



THE TABLET



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A Century of Faith, a Lifetime of Devotion: Brooklyn Church Set To Honor 'Mr. Mac'

by Paula Katinas, Senior Reporter

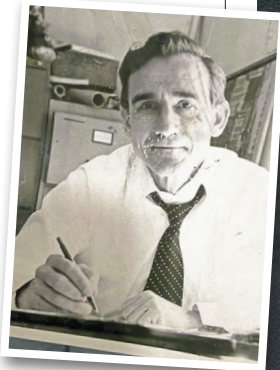
EAST FLATBUSH — At the age of 96, John McAlinden is nearly as old as his beloved St. Thérèse of Lisieux Church, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

McAlinden, known to his family and friends as Mr. Mac, has been a parishioner of St. Thérèse of Lisieux his entire life. He still lives in the house where he grew up, around the corner from the church. And he still attends Mass every Sunday.

Mr. Mac's lifelong devotion to his church will be celebrated at the church's 100th anniversary dinner at the El Caribe Country Club in Mill Basin on May 24, where he will be the guest of honor.

Bishop Thomas Molloy established St. Thérèse of Lisieux Church in 1926. The first Mass took place on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 1926, in a chapel on the corner of Avenue D and Troy Avenue. The cornerstone for the church was laid in 1927.

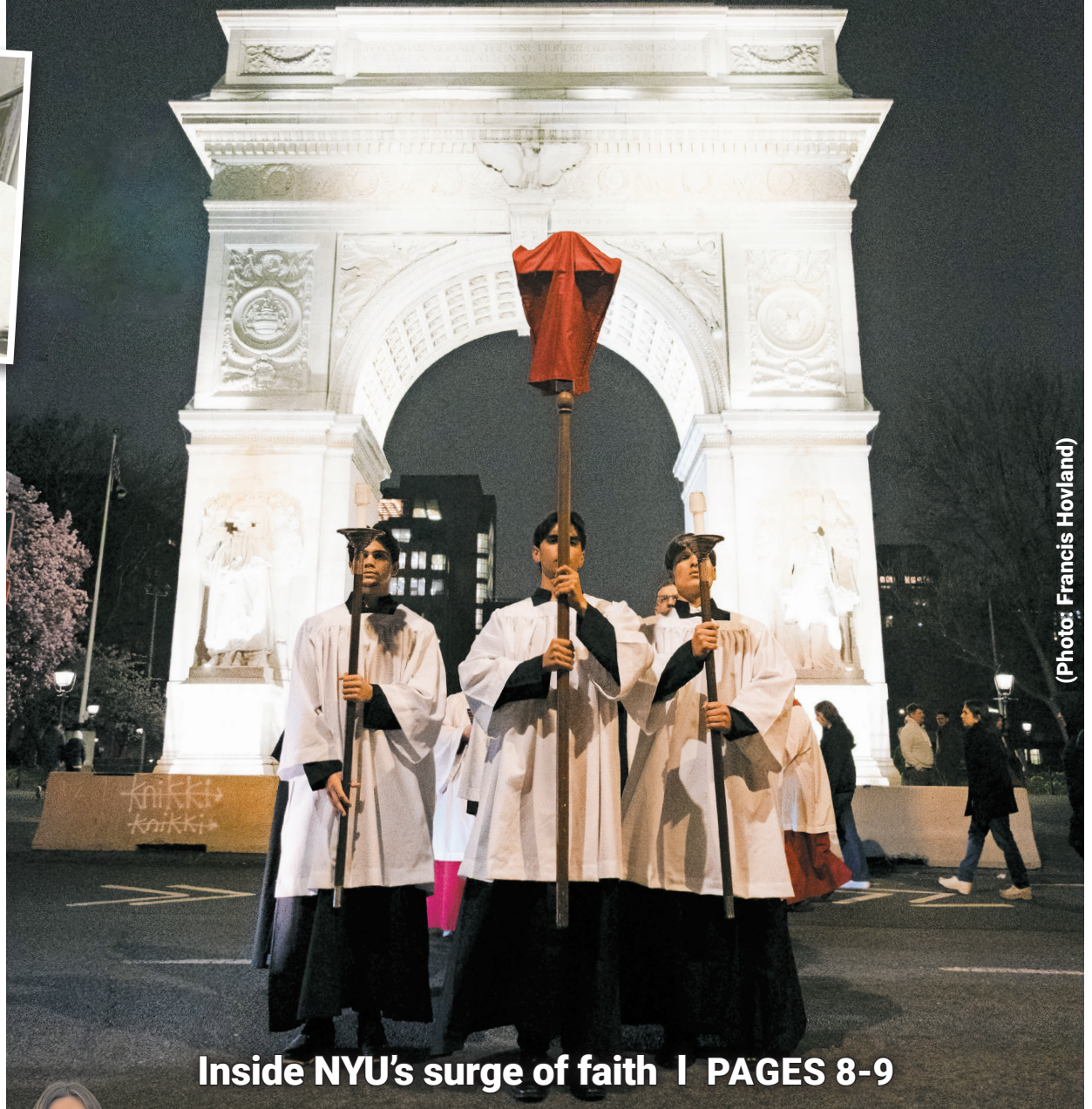
Parishioners are fond of calling their St. Thérèse of Lisieux the "Little Flower Church," in honor of their patron saint's nickname.



John McAlinden did much of his work at home in an art studio (above, in an undated photo) he had built in his basement. (Photo: Courtesy of Theresa Rau)

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GOD IN THE VILLAGE



(Photo: Francis Hovland)

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