

THE CARDINAL COOKE GUILD

OFFICIAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE CAUSE OF CANONIZATION OF CARDINAL COOKE

- Dr. Avv. Andrea Ambrosi
Roman Postulator
- Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Giandurco
Vice Postulator
- Rev. Benedict J. Groeschel, CFR
Consultant
- Patricia Handal
Coordinator
- Sister M. Aloysius McBride, O.Carm.
Consultant
- Nora Sharkey Murphy
Editor

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1011 FIRST AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10022 (212) 371-1000
EMAIL: abbeykkmoy@aol.com WEB SITE: <http://www.terencecardinalcooke.org>

Almighty and eternal Father, we thank you for the exemplary life and gentle kindness of your son and bishop, Terence Cooke. If it be your gracious will, grant that the virtues of your servant may be recognized and provide a lasting example for your people. We pray through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

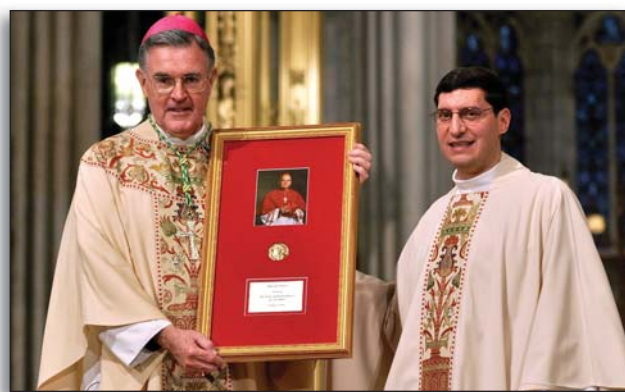
Cardinal Cooke, model of priestly “Fidelity, Prudence, and Goodness”

Terence Cardinal Cooke was remembered as a priest of “fidelity, prudence and goodness that we would do well to emulate in our time,” by Auxiliary Bishop Gerald T. Walsh in his homily at the 26th Mass of Remembrance on October 6 at Saint Patrick’s Cathedral.

In his homily, Bishop Walsh quoted Pope Benedict XVI who defined fidelity, prudence and goodness as the three characteristics needed by all who serve in His name. The bishop pointed to Cardinal Cooke as a priest and bishop who exemplified these virtues particularly as “the bishop who led this archdiocese through 15 of its most challenging years; the bishop whose leadership provided a host of services to God’s people in education, charities, vibrant parishes, race relations, outreach to immigrants, expanded services to the elderly and the sick...the bishop ...who took care of the men and women in the Armed Services in many parts of the world.”

He noted that “*Fiat Voluntas Tua*, the Cardinal’s Episcopal motto, was also his way of life. Like Mary, whose service to the Lord is praised ...and whose life on earth was so beneficial to God’s people, so too was the life and service of Cardinal Cooke so praiseworthy and so beneficial to all of us.”

Bishop Walsh was celebrant and homilist at the Mass in place of Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, who presided that day at the Funeral Mass of a Yonkers firefighter killed in the line of duty.



Auxiliary Bishop Gerald T. Walsh accepts The Cardinal Cooke Medal on behalf of the priests of the Archdiocese of New York. Monsignor Joseph R. Giandurco, vice postulator for the Cardinal’s cause presented the medal on behalf of the Guild.

More than 40 bishops, priests and deacons joined Bishop Walsh on the altar. The concelebrants included Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien of Baltimore, who served as secretary to Cardinal Cooke; Auxiliary Bishop Josu Iriondo, Vicar for Hispanic Affairs; Father Benedict J. Groeschel, C.F.R., who has written about the life of the Cardinal and Monsignor Joseph R. Giandurco, vice postulator of the Cardinal’s Cause for Canonization.

Members of Cardinal Cooke’s family including his sister-in-law Margaret Cooke, nephew Gregory Cooke and nieces Patricia Cooke Sica and Teresa Cooke attended the Mass along with members of the Cardinal Cooke Guild and students from Catholic elementary schools in the archdiocese.

The Cardinal Cooke Medal was presented to The Priests of The Archdiocese of New York at the conclusion of the Mass in recognition of The Year for Priests.

(see page 4)

GUILD CALENDAR

December 2009

Annual Christmas Raffle
(Drawing December 10th)

January 2010

Evensong at Saint Thomas Episcopal Church
5th Avenue and 53rd Street
January 21st

February 2010

Essay contest for eighth graders
(Deadline for submission of essays February 2010)

March 2010

Annual Mass Commemorating the Birthday of Cardinal Cooke
March 2, 2010

School children join worshippers at Mass of Remembrance



Students visit Cardinal Cooke's Crypt following the Mass on October 6

More than 200 students from four elementary schools in The Archdiocese of New York were among those who attended the 26th Anniversary Mass of Remembrance on October 6 at Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

The students from Saint Elizabeth's School in Manhattan; Saint John Vianney and Saint Helena Elementary schools in the Bronx and Saint Paul the Apostle School in Yonkers were drawn to the Mass by the Cardinal's memory as a man who supported education and spoke out for the rights of the unborn and the other powerless members of society.

In addition to attending the Mass, the students were invited to visit the Cardinal's Crypt under the Cathedral's main altar. For many, it was their first visit to the cathedral. They were impressed by the historic structure but they were moved by the chance to visit and pray briefly at the Cardinal's final resting place.

"It was appropriate that school children joined us to remember the Cardinal," said Patricia Handal, coordinator of The Cardinal Cooke Guild that coordinates the annual Mass. She reflected on Cardinal Cooke's love for young people and his joy in being with them. His visits to schools and child care institutions are remembered by those who worked with him as highlights of his schedules.



More than 40 Priests concelebrated The Mass of Remembrance on October 6 at Saint Patrick's Cathedral

Cardinal Cooke remembered in settings around the world

Father George Rutler began his lecture on "the year of the priest" at St. Joseph's Seminary by remembering the kindness of Terence Cardinal Cooke who welcomed him into the Catholic Church and priesthood.

Residents of the John Cardinal O'Connor Clergy Residence in the Bronx remembered their friend and fellow archdiocesan priest at Mass.

Monsignor Edmund J. Whalen, pastor of St. Joseph-St. Thomas parish on Staten Island, and his classmates who were in Rome celebrating their 25th Anniversary

of Priesthood celebrated Mass in the Church of Saint John and Saint Paul, the church of the New York Cardinal there.

The prayers for Cardinal Cooke and his Cause of Canonization rose throughout the world as people who were touched by him in life and through prayers after his death stopped to remember the 26th Anniversary of his death on October 6.

Father Rutler, who was an Episcopalian priest prior to his conversion to Catholicism, was at the seminary to deliver the first of this year's Dunwoodie Lectures

whose theme is The Year for Priests. Father recalled Cardinal Cooke, the man who "was a father in every way to me. He received my parents into the Church. He was a gift for which I am very much indebted," he told the audience of some 100 people.

The staff at the Cardinal Cooke Guild Offices reported that e-mails, calls and letters increased on the days before the anniversary. There were reports of favors granted and stories of the importance of the example of the Cardinal.

The cause of canonization of Terence Cardinal Cooke



Vice Postulator
Reverend Monsignor
Joseph Giandurco
Cardinal Cooke Commission

Sacred Heart Church
129 Lafayette Avenue
Suffern, New York 10901

November 2009

Dear Friends,

It is with tremendous gratitude and hopefulness that I write this update on the status of the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of Terence Cardinal Cooke.

The gratitude in my heart, after the Lord, of course, goes to Patricia Handal and everyone who works tirelessly at the Cardinal Cooke Guild for the Cause. There have been years of hard work, but the last six months have witnessed monumental efforts to assist the Postulator in Rome with his work. It's difficult to explain the amount of work done, but suffice it to say that the Cause has greatly advanced because of the same.

The hopefulness is justified due to recent meetings with and deliveries from Dr. Ambrosi, the Roman Postulator. Pat Handal and I received wonderful news on the progress being made with more in the offing on several fronts. Assisted by the Guild, Dr. Ambrosi has virtually completed the Summary of the Testimonies, he is finishing the Summary of the Documents, and is about to begin the important work on the possible miracle. It is difficult to speak of a home stretch with Causes of Canonization but it has never so much seemed like the light at the end of the tunnel has begun to shine. Everything eventually has to be approved by the Congregation of the Causes of Saints and finally by the Holy Father himself one day.

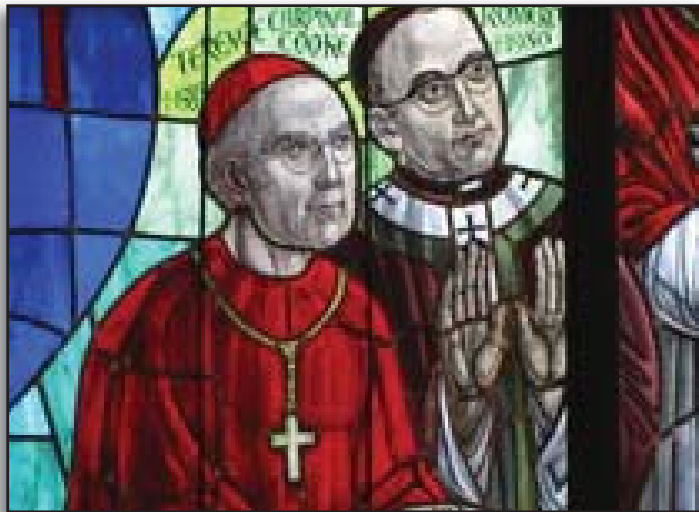
We continue to pray that Cardinal Cooke be recognized as a Saint in the not too distant future, if it be in accord with God's will, and we continue to work, especially the Guild and the Postulator, with the hope that our efforts further the Cause, to the glory of God.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monsignor Giandurco".

Monsignor Joseph Giandurco
Vice Postulator

Staten Island church window depicts Cardinal



A stained glass window in Saint Joseph's Church on Staten Island featuring Terence Cardinal Cooke brings solace and comfort to people who come to pray and meditate.

According to Monsignor Edmund J. Whalen, pastor of St. Joseph-Thomas Parish, "there is always someone in the church at the window, praying." "The incidences of various

cancers are high on Staten Island," says Msgr. Whalen who has urged people to pray to the Cardinal since he arrived as pastor in 2007. He has seen a steady increase of people coming to stand before the window in prayer.

"In conversation with those who are praying at the window, the consistent theme is that Cardinal Cooke 'is one of our own' whose kindness and genuine holiness is still remembered. As one woman who is suffering from cancer told me, 'when I think of what he went through, I know I can do it too,'" he says.

The window was created when the church was renovated in the mid-1990s. Monsignor Peter Finn, who was pastor, told the artist that he wanted a window that presented American saints. "Henry Vanderburgdt took the idea and designed a window that features Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop Oscar Romero and Saint John Fisher. It was his idea and a great one," says Msgr. Finn.

Portraying someone who has not yet been canonized or beatified in a church window is not unprecedented. Several windows in Saint Patrick's Cathedral have the images of those associated with its construction including Archbishop John Hughes.



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1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022-4187

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Cardinal Cooke medal presented to priests of the Archdiocese of New York

The Cardinal Cooke Medal was presented to the priests of the Archdiocese of New York on October 6 at the conclusion of the Mass of Remembrance on the 26th Anniversary of the Cardinal's death.

The Cardinal Cooke Guild selected the priests as recipients of the medal in recognition of The Year for Priests which was designated by Pope Benedict XVI. The year began on June 19 and will conclude next June.

In making the presentation, Monsignor Joseph R. Giandurco, vice postulator of the Cardinal's cause and pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Suffern, said that the medal was the Guild's way of recognizing all the priests of the archdiocese for their work and efforts in "seeking to do the Lord's will." He noted that in a year dedicated

to priests the "example of Cardinal Cooke and his Episcopal Motto Fiat Voluntas Tua" are valuable lessons for us all." He ended his remarks by asking for prayers for "all our priests."

Auxiliary Bishop Gerald T. Walsh accepted the medal on behalf of the priests and thanked the Guild for "this tribute which will deepen our commitment to the example of Cardinal Cooke."

The Cardinal Cooke Medal of Peace was established in 1988 by John Cardinal O'Connor. It commemorates the meaning of Cardinal Cooke's Episcopal Motto and reflects his statement "In His Will Is Our Peace." The medal is awarded

annually by The Terence Cardinal Cooke Guild at the Memorial Mass for Cardinal Cooke to those who most embody his ideals.

