



Treadwell Farm Historic District Association, Inc.
PMB 282, 1173A SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10065

August 30, 2014

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan
Archdiocese of New York
1011 First Avenue
New York, New York 10065

Dear Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan,

We are writing to you regarding the Our Lady of Peace Church on East 62nd Street in Manhattan. We are a neighborhood association that primarily protects properties and enforces zoning restrictions in the areas of East 61st and 62nd Streets between Second and Third Avenues.

We have recently learned that the Archdiocesan Advisory Council has made a recommendation to close Our Lady of Peace parish and merge with Saint Vincent Ferrer on Lexington Avenue. We feel it is a grave mistake to close this iconic Catholic symbol which has been a fixture in the neighborhood since 1886. It is also worth noting that the church is a historic landmark designated by the City of New York which proudly and beautifully stands on a residential tree lined street. The National Register of Historic Places has also listed Our Lady or Peace Church among other Treadwell Farm Historic District properties as a nationally recognized historic site. These are certainly notable accolades and you can see from the seasonal photos below a wonderful religious and beautiful sanctuary in the middle of a very dense area of Manhattan. More importantly the parish we have been told is financially sound. For the reasons listed it would be a poor decision to close the church and it would be tragic to its followers.





The photograph above depicts a very early picture of the church which we have obtained from the NYC Archives. Clearly the religious and historical importance of this church are at stake and we sincerely urge you to fully consider the points noted as you consider the recommendation to close this parish presented by the Archdiocese of New York.

Sincerely,

The Executive Committee of Treadwell Farm Historic District Association

Julianne Bertagna
Honorable Miriam Godman Cedarbaum
Ranika Cohen
Fred Deutsch
Joyce Koplik
Steven Kumble

Julie Ledoux
Samuel Lek
John Manice
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Helen Roosevelt
Yris Solomon