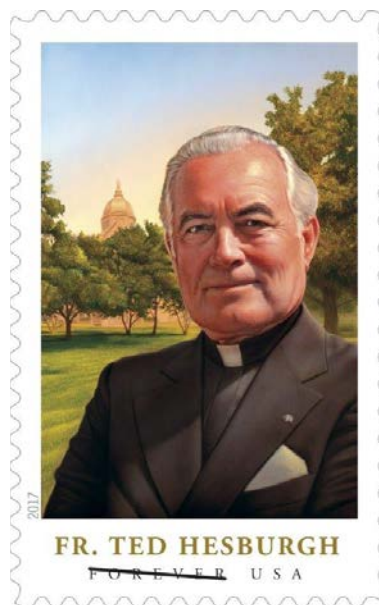


August 8, 2017

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U.S. Postal Service Honoring Father Theodore Hesburgh

*Champion of Civil Rights, Other Social Issues and Longtime President of
the University of Notre Dame*

What: First-Day-of-Issue dedication ceremony for the Father Theodore Hesburgh Forever stamp. The event is free and open to the public. The U.S. Postal Service will post a video of the event at facebook.com/USPS. Share the news on Twitter and Instagram using the hashtag **#FatherHesburgh**.

When: Friday, Sept. 1, 2017, 1:00 p.m.

Where: Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center
Notre Dame, IN

Who:

Megan J. Brennan
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer
United States Postal Service

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
66th Secretary of State of the United States

Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
President
University of Notre Dame

Rev. Austin I. Collins, C.S.C.
Religious Superior of Holy Cross Priests and Brothers
University of Notre Dame

Rev. Thomas J.O'Hara, C.S.C.
Provincial Superior
Congregation of Holy Cross

Richard "Digger" Phelps
Former Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee Member

Background:

The Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, (1917–2015), longtime president of the University of Notre Dame, is considered one of the most important academic, religious and civic leaders of the 20th century.

Appointed to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in 1957, Hesburgh helped to compile reports on racial discrimination and the denial of voting rights that resulted in the Omnibus Civil Rights Act of 1964. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom the same year, and later founded the Center for Civil and Human Rights at Notre Dame.

A champion of causes ranging from education to immigration reform to the plight of underdeveloped nations, Hesburgh worked with many organizations that reflected his beliefs, including the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the National Science Board, the Overseas Development Council, and the Select Committee on Immigration and Refugee Policy. An advocate for limiting nuclear arms, he was the Vatican's representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency from 1956-1970.

Ordained into the priesthood of the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1943, Hesburgh was appointed to the faculty at Notre Dame in 1945. He became Notre Dame's 15th president in 1952, a position he held for 35 years, the longest presidential term in the university's history. Hesburgh spearheaded successful efforts to strengthen the faculty and administration, improve academic standards and increase the university's endowment.

In 1987, Hesburgh stepped down as Notre Dame's president, devoting his time in retirement to supporting university initiatives, in particular the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, and serving on various boards and presidential commissions.

Hesburgh was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2000, one of many awards and honors received during his lifetime.

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