

Flynn: This Cathedral Is Full of History

Raymond Flynn is the former Mayor of Boston (1984-93). Following that, he served as U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican (1993-97).



Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to Boston. Welcome to this historic Cathedral, the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, built by immigrants who came to this country and settled in Boston, and history books are filled with their accomplishments, their successes, their families.

And so, we are so proud that all of you, and particularly this ensemble, could be with us here on this very historic day. This Cathedral has hosted many

incredible events, talking about the John Kennedy visit here, and John Kennedy's memorial service here in 1964. I was here.

And you mentioned Richard Cardinal Cushing. I guess in South Boston, where I'm from, they say my claim to fame is not being Mayor, not being the United States Ambassador, but I used to be Richard Cardinal Cushing's newspaper boy—I used to sell newspapers to him. Well, he was here; this Cathedral is full of history.

And I know I speak for all the people of Boston when I welcome you here, thank you for being here, and thank you for sharing your talents on this historic day that meant so much to the people of the City of Boston.

So have a wonderful concert, have a wonderful afternoon, welcome to Boston. I'm sure I speak on behalf of the Cardinal Archbishop of Boston Seán Patrick O'Malley, a wonderful, wonderful leader of the Roman Catholic Church, in welcoming you all, as well as the Pastor here, Kevin O'Leary here at the Cathedral, welcoming you all. And let's have a great concert. God bless all of you. Thank you.