



The Cathedral
Church of **Saint John**
the Divine

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**THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE PRESENTS
*DOG BLESS YOU: THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF MARY BLOOM***

An Exhibition Showcasing Dignified and Intimate Portraits of Man's Best Friend

New York (August 19, 2013) – The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is pleased to present *Dog Bless You: The Photography of Mary Bloom*, a new exhibition featuring sensitive and dignified photographs of dogs by Mary Bloom, the Cathedral's former Photographer-in-Residence, opening **Wednesday, September 18th at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, located at 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street).**

Dog Bless You: The Photography of Mary Bloom focuses on Bloom's distinguished portraits of dogs – of all manner and breeds. The exhibition showcases the versatility of her work as well as her ability to take intimate portraits of dogs in moments of uncanny psychological depth. A slideshow accompanies the exhibition, cycling through decades of Bloom's loving photographs of the living Cathedral and the menagerie of animals that have passed before her lens.

Dog Bless You: The Photography of Mary Bloom is on view through January 2014.

About Mary Bloom

Bloom was Photographer-in-Residence at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine from the early 1980s to 2002. In addition to her role as Cathedral photographer, she also volunteered with the Cathedral's former transitional shelter program, cooking meals and raising funds for kitchen appliances. When a past Cathedral School 8th-grade graduating class wanted to present a gift of a new generation of peacocks, she became foster-mother to the current peacock trio, Harry, Phil and Jim, whom she found at a Pennsylvania breeder and raised in her kitchen for several weeks, letting the chicks get used to human handling.

Bloom covered every aspect of life at the Cathedral, taking pictures of events great and small, and providing all the images for the newsletter. She captured the grandeur of holiday services



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and consecrations, as well as small human moments. Her collection of portraits ranges from photographs of the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu to portraits of peacocks and elephants.

Bloom resides in Wappingers Falls, New York. Most of her time is spent helping animals and photographing dogs. She is currently the official photographer of the Westminster Kennel Club, and her photographs have appeared in numerous publications, including *Life*, *People*, and *Smithsonian Magazine*. Her photographs of dogs also grace many books, including *Everyday Heroes: Extraordinary Dogs Among Us* by Sherry Bennet Warshauer.

About The Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and leadership. People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Adults and Children in Trust, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.

The Cathedral is open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM – 6:00 PM. There is a suggested admission of \$10.00 per person. Please visit stjohndivine.org for more information and a schedule of public programs.

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