



## On the Irish Waterfront: The Crusader, the Movie, and the Soul of the Port of New York (Hardback)

By James T. Fisher

Cornell University Press, United States, 2009. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 236 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Site of the world's busiest and most lucrative harbor throughout the first half of the twentieth century, the Port of New York was also the historic preserve of Irish American gangsters, politicians, longshoremen's union leaders, and powerful Roman Catholic priests. This is the demimonde depicted to stunning effect in Elia Kazan's *On the Waterfront* (1954) and into which James T. Fisher takes readers in this remarkable and engaging historical account of the classic film's backstory. Fisher introduces readers to the real Father Pete Barry featured in *On the Waterfront*, John M. Pete Corridan, a crusading priest committed to winning union democracy and social justice for the port's dockworkers and their families. A Jesuit labor school instructor, not a parish priest, Corridan was on but not of Manhattan's West Side Irish waterfront. His ferocious advocacy was resisted by the very men he sought to rescue from the violence and criminality that rendered the port a jungle, an outlaw frontier, in the words of investigative reporter Malcolm Johnson. Driven off the waterfront, Corridan forged creative and spiritual alliances...

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