# CATHEDRA

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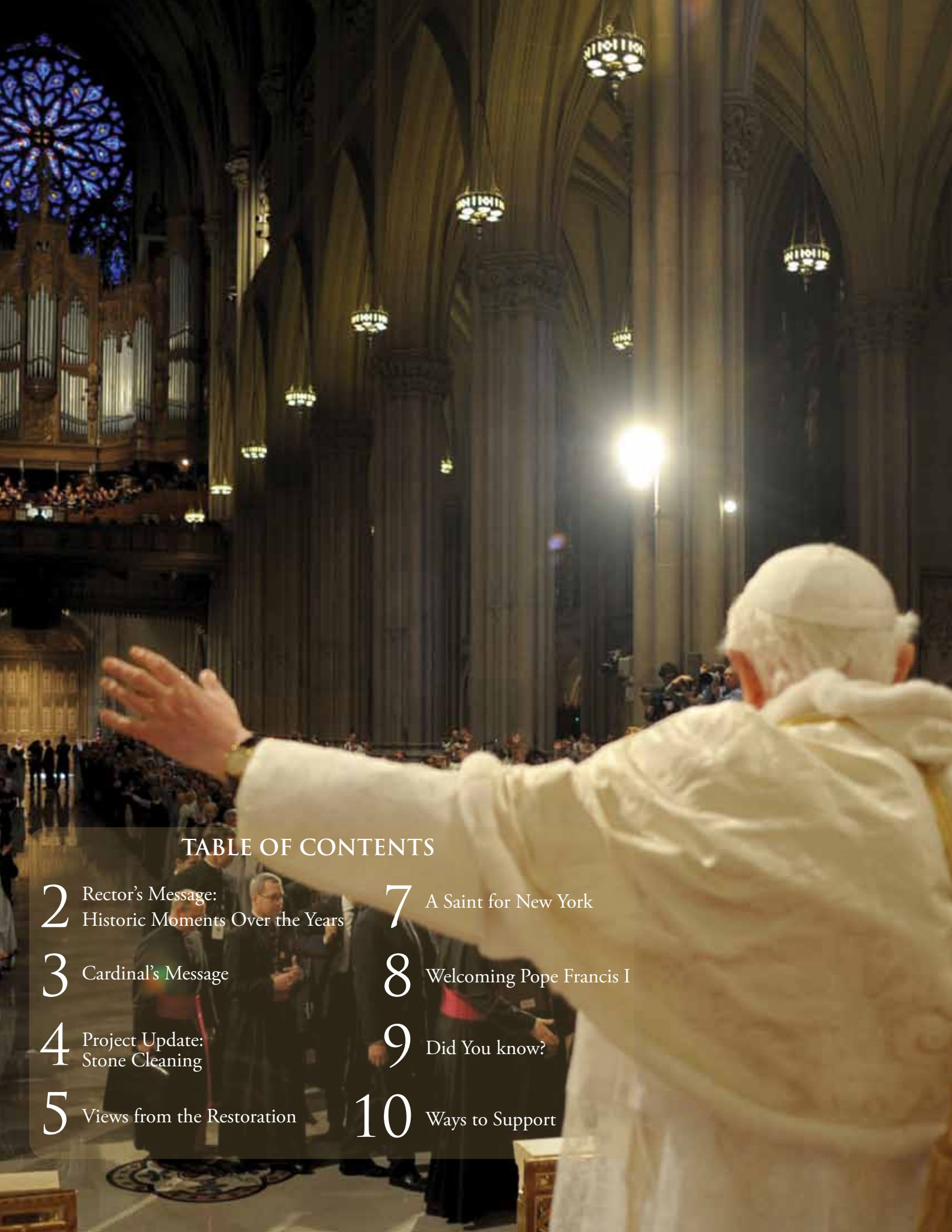
NEW YORK CITY

Summer | Volume 1, Issue 2

ST. PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL



## TABLE OF CONTENTS


2 Rector's Message: Historic Moments Over the Years

3 Cardinal's Message

4 Project Update: Stone Cleaning

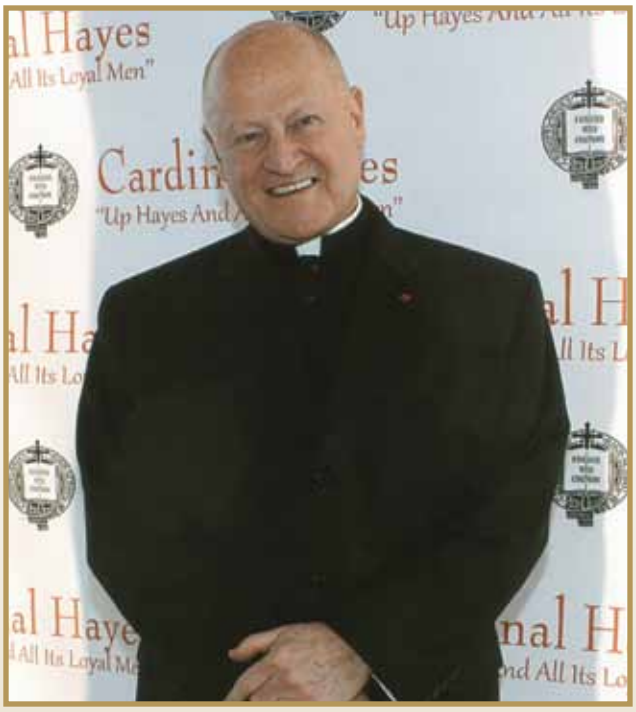
5 Views from the Restoration

7 A Saint for New York

8 Welcoming Pope Francis I

9 Did You know?

10 Ways to Support



It is a particularly exciting time at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

At the Cathedral you can see and hear the sights and sounds of the ongoing restoration: the scaffolding towers over most of the nave, stairs ascend to the top for the workers, netting and wiring are interlaced with a busy hum—and sometimes large clang—of activity! We pause during the noon mass as the workers break for lunch. We also rest during the weekend, and especially on the Lord's Day, Sunday. Recently I told a friend I thought the scaffolding had a certain kind of charm—its orderliness and symmetry is appealing.

The Cathedral restoration is a great visual and earthly reminder of what we as Christians must do every day in our hearts and, in turn, in the Church. Our new Holy Father, Pope Francis, entreats us, "Do not be content to live a mediocre Christian life: walk with determination along the path of holiness." We must work in our own hearts to see Christ Jesus in every person we encounter, when we do this the whole church becomes transformed, restored.

We invite you to take part in this nuts and bolts restoration of the Cathedral and to continue to take part in the restoration of the Church—which starts in your everyday encounters. Restore your heart, restore the Church, restore the Cathedral.

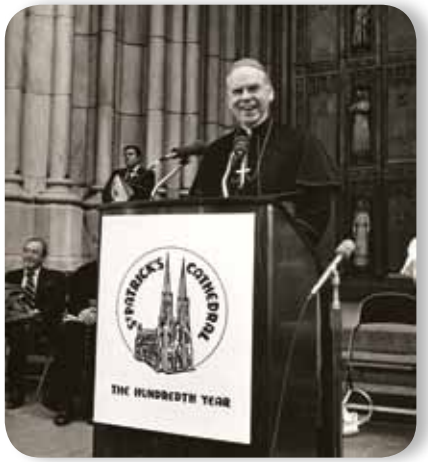
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Robert T. Ritchie, Rector

# HISTORIC MOMENTS OVER THE YEARS

Mother Teresa

Pope Benedict XVI

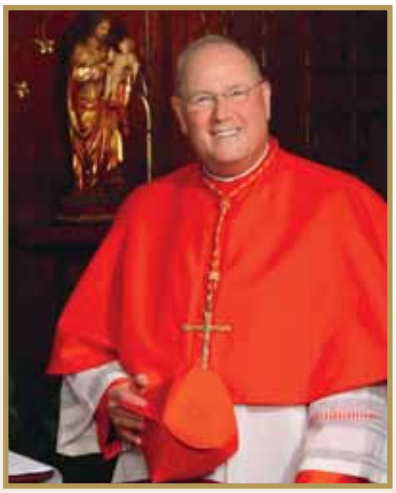



Cardinal Cooke 100 Years

Cardinal O'Connor

Pope John Paul II

SAINT PATRICK'S LIVE
www.saintpatrickscathedral.org/live



## Cardinal's message

# Cathedrals and the Year of Faith

By Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan

As you may know, 'cathedral' means chair or seat and refers to a church which contains the seat of the bishop. Typically these churches, like our own Saint Patrick's, are magnificent and beautiful testimonies to God and of our faith but really, it can be any church with the seat, or cathedra, of the bishop.

On October 11th, Pope Benedict XVI (who occupies the Chair of Saint Peter, a feast day marked especially in Rome at the Basilica) declared the beginning of the Year of Faith. (The Year of Faith ends on November 24, 2013, the Feast of Christ the King.) The Year of Faith, which is also the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council and the twentieth anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, is, according to our Holy Father, a "summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the One Savior of the world."

What do the Year of Faith and cathedrals have to do with each other?

The Year of Faith is an opportunity for us to be converted, that is, transformed, by Christ; we can only do so by getting to know Christ. Cathedrals can help us in this journey.

Saint Patrick's Cathedral is filled with teaching tools—what we call iconography, images or symbols that, in this case, tell us about a religious subject.

The Cathedral is so full of iconography it would take a large book to tell you about all of it so I will just mention a few things—some of which you'll see in whatever cathedral or church you go into.

Remember that when churches were first built in the early centuries of Christianity (and after as well) most people could neither read nor write. Stories of our faith and tenets of our faith had to be explained through pictures, signs, and symbols.

For example, the three leaf clover is all over Saint Pat's—on the tops of columns, on the floor, etc. The three leaf clover is a sign for the Trinity, the most fundamental doctrine of our faith. The story is that Saint Patrick used the three leaf clover to teach the Irish that there are three persons in one God, that is, the Trinity.

On the floor of the sanctuary, just behind the main altar, there is a pelican feeding her young with droplets of blood, etched into the floor. The pelican symbolizes Christ who shed His blood for us on the Cross.

Of course, while there may be thousands of such depictions around the Cathedral (did you ever notice the small dolphin on the baldachino? it's on the left side if your back is to the front and it is a symbol for eternal life) the traditional tool for telling us the stories of the Old and New Testaments, and the lives of the saints are typically in the stained glass windows. There are more than 2,800 stained glass panels in the Cathedral.

Of all these panels, there are only two windows dedicated to someone who is not (yet) a saint:

One is dedicated to Bishop Francis X. Ford, a Maryknoll Missionary in China from Brooklyn, who was arrested for teaching the faith and died in prison in 1952. Bishop Ford was the very first Maryknoll seminarian and spent his life dedicated to serving the Chinese people with whom he lived.

The other is to Mother Catherine McAuley, who founded the Sisters of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland in 1831. Mother McAuley, declared a Venerable by Pope John Paul II in 1990, served, with her order, the poor and all in need in Ireland, especially through education and health care.

The stained glass windows in Saint Pat's tell us a story of a vibrant and heroic faith with depictions of at least 215 saints and holy men and women in the windows (Mary, the Mother of God, makes the most appearances followed by, our patron, Saint Patrick.) I hope you will visit during the Year of Faith, (and after as well!) and come to a deeper knowledge of Christ and his Church through these moving examples.

PROJECT UPDATE

# Stone Cleaning: An Integral Part of the Restoration Project

By Jeffrey Murphy, AIA

When visiting St. Patrick's Cathedral, you will see a sizable portion of the building covered in scaffolding and a broad range of restoration-related activities taking place. In addition to ongoing stone restoration and roof repair is the actual cleaning of the exterior stone of the Cathedral. This cleaning is anything but a cosmetic upgrade and instead is a preservation measure that increases the longevity of the stone and the building exterior at large.

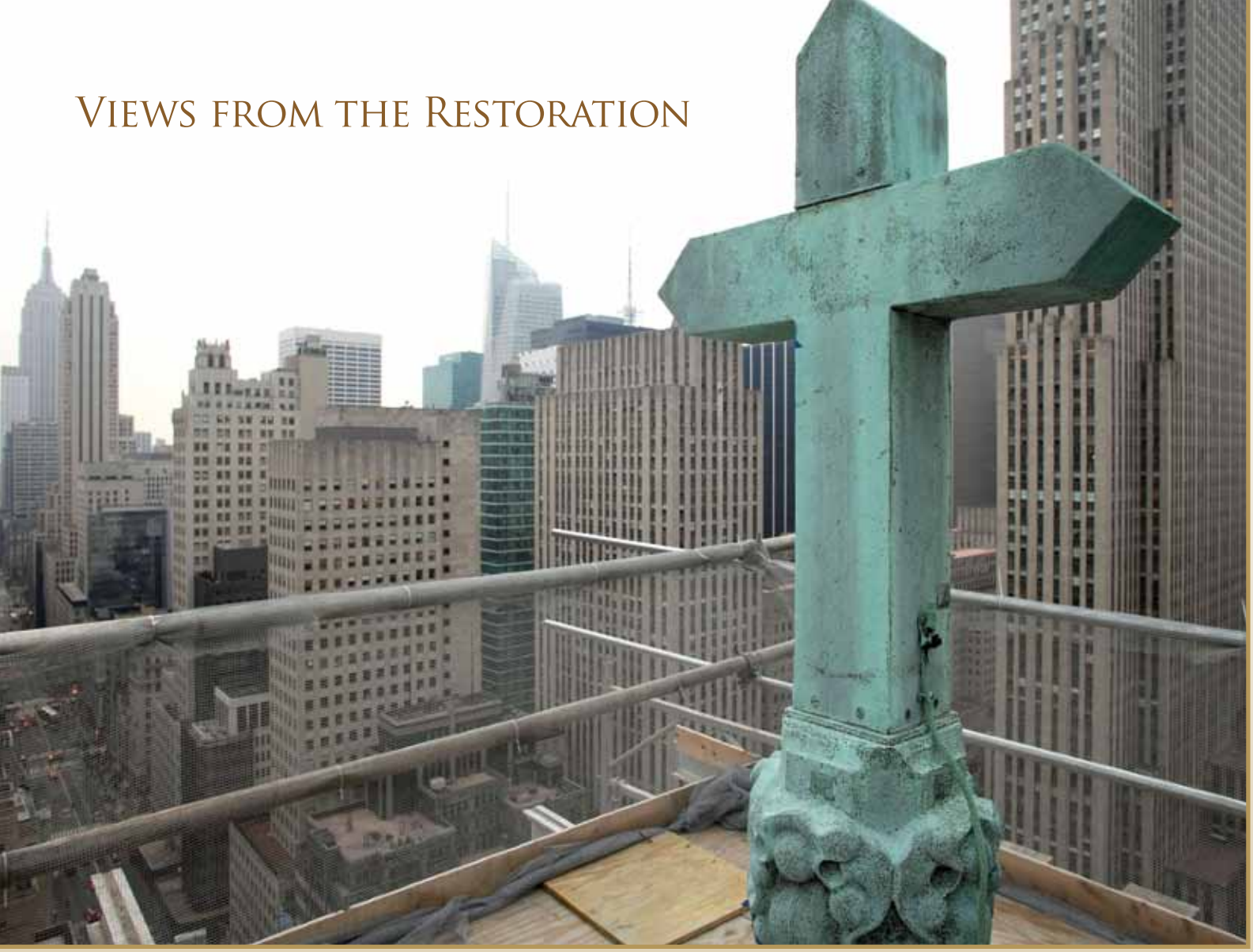
Restoring the Cathedral is a complex undertaking and not just because of the size of the building. There are six types of stone that can be found just on the outside of the Cathedral, all of which require slightly different preservation treatments. They include granite at terraces and the building base, Tuckahoe marble comprising most of the building up to the beginning of the towers, Georgia marble used for repairs over the years, Vermont marble used at the Lady Chapel, a band of Lee marble at the lower level of the towers and Cockeysville marble midway and to the top of the towers. All of the marbles are light colored but the Tuckahoe marble is particularly creamy, light and beautiful. These qualities are among reasons why architect James Renwick, Jr. initially selected Tuckahoe marble while designing the Cathedral.

A distinguishing characteristic of Tuckahoe marble as a building material is that it is more crystalline than some marbles and over time, stones that were once smooth have more surface exposure from wear. This makes this marble particularly susceptible to harmful chemical agents deposited by atmospheric pollution. The simple process of cleaning helps to preserve the stone and enables our restoration consultants to identify stone cracks and otherwise undetectable damage that can be added to the scope of work. A fairly innovative process for cleaning the stone is being used. It involves a soft mineral powder and water sprayed in a vortex to gently scrub the surface of the stone, much like an eraser rubbing away dirt. After a thorough cleaning of the stone, atmospheric pollution is removed and the stone surface is revealed, clean and unharmed.

Pictures of the Cathedral from the 1880's show a very light, monolithic-looking building. It is easy to imagine that at least the first thirty years after the Cathedral's completion, the building retained it's clean, white appearance before it began to suffer the ravages of weather and pollution. The fully cleaned and restored Cathedral exterior will provide a glimpse of what the building originally looked like at its dedication in 1879, yet its character and the patina of time will still show through. More importantly, a fully cleaned and restored building will increase the longevity of the Cathedral for future generations of Catholics, New Yorkers and citizens of the world to experience and enjoy.

*Jeffrey Murphy, AIA LEED AP is an architect and partner at Murphy Burnham & Buttrick, the architecture firm leading the design team to restore St. Patrick's Cathedral.*

# Views from the Restoration



**Left Page:** *Top:* Cross on top of 50th and 5th Ave. spire. *Middle:* Fixing cracks in the plaster. *Bottom Left:* The wood in the Choir loft being reconditioned. *Bottom Right:* Scaffolding set up to restore the Rose Window.
**Right Page:** *Top Left:* 50th Street Transept entrance scaffolding partial removed to reveal cleaned and repaired stone. *Top Right:* Stone joints being mortared. *Middle Left:* Stained Glass repair. *Middle Right:* Cross restoration on top of the 5th Ave. spires. *Bottom Left:* Partially restored stain glass window. *Bottom Right:* Removing old stained glass protection to be replaced.

# The Venerable Fulton J. Sheen: A Saint for New York

By Reverend Michael P. Morris

With the recent canonizations of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha and Saint Marianne Cope, Heaven is beginning to resemble the "sidewalks of New York." On June 28, 2012, the grand "adopted" New Yorker, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen was declared "Venerable" by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. A great privilege for the Church in New York and our beloved Saint Patrick's Cathedral!

Born in El Paso, Illinois on May 8, 1895, young Fulton Sheen graduated from Saint Viator College in Bourbonnais, Illinois in 1917 and completed his priestly training at Saint Paul Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota. Father Sheen was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois on September 20, 1919. Father Sheen received two graduate degrees from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and a Ph.D. from the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium in 1925. A gifted scholar, Father Sheen taught theology and the philosophy of religion at Catholic University, Washington D.C. from 1926 until 1950. Through his radio program The Catholic Hour, Monsignor Sheen wedded intellectual and spiritual clarity with homespun and oftentimes witty familiarity in communicating the truths of the Catholic faith. Possessing a flair for technology, Sheen became a veritable "Saint Paul" of the electronic age.

In 1950, Msgr. Sheen arrived in New York City, where he assumed his duties as director of the New York-based Society of the Propagation of the Faith (now the Pontifical Mission Societies). On June 11, 1951. Sheen was ordained a bishop at Saint Patrick's Cathedral and in September of that year, he began the ten year broadcast of his Emmy-award-winning television series, Life is Worth Living. The Reverend Billy Graham described Archbishop Sheen as the "greatest communicator of the 20th century." Despite his star power as a media giant, competing successfully with television luminaries like Milton Berle, and a household name among Americans of all faiths, Sheen often said, "My greatest love has always been the missions of the Church." In 1966, Bishop Sheen was appointed by Pope Paul VI, sixth bishop of Rochester, New York, where he served until 1969. Upon his return to his beloved New York City that same year, Sheen was made titular (honorary) archbishop of Newport, Wales. What was the secret to Archbishop Sheen's success? Very simply, he fostered a deep devotion to the Holy Eucharist through his dedication to the daily Holy Hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, a love for the Mass, which he unfailingly offered every day, and his ability to see the face of God in all the people he had been given the opportunity to meet.

Despite his Midwestern roots, Archbishop Sheen was the quintessential New Yorker. Many would see this elegant Manhattan denizen strolling along the streets of Midtown in his starched clerical collar, overcoat, and pearl-grey gloves, greeting passers-by with an expressive smile and a tip of his black homburg hat. Archbishop Sheen's Good Friday reflections on the Seven Last Words of Jesus drew many people to Saint Patrick's Cathedral as well as neighboring Saint Agnes Church. There was not a dry eye in the Cathedral when on October 2, 1979, Blessed John Paul II, on the occasion of his first visit as pope to the Cathedral, warmly and gratefully embraced Archbishop Sheen in the sanctuary. It was always Archbishop Sheen's wish that he would die on a feast or solemnity of Our Lady. He was one day off the mark from his holy desire, returning home to the God he loved so much and served so loyally on December 9, 1979, the day after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

In his 1984 work, Catholic Bishops: A Memoir, the noted

church historian, the late Monsignor John Tracy Ellis wrote of his friend Archbishop Sheen's love for New York and Saint Patrick's Cathedral:

*"When Fulton Sheen died in December, 1979 at the age of eighty-four, it was altogether appropriate that his final resting place should have been the burial vault beneath the high altar of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, for the pulpit of that historic church had never been so frequently and so uniquely adorned as it had by the twentieth century's most famous Catholic preacher."*

Thanks to the kindness and foresight of the Servant of God, Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York, the tomb of such a holy man is now so accessible to the many who he continues to inspire to greater holiness.

*Fr. Morris is the Administrator of the Church of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Roosevelt Island, New York and the Archivist of the Archdiocese of New York Archives.*

Inside Cathedral Crypt: Bottom Center the Venerable Fulton Sheen

# Welcoming the New Holy Father, Pope Francis I

On March 13, 2013 we eagerly anticipated the arrival of a new Holy Father as we prayed for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, for the Cardinals electing a new pope, and, of course, for the whole Church.

The white smoke rose over the Vatican and crowds congregated at the Cathedral…

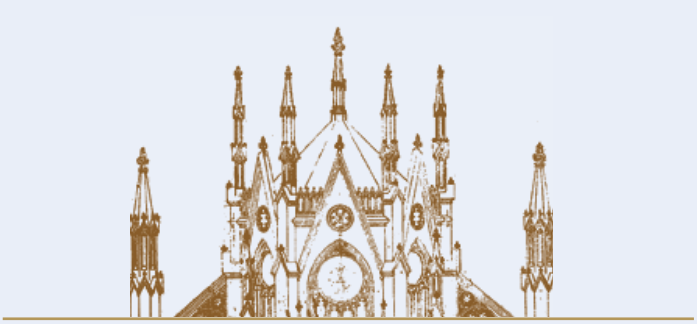
With joy in our hearts we heard the announcement that the new Successor of St. Peter would be Pope Francis, formerly the Cardinal-Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Jorge Bergoglio.

Please continue to keep the Vicar of Christ in your prayers as he begins his pontificate.

Parishioners and visitors watched the papal announcement.

Here are some fast facts for you to get to know Pope Francis a little better:

- He was born December 17, 1936
- Ordained a priest for the Jesuit Order on December 13, 1969
- He is the first pope from the Americas, first Jesuit pope, and first to take the name, Francis
- He chose Francis after St. Francis of Assisi
- He speaks, Spanish, Italian, English, French and German
- He loves soccer and tango
- He has strong devotion to Mary, the Mother of God
- He has been known to cook his own meals and live very simply
- His motto is the Latin phrase "Miserando atque eligendo," which means "having mercy, he called him." The phrase refers to a line in St Bede's homily: "Because he saw him through the eyes of mercy and chose him."



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Reverend Monsignor Robert T. Ritchie, Rector
Reverend Andrew King, Master of Ceremonies
Kevin Donohue, Director of Building Operations
Kate Monaghan, Director of Communications
Loual Puliafito, Director of Development
Patrick Danczewski, Director of Cathedral Gift Shop
Jennifer Pascual, DMA, Director of Music and Organist
Roberta Shea, Director of Volunteers and Cathedral Tours

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Whitney Cox, Chris Danielson, and Chris LaPutt

Mass Times:
Monday through Friday: 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 am,
12 Noon, 12:30, 1:00, 5:30 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am (in Lady Chapel)

12 Noon, Vigil Mass: 5:30 pm (Fulfills Sunday obligation)

Sunday: 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:15 am (Choir),
12 Noon, 1:00, 4:00 (Spanish), and 5:30 pm

*Visit saintpatrickscathedral.org/live/ Sundays for the 10:15am Mass.*

Confession Times:
Weekdays: After morning Mass and from Noon to 1:20 PM
Saturdays: Noon to 12:45 PM and 3:30 to 5:30 PM

Reconciliation is available in languages other than English.
For more information, please contact the priest on duty at:

St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish House
14 East 51st Street
New York, NY 10022
212.753.2261

For any additional questions you may have please feel free
to call the Parish House: 212.753.2261

DIRECTIONS:
St. Patrick's Cathedral
5th Avenue between 50th/51st Streets
New York, NY

Subway:
E or 6 trains to 5th Avenue/53rd Street
4 5 6 or NQR to 5th Avenue/59th Street
BDMF to Rockefeller Center

Gift Shop:
Visit Our Shop Online– www.stpatscathedralgiftshop.com
15 East 51st Street, between 5th Avenue and Madison Avenue
Hours: 8:30 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Friday
10:00 am to 6:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday

Virtual Visit – saintpatrickscathedral.org/visit
St. Patrick's Cathedral is the Mother Church of the
Archdiocese of New York and the seat of its Archbishop.
Built by contributions large and small, it remains emblematic
of the ascendance of religious freedom in the New World.





## Did you Know?

- Author F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife, Zelda Sayre, were married at St. Patrick's on Saturday, April 3, 1920.
- There are 3 men buried in the Crypt who are in the process of being canonized, or, being declared a saint: Venerables Pierre Toussaint and Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, and Servant of God, Terence Cardinal Cooke.
- There have been over 100,000 weddings at the Cathedral since it opened in 1879.
- Though we opened in 1879, the Cathedral spires at 328 feet high, were not finished until 1888.

St. Patrick's Cathedral depends on the generosity of our parishioners, friends, and benefactors. Generosity is the way we show our gratitude for the gifts we have been given by God. The most noticeable way we show our gratitude is by giving gifts to our parish and other charitable institutions. Giving in this way is important and a dependable way to be a part of the Cathedral and support the many programs offered by the Cathedral. We are also able to continue to welcome more than 5 million visitors a year.

Every gift we receive at St. Patrick's Cathedral supports our programs and maintains this magnificent Cathedral.

**Give: saintpatrickscathedral.org/give/donate**

***THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING A GIFT TODAY!***

Let's all stay in touch
Receive email updates about
St. Patrick's Cathedral
**Join: saintpatrickscathedral.org/stay_in_touch**

Please consider joining the Friends of Music at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Your support keeps the Cathedral flowing with music throughout the year.

For years, the Friends of Music have supported the music ministry here at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Thanks to their generosity, we are able to offer you wonderful concerts throughout the year.

Please consider joining the Friends of Music at St. Patrick's Cathedral for the 2012-2013 season. Your support is necessary to keep the concerts free or reasonably priced. Each gesture of your support enables us to continue producing high-quality music in this majestic space.

**Visit: saintpatrickscathedral.org/music**
**Support: saintpatrickscathedral.org/give/music**

### MAKE A GIFT OF STOCK

If you would like to make a gift of stock, please instruct your broker to contact:

*Merrill Lynch - AC & Associates* at 800.937.0639 or

*UBS - Eric J. Waldman* at 212.309.3000

They will provide your broker with a confirmation number. We ask that you contact Nick Salvador at the Finance office at the Cathedral at 212.753.2261 ext. 798 with the confirmation number and the amount of the donation so that we may provide you with the appropriate tax documentation.

We invite you to participate in our community of faith by lighting a virtual prayer candle online. Your contribution helps maintain a safe and holy environment in the Cathedral.

Each day, visitors from all over the world light a candle at St. Patrick's Cathedral as an act of prayer. One large candle is lit at St. Patrick's Cathedral to symbolize and commemorate all the virtual candles requested from our community of faith on the Internet. The candle is located in the Baptistery next to the relic of St. Patrick.

**Light and Pray:**
**saintpatrickscathedral.org/give/ light_a_candle**

### REMEMBER THE CATHEDRAL IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS

If you would like to include the Cathedral in your will or living trust, create a charitable gift annuity or, if you are older than 70, make a gift through an IRA Charitable Rollover, please contact Jacqueline Comesanas, Esq in the Office of Gift Planning at (646) 794-3317 or gift.planning@archny.org, to discuss this interesting opportunity.

## "Restore your Heart. Restore the Church. Restore the Cathedral."

### rediscover St. Patrick's Cathedral and learn about our Catholic history with our new Audio tour.

## Opening July 8th, 2013

© 2013 St. Patrick's Cathedral

ST. PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL

## IN THE NEWS

### NEW YORK'S LANDMARK ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL SHOWS TRUE COLORS

*(Wall Street Journal)* - For the first time in more than a century, the majestic spires of St. Patrick's Cathedral were gleaming as brightly as they were meant to.

*(http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324688404578541982190897400.html)*

### SPIRES AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, CLEANED UP, COMEBACK IN VIEW

*(New York Times)* – Now the spires at St. Patrick's Cathedral are beginning to emerge after being encased in scaffolding for nine months. The crews that built the scaffolding level by level for the cathedral's restoration are dismantling it. .

*(http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/19/nyregion/spires-at-st-patricks-cathedral-cleaned-up-come-back-in-view.html?_r=0)*

### ST. PATRICK'S 'DIVINE MAKEOVER'

*(CNN)* – Jason Carroll highlights the restoration of St. Patrick's Cathedral as it's returned to its original glory.

*(http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIS_p8j4krM)*

### CARDINAL DOLAN BLESSES SECOND PHASE WORK – MASS FOR WORKERS

*(New York 1)* - Cardinal Timothy Dolan offered a special blessing Thursday to crews working on the restoration of St. Patrick's Cathedral. A mass was celebrated for the construction crew, marking the beginning of the second phase of a three-part renovation plan.

*(http://manhattan.ny1.com/content/top_stories/180684/cardinal-dolan-blesses-crews-working-on-st--patrick-s-cathedral-restoration)*