



City of Cambridge

3.

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 3, 1980

COUNCILLOR WALTER SULLIVAN

ORDERED: That the "Meditation Prayer" delivered by the Reverend Allen Happe, Pastor of the First Church in Cambridge, at the ecumenical Mass and Te Deum held at the Sacred Heart Church October 11, 1980, be made part of the record of this City Council; and be it further

ORDERED: That a copy of this "Meditation Prayer" be transmitted by the City Clerk to the 350th Anniversary Committee with a request that it be made a part of the official records of the City's 350th Anniversary.

In City Council November 3, 1980.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy".

Mass and Te Deum
350th Anniversary, City of Cambridge
Sacred Heart of Jesus
49 Sixth Street
October 11, 1980
"Meditation"
Allen Happe, Pastor
First Church in Cambridge, Congregational

Brothers and sisters in Christ, magistrates of the civil order, our beloved Pastor Vartzelis (I say "our" because at a tragic moment of crisis you have walked the streets and have been a shepherd of this entire city), your eminence Bishop Cronin, on behalf of clergy men and women serving other congregations in Cambridge, I bring you greetings and join with some of them in this service of thanksgiving to God for our city and for its long and distinguished heritage.

This city, its first church and college were the result of a courageous religious experiment. The Puritan dream was that faith, freedom and civic responsibility could be achieved on the basis of God's Word in the Bible. For all the excesses and failures, that dream has had far reaching consequences. The founders of Nestowne could not have imagined where their dream would lead. They might be horrified to find a pastor of the first, congregational church at a Roman Catholic mass of such elaborate ceremony. And the priests and doctors of the seventeenth century Latin Church would be equally horrified to find that I had been invited to a holy event such as this!

Which brings me to the one point I would like to register on this special, festive occasion: although we frequently and rightly relish the profuse variety of people in this cosmopolitan city, we should always remember that we have more in common than we have in conflict. The three hundred fifty years since Governor Winthrop crossed the Charles River to locate this town, and the native American presence here since time immemorial, are now an open legacy, accessible to all, instructive to all who study and claim it as their own. Openness to new immigrants has been a feature of this city since the beginning, and may that hospitality prevail today and tomorrow. We share a common citizenship, so well demonstrated by the recent, sincere and largely effective effort to make our public schools more fairly reflect the varied character of our people. We all benefit--and are sometimes inconvenienced or enraged by--the same institutions: social agencies, public services, commercial and industrial units, and our colleges, including four theological seminaries alone. We have a common call, all the more urgent in the present hour, to assert the dignity of every person, especially the sick, imprisoned, poor and oppressed. And we share with people everywhere in a critical need for survival, a desperate hope that some of the atomic weapons with such unimaginable potential for catastrophic destruction--designed also to a large extent in this city--may never be used against human life and civilization.

Even more than that, particularly around this table, we are visibly reminded of the One who was able to bear the sin of the whole world and whose promise is for universal peace with justice, even Jesus Christ our Lord. He is the one who draws us together to be reconciled, to make of our city a place of love and delight, and to pray for that heavenly city of God "not made by hands."

Therefore, fellow citizens and fellow saints, greetings: grace, mercy and peace in the Name of Christ! Together, with joy let us give thanks--which is what the word "eucharist" means-- and let us renew the dream of that divinely guided commonwealth, in which, as John F. Kennedy once said, "God's work on earth is truly ours to do."

Order # 3 S-501

C. W. Sullivan re: that the "Meditation Prayer" at the ecumenical Mass and Te Deum held at Sacred Heart Church on Oct. 11, 1980 be made part of the record of this City Council.

In City Council,

Nov. 3, 1980

11/3/80

QWJ

Order Adopted

9 MEMBERS

Copy sent to 350th
Committee 11/4/80 (all)