



The Gift of the Cross: Exchange, Peace, and Friendship from Nagasaki's Atomic Ruins

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A wooden cross, originally taken by a U.S. soldier from the ruins of the old Catholic Urakami Cathedral in Nagasaki, was repatriated in August 2019. The cross, now named the “Atomic Bombed Cross,” was given by Bishop Yamaguchi Ajiro of Nagasaki to Walter G. Hooke, a Catholic Marine from New York, in the context of a friendship they developed during the early months of the U.S. occupation. In this paper, I juxtapose the two men’s divergent, and yet respectively significant, career paths: a Japanese Catholic bishop who devoted himself to the post-war reconstruction of Nagasaki and a progressive American Catholic, nearly twenty years younger, who devoted himself to civil rights and anti-nuclear activism.

Details

Monday 27 February

3 - 4pm

Rm 3.369 HC Coombs Building
& Streaming Online

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