

**Pool Report: Outside Our Lady, Queen of Angels
Friday, September 25, 2015**

At 2:09 children began filing into a pen outside the school and Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal began leading them in singing "When the Saints Go Marching In." One sister accompanied them on guitar.

The sisters live in an east Harlem convent and serve in the school in a spiritual capacity helping facilitate and organize Masses and other spiritual activities.

It was a comfortable 73 degrees and there was a cool breeze.

A New York Police Department (NYPD) officer said that even those securing the area were excited and honored to be helping the pope.

Some nuns went closer to the barricades with children and started dancing and clapping. The children began clapping along.

There were NYPD, U.S. Secret Service and Transportation Security Administration personnel and dogs patrolling the area.

There was a white tent behind the seats that were placed next to the door that the Pope entered. It was roped-off with red velvet. Family and friends of the police who were serving at the event were in the tents.

The hustle and bustle of the city continued in the background. Garbage trucks, sirens and cars could all be heard going along Third Avenue.

There were houses and apartment buildings facing the street. People were opening their windows and looking down on the street.

On top of the school were alternating Vatican and American flags that blew in the wind.

The front of the school had a banner that read "Welcome Francis, Our Pope" and "A Journey of Faith, Through the Heart of New York 2015" in big letters. It also included the logos of the Archdiocese of New York and its Catholic Charities agency. There were about 30 pictures of children and families on the building as well.

At 2:23 p.m., the sisters began leading the children in the song, "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" in Spanish, singing faster and faster on each verse. There were about ten sisters leading the songs at this point.

The barricades with the children were mostly full by 2:25 p.m.

The sisters began leading the song "Trading My Sorrows" with hand motions. They first sang in English then in Spanish.

A sister began talking to children about the saints and their call to be saints. She talked about Jesus and St. Peter as the head of the Catholic Church and how Pope Francis is now the head of the Church.

Families started coming out of their homes to catch a glimpse of Pope Francis.

Around 3:15 p.m. the children were given yellow bandanas and chanting "Holy Father, we love you."

At 3:30 p.m., the sisters began taking dismantling the speakers that they were using, but then continued leading songs with a megaphone.

Some police cars drove in front of the school and the crowds thought the Pope was coming, but it was a false alarm.

When the Pope finally arrived, the crowd erupted in cheers.

Pope Francis got out of his Fiat and walked along the barricade greeting the children.

He walked back toward the door to the school, past the donors who were seated near the entrance, and then entered the school to greet the invited participants gathered there.

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