

**EPISCOPAL ORDINATIONS OF
MSGR. WHELAN AND MSGR. GERARDO COLACICCO
AS AUXILIARY BISHOPS OF NEW YORK
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019, AT 2:00 P.M.
SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
REMARKS PRIOR TO READING THE BULLS**



Your Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Metropolitan Archbishop of New York, Your Eminences, Your Excellencies, Your Excellencies Bishops-elect Edmund Whalen and Gerardo Colaccio, Dear Auxiliary Bishops of this Local Church, Dear Brother Archbishops and Bishops, Dear Priests, Deacons, Consecrated Religious and Lay Faithful of the Church in New York, Dear Friends:

Today is a wonderful day for the Church in the Archdiocese of New York as two new auxiliary bishops will be consecrated to assist Cardinal Dolan in proclaiming the Good News of salvation in this historic Archdiocese. In these days of Advent, having just celebrated the Immaculate Conception and looking forward to the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, with Mary, we rejoice: God comes to visit His people. He comes to visit them through the ministry of priests and bishops.

Msgr. Whalen has distinguished himself for many years as a professor of moral theology, as President of Msgr. Farrell High School, and most recently as Vicar for Clergy. Msgr. Colacicco has distinguished himself as a canon lawyer and as an able pastor in Newburgh, Hopewell, and Millbrook. Both these priests served as secretaries to His Eminence Cardinal John J. O'Connor, who would repeatedly ask, "What can I do for you?"

My brothers who are about to enter the Order of Bishops, remember always this spirit of service, modeled so well by your mentor, but above all, by the Divine Master who humbled Himself and washed the feet of His disciples. Wherever you are sent in your ministry, make a gift of yourself through humble service.

In October, our Holy Father Pope Francis said: **"The Lord is asking you to be a gift wherever you are, just as you are, with everyone around you. He is asking you not simply to go through life, but to give life; not to complain about life, but to share in the tears of all who suffer. Courage! The Lord expects great things from you. He is also expecting ... you to have the courage to set out and go wherever dignity and hope are most lacking, where all too many people still live without the joy of the Gospel. 'But must**

I go alone?’ No. That is wrong. If we think about doing missionary work here like business organizations, with a business plan, that is wrong. The Holy Spirit is the protagonist. Go with the Holy Spirit. The Lord will not leave you alone in bearing witness; you will discover that the Holy Spirit has gone before you and prepared the way for you.” (October 1, 2019, Homily at Vespers for the beginning of the Missionary Month)

Today, united in prayer and charity, we who have gathered here humbly implore the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary for them, that, each day, they too will radiate the joy of the Lord and show forth the pastoral and missionary zeal of the one Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, and that, as close and trusted coworkers to His Eminence Cardinal Dolan, they will bring the “Joy of the Gospel” to the People of God in this vast Archdiocese, helping to meet the many pastoral needs of its clergy, religious and lay faithful and reaching out also to the community at large, especially to those most in need.

At this time, with great joy, I will read for you an English translation of the Holy Father’s letters of appointment addressed to each episcopal candidate.