

VATICAN PAVILION CEREMONIES NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR 1964-1965



OCTOBER 31, 1962

NEW YORK — 3:00 A.M. ROME — 9:00 A.M.

THE FOLLOWING REMARKS ARE TAKEN FROM A TRANSCRIPT OF THE VATICAN RADIO BROADCAST DURING CEREMONIES IN ROME AND AT FLUSHING MEADOW PARK COMMEMORATING THE START OF CONSTRUCTION ON THE VATICAN PAVILION, NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1962.

ANNOUNCER: We are assembled for the occasion of the official groundbreaking ceremonies for the Vatican Pavilion at the New York World's Fair in 1964 and 1965. His Holiness Pope John XXIII is about to enter his private study where he will deliver a commemorative address in Latin, after which he will push a button to signal across the Atlantic for the start of pile-driving operations at the construction site of the Vatican Pavilion.

After the Holy Father's address, you will hear an English translation by the Right Rev. Monsignor Cardinale.

The Holy Father is about to enter — and everybody is ready — the television cameras are already rolling. His

Holiness has now entered his private study and with him are His Eminence Amleto Giovanni Cardinal Cicognani, Vatican Secretary of State, and His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, who are taking their places on either side of the Holy Father. And now you will hear His Holiness, Pope John XXIII. The Holy Father.

[Pope John XXIII's Latin address, which is then followed by transatlantic electronic signal to start construction.]

ANNOUNCER: And now that you have heard the Holy Father's message, you will hear a full English translation by the Right Reverend Monsignor Cardinale.

MSGR. CARDINALE: Spiritually present at the official groundbreaking for the Vatican Pavilion of the New York World's Fair, we are happy, on this occasion, to extend our congratulations and our best wishes for its success. The World's Fair, while it will bear testimony to what the genius and labors of men have been able to accomplish for the progress of civilization, will also contribute without doubt to the solidarity of people and to their fruitful collaboration for the welfare of humanity.

Cover: The Vatican Pavilion will rise on an oval-shaped plot of land in Flushing Meadow, to be crowned by a lantern and a cross at a total height of 100 feet. It will feature, in addition to the famed "Pietà" by Michelangelo, a Gallery of Michelangelo, containing a treatment of the works of the artist; a statue of the Good Shepherd, an

early Christian sculpture from the catacombs; an exhibition of one-third life size color transparencies of the Sistine Chapel, and a collection of Vatican coins. Architectural firms collaborating on the Vatican Pavilion design are York & Sawyer; Hurley & Hughes; Luders and Associates. Contractor is Stewart M. Muller of White Plains.



Pope John XXIII presses switch in Vatican that sends signal starting pile-driving operations for Vatican Pavilion at New York World's Fair. At left is Amleto Giovanni Cardinal Cicognani, Vatican Secretary of State, and at right is Francis Cardinal Spellman of New York. In the back-

ground are Bishop Bryan J. McEntegart of Brooklyn and Thomas J. Deegan, Jr., chairman of Fair's executive committee. The picture above was taken from the European television broadcast.

To this end, from our heart, we cherish the hope that this remarkable progress of science will serve for the spiritual progress of mankind, without which there can be neither true prosperity nor secure peace.

This is the reason for the participation of the Holy See in this World's Fair and so that our wishes may become a consoling reality, we implore from Almighty God an abundance of divine favors.

ANNOUNCER: That was the Right Reverend Monsignor Cardinale who has given you the full English translation of the Holy Father's speech.

And now the Fair's official gold medallion is being presented to His Holiness by Mr. Thomas J. Deegan, Jr., chairman of the New York World's Fair executive committee.

The Holy Father is escorted to his desk now by Cardinal Cicognani and Cardinal Spellman, both of whom will return to deliver their own personal messages commemorating the start of construction on the Vatican Pavilion.

His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York is now ready to speak to you. His Eminence Cardinal Spellman.

CARDINAL SPELLMAN: Holy Father, in behalf of the Bishop of Brooklyn and myself, I express deep gratitude to Your Holiness for all that you have done to help

us in the World's Fair from the very beginning. Your encouraging words and your inspiration in the beginning have been a great help to the Bishops of the country in providing for this magnificent building. We are grateful to you this morning for pressing the button to start the activities in the building of this Vatican Pavilion.

Your Holiness has been most gracious in allowing the "Pietà" to come to New York and — notwithstanding the fears of some directors of museums who themselves have had thousands of works of art brought over on the ocean — Your Holiness has desired that people who are unable to make the journey to Rome can see this masterpiece of Michelangelo.

The purpose of the Fair is to achieve "Peace through Understanding." And that corresponds very closely, I believe, to our own interpretation of our blessed and beloved country of peace through moral and mortal restraint. Lately we have had an example of the peace through the measures adopted by our country. The Church has the program and the policy of peace through prayer and likewise we are grateful because God has answered our prayers since last Sunday when in our Churches — the Catholic Church of the United States — we had prayers for peace. And almost miraculously peace has dawned. So once more, Beloved Holy Father, we thank you for the interest that you have shown in the World's Fair. Thank you very much.

Gathered at Flushing Meadow for the 3 a.m. World's Fair Vatican Pavilion groundbreaking ceremonies are: Very Rev. Msgr. Francis M. Costello, Very Rev. Msgr. Timothy

J. Flynn, Fair President Robert Moses, Most Rev. John J. Maguire, Hon. James J. Delaney, Rt. Rev. Msgr. James W. Asip, and Rev. Raymond Leonard.



ANNOUNCER: That was His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman. And now His Eminence Amleto Giovanni Cardinal Cicognani, The Holy Father's Secretary of State.

CARDINAL CICOGNANI: I am so pleased with this contribution of the Vatican Pavilion to the New York World's Fair and I am sure that the American people will visit this pavilion with sincere affection. This is an occasion to rejoice with the good people of New York and Brooklyn and also to recall fond memories of friends throughout the length and breadth of the United States.

His Holiness Pope John XXIII, with his great heart, is preparing with delight to allow this treasure of art to be transported to the World's Fair, fully confident of the inspiration which it will bring to the many millions who will visit this magnificent venture. My prayers and good wishes for a great success.

ANNOUNCER: You are listening to the Vatican radio in this special broadcast on the occasion of the official groundbreaking for the Vatican Pavilion in the New York World's Fair. This broadcast has come from the private study of His Holiness Pope John XXIII. That is the end of this broadcast — Praise to Jesus Christ — Laudator Jesus Christus.

[Sound of bells is heard from St. Peter's Basilica mingling with the pile driver at Flushing Meadow.]

MSGR. TIMOTHY J. FLYNN: Your Holiness, Your Eminences Cardinal Cicognani and Cardinal Spellman, Your Excellency Bishop McEntegart — this is Monsignor Flynn at the site of the Vatican Pavilion at the Fairgrounds in New York. You have just heard the start of construction. It is 3 a.m. and it has been raining here, but we are very cheerful.

In the name of all those assembled here, Bishop McGuire, Msgr. Asip and Father Leonard of Brooklyn, Msgr. Costello, the officials of the World's Fair, the construction men, the press, television personnel and all here gathered, we wish to express our thanks — thanks particularly to His Holiness — for we are grateful for the events of this night. What His Holiness has done in starting the construction of the Vatican Pavilion is not only a tribute to modern technological progress but it is also an act of faith in the Fair and in the Future.

May I now present the Honorable Robert Moses, president of the New York World's Fair.

ROBERT MOSES: The theme of the New York World's Fair is peace through a mutual understanding on a shrinking globe in an expanding universe. We welcome the support of the Vatican at this crucial time, and its willingness to send us its greatest and most moving sculptural symbol. We regard the announcement of the beginning of construction of the Vatican Pavilion as an event of immense world significance. It is an inspiration to all of us.

On the occasion of the start of construction on the Vatican Pavilion, Thomas J. Deegan, Jr. presented the Holy Father with World's Fair medallion.





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Flushing 52, N. Y.

Tel. 212-WF 4-1964

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