



FRANCIS, OUR POPE

A JOURNEY OF FAITH
THROUGH THE **HEART** OF NEW YORK 2015

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL HISTORY & RESTORATION FACTS



PAPAL VISITS:

Pope Francis' Thursday visit to pray Vespers, or, evening prayer, at Saint Patrick's Cathedral will be the 5th Papal Visit to the cathedral, making St. Patrick's the most visited church by a pope outside of Italy.

Prior visits include: (Blessed) Pope Paul VI, October 4, 1965, leads prayer service
(Saint) Pope John Paul II, October 3, 1979, leads prayer service
Pope John Paul II, October 7, 1995, leads Rosary prayer
Pope Benedict XVI, April 19, 2008, offers Mass

Guests at cathedral today: 2,419
Priests: just under 1000

HISTORY:

Cathedral construction: 1858-1888

The spires were finished in 1888 and were the tallest in New York City from 1880-1890 and the second tallest in the United States.

Opened: May 25, 1879, when the first Mass was celebrated

Archbishop's Residence: 1880-1882

Rectory: 1882-1884

Architect: James Renwick, Jr.

Declared a National Historic Landmark: 1976

Spires: 1888, during the stewardship of Archbishop Michael Corrigan

Lady Chapel: 1900, construction was begun; the first Mass was offered in the Chapel on Christmas 1906. Completed in 1908.

Lady Chapel's stained glass windows: begun in 1909; designed and constructed in England, France and Germany

Consecration: October 5, 1910, by Archbishop Farley who later was made Cardinal

Dimensions: Length: 396 feet, 8 inches; Height to the top of the Spires: 329 feet, 6 inches

St. Patrick made the official patron saint of the Archdiocese: June 12, 1962

Visitors: Approximately 5.5 million visitors each year

RESTORATION PROJECT:

<i>Launched:</i>	March 17, 2012
<i>Time:</i>	Targeted completion: December 2015; To date: Most work has been completed except on a portion of the Lady Chapel facing Madison Avenue and the Geothermal-Mechanical plant which will be completed in 2016.
<i>Progress:</i>	The Trustees of Saint Patrick's provided \$37,000,000 in funding and an additional \$3.5 million came from a grant from an insurance company. There has been an additional \$100,000,000 raised from generous donors. Our fundraising efforts continue.
<i>Architect:</i>	Murphy Burnham & Buttrick
<i>Construction Manager:</i>	Structure Tone
<i>Owner's Representative:</i>	Zubatkin Owners Representatives

RESTORATION HIGHLIGHTS:

<i>Bronze Doors:</i>	During the first weekend in December of 2012, the doors were removed and brought to Long Island City to be restored by G&L Popian, a renowned international preservation husband, wife and son team. At the end of August 2013, the doors were returned and re-installed. The Bronze Doors were blessed by Cardinal Spellman on December 23, 1949 and depict 6 saints: St. Joseph, St. Isaac Jogues, Blessed (now saint) Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Patrick, St. Francis Cabrini, St. Elizabeth Anne Seton. Though each weighs 9,200lbs they can be opened by a single hand. They are 22' X 8' wide.
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Stone:

Interior: There is approximately 76,000 ft² of interior marble. This includes 27,335 ft² of Tennessee Marble on the floors. Every inch of stone was restored through a process called Arte Mundit Mundit (except the floors, which were polished) in which a latex mixture is applied to the stone's surface, left to dry for at least 24 hours, and removed later much like a mud mask for a facial would be. This removes dirt from the stones pores and pollutants causing deterioration. This process is different from the one used on the exterior so that we could remain open during the work.

Exterior: There is over 300,000 ft² of exterior marble. This stone was restored by a process called Rotec in which the stone is pressure washed at low pressures. The spray nozzle shoots out water, which is mixed with air and very finely crushed glass, to gently clean the surface of the stone. The compressive strength of the mortar is checked every day throughout the project for quality control. It is around 750 at 6 months and the ultimate strength (after 2 years) of this mortar is around 1200 psi. There are three types of marble on much of exterior which is from Maryland, Massachusetts and New York. The entry way marble is from Georgia and the Lady Chapel exterior is from Vermont. This work was completed by Deerpath.

Pews:

There are 350 pews, each restored by the Keck Group

Organ:

There are two organs at St. Patrick's. The Gallery Organ which has 7,855 pipes that range in length from thirty-two feet to one-half inch and was dedicated on February 11, 1930 and the Chancel Organ which has 1,480 pipes and was dedicated on January 30, 1928. The organs were restored by Peragallo Pipe Organ Company.

Stained glass:

There are over 3,700 (3,200, excluding the Lady Chapel) panels of stained glass in the cathedral. Most of the glass was restored in situ (in place) but a small portion (less than 5%) had to be removed for repair. All of the exterior glazing, which had turned cloudy (it's supposed to be clear) over time, was replaced. There are 60 stained glass windows in the cathedral and 15 in the Lady Chapel. The stained glass was restored by Botti Studio, a family company that has specialized in the design, fabrication, installation and preservation of fine ecclesiastic artwork since 1864.

Restoration Consultant:

Building Conservation Associates (BCA).

BCA performed archival and scientific research at the beginning of the project, then surveyed the building interior and exterior,

monitored testing mockups, recommended cleaning and repair procedures, and reviewed on-site work throughout the construction, working closely with the architects.

Other major portions of restoration:

<i>Confessionals and transept doors:</i>	Kingswood Historic
<i>Wood around the altar and baldachino altar screen:</i>	Ernest Neuman
<i>Lighting & Undercroft:</i>	B&G Electric
<i>Heating and Cooling:</i>	Lane
<i>Audio Visual:</i>	Jaffe Holden/Abel Cine
<i>Attic/Mist System (fire suppression):</i>	Marioff
<i>Side Chapel Altars, Statues in the transept, baldachino over High Altar:</i>	G&L Popian
<i>Baldachino over Cathedra:</i>	Ernest Neuman
<i>Plaster and Painting:</i>	There is approximately 65,000 ft ² of plaster inside the cathedral; it was restored by Creative Finishes.

Fun Facts:

- Including the St. Patrick's Cathedral staff, the architecture team, the construction management team, the owner's representatives and the Archdiocesan team, more than 200 people a day worked on this project at its height.
- St. Patrick's Cathedral was open 365 days a year throughout the entire restoration process, offering 7 masses a day throughout the week, 3 masses on Saturdays, and 8 masses on Sundays; the sacrament of confession every day of the week except Sundays, and daily exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Monday through Friday.
- Beton Coignet is the cast stone material used on the interior in lieu of stone at the upper portions of the walls.

- The mortar which keeps the stones in place was matched to the original composition from the 1800's using modern sourced materials. Although not exactly the same it's close in appearance and physical properties.
- The mortar consists of St. Astier Natural Hydraulic Lime (NHL-3.5) provided by Pennsylvania Lime Works and varying amounts of sand based on the masonry being pointed (pointing – filling in the gaps between the stones).
- There is a mouse depicted in one of the stained glass windows
- The two main restorations of the cathedral were in 1949 and 1973 but this is the most extensive and essential restoration the cathedral has ever undergone.