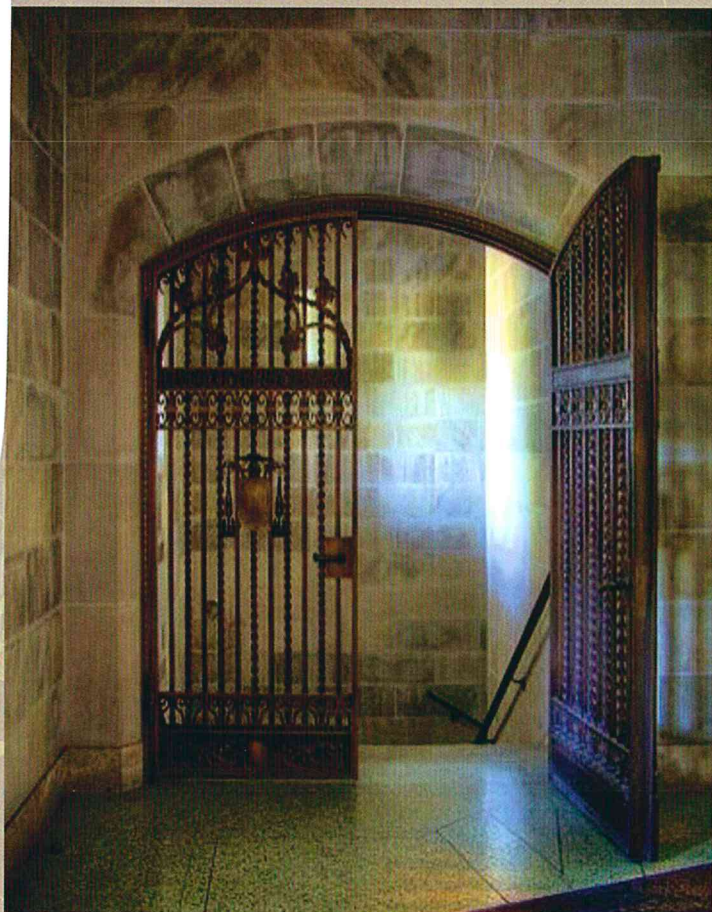


# The Crypt



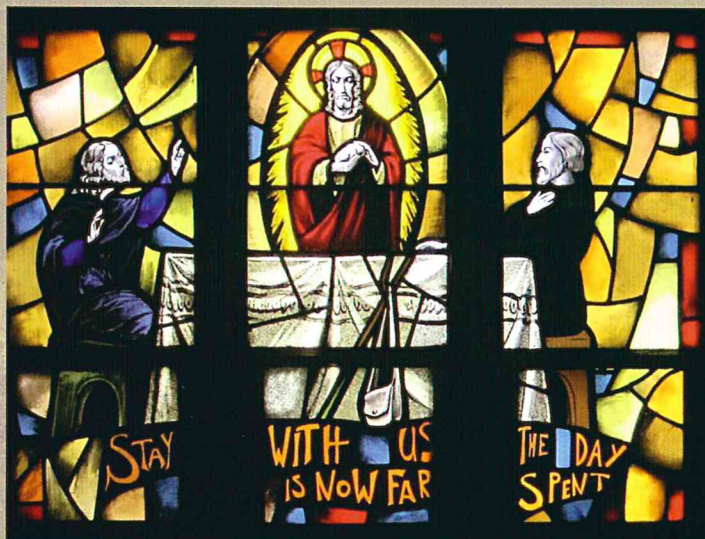
The crypt was added after the fire of 1912. It is located off the ramp entrance on the east side of the Cathedral. Contained in it are the eminently gentle remains of the first, second, fourth, and fifth bishops of Belleville.

Respectively, they are the Most Reverend John Janssen, the Most Reverend Henry Althoff, the Most Reverend William Cosgrove, and the Most Reverend John N. Wurm.

Also located in the crypt is an altar which is often used for Mass on All Souls Day.



In the event more spaces are required for the burial of bishops, the wall can be removed and excavation can continue to the north.



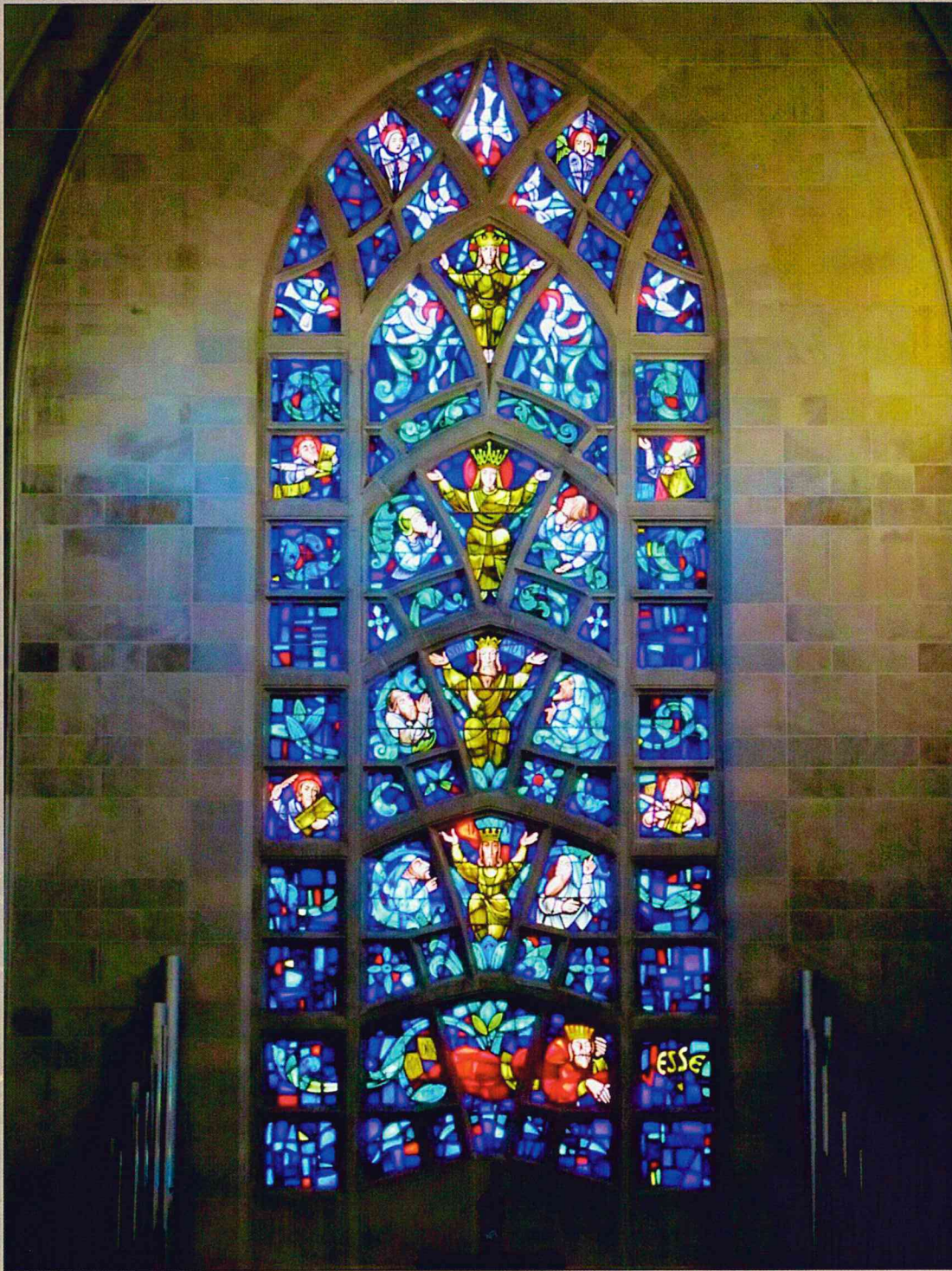
Window from the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

*"Stay with us...the Day is now far spent."*

*-Luke 24:29*



# Jesse Tree Window



The great over-entrance window in the south nave, designed and executed by the internationally renowned church designer, Mr. Viggo Bech Rambusch, is called the "Tree of Jesse Window." The human ancestry of Christ is its subject. The artwork recalls the gradual unfolding of God's plan of Salvation History. The figures depicted in magnificent stained glass with vibrant colors begin with Jesse prostrate at the bottom, and then ascending from him, David to Solomon to the Blessed Virgin Mary with Jesus Christ at the very top. The seven doves in the window represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. The four Evangelists are each depicted in the upper and far edges of the window; six major Prophets of the Old Testament are found near the center panels of the window.



# The South Nave

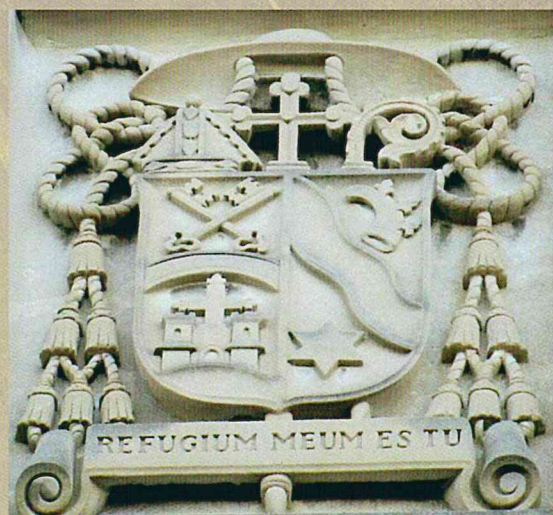
During the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965), Bishop Albert R. Zuroweste--while in Rome--began plans for the renovation of the Cathedral sanctuary and the addition of a new south nave.

With the help of architects and designers from both Europe and the United States, work commenced on the south nave in 1968.

In addition to a new sanctuary and new south nave seating, a Cathedral Museum, new sacristies, new entrances, and an Undercroft (recently completed) were added.



*O Sacrament Most Holy,  
O Sacrament Divine,  
all praise and all thanksgiving  
be every moment Thine.*



The coat of arms of Bishop Zuroweste, who undertook the planning of the south nave and the renovation of the Cathedral in the late 1960's

(Bishop Zuroweste was buried in a sarcophagus located in the Cathedral Museum just past the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in the south nave.)

A separate Blessed Sacrament Chapel was added during the 1968 renovation. The Body and Blood of Christ is reserved in the Tabernacle there.

Daily Mass is celebrated in this chapel--as well as daily opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.





# The Cathedral at Christmas and Easter



The famous German religious sculptor Sebastian Osterrieder (1864-1932) designed the beautiful "Krippen" (Crib or Nativity Scene) which is displayed at the Cathedral every Christmas Season.

The Reverend Joseph H. Schlarman, who became Rector of the Cathedral in 1909, brought the nativity set to Belleville after a trip to Bavaria.



During the fifty days of the Easter Season, the Cathedral is filled with the fragrance of lilies, lilies, hydrangea--and the fresh holy oils--and the colors of striking banners representing the Four Evangelists.

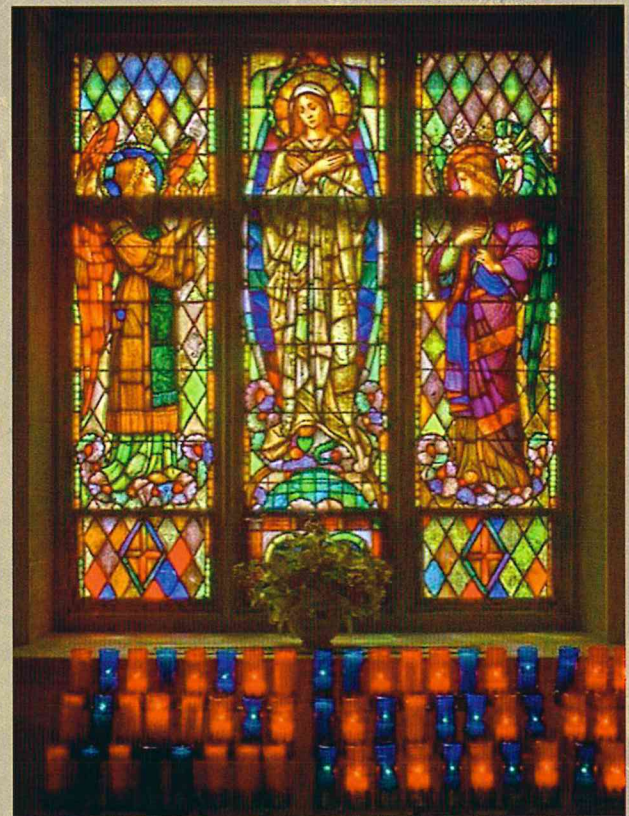
This photo depicts the Ordination of four new priests and a transitional deacon on the Vigil of Pentecost in 2010.



# Baptistry and Marian Shrine



Added in 1956, the Baptistry is located immediately to the west upon entering the north nave of the Cathedral. A Baptistry is normally located in a separate room. In times other than the Easter season, the Easter candle is kept next to the Baptismal font. The room is octagonal in shape, the eight sides representing the "Eighth Day," the New Creation offered by God in Baptism.



Just west of the sanctuary is the Marian Shrine. The stained glass window of the Immaculate Conception, the white marble altar, and the statue of Mary were donated by the Academy of Notre Dame Alumnae Association in 1972 when the Academy closed.

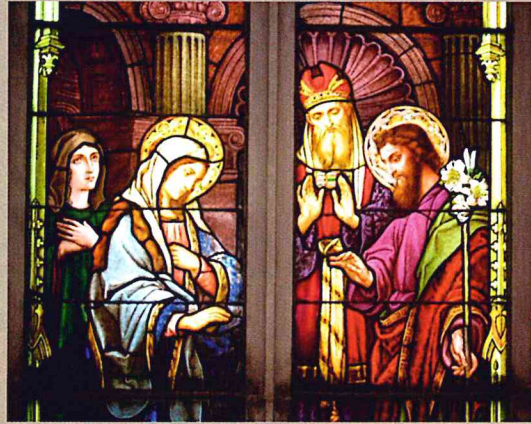




# North Nave Windows



The Presentation of Mary in the Temple by her parents, Saints Anne and Joachim



The marriage of the Blessed Virgin and Saint Joseph



The Annunciation



The Nativity



The Visitation



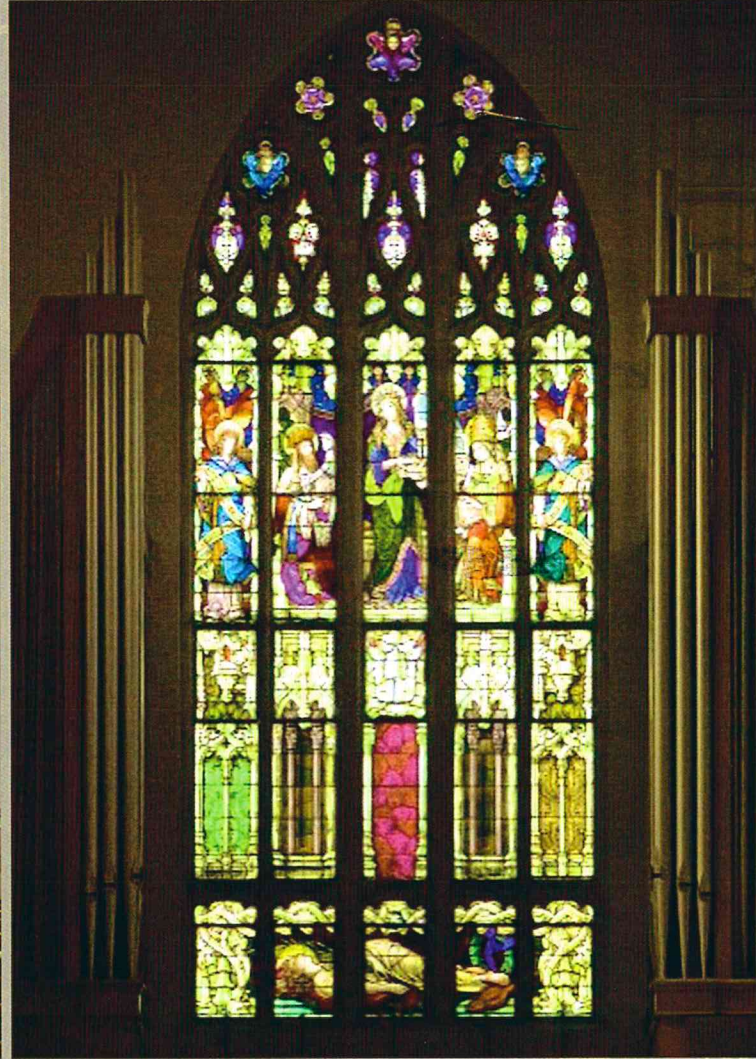
Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple



The first miracle of Jesus at the Wedding in Cana



# The North Nave



Entering the nave, the true splendor of the Cathedral is seen. The vertical and the horizontal both point to a Heaven on earth. The pillars, like trees in the Garden of Eden, symbolize an earthly paradise.

On top of the pillars supporting the choir loft, are several figures of cross-legged men holding the weight of the structure. These sculptures are typical in Gothic architecture and represent the workmen of many and varied crafts whose skillful labor built the Cathedral.



The large window on the north wall (above) depicts:

Saint Cecilia, the patroness of Church music; King David, author of the Psalms, playing the harp; and Pope Saint Gregory the Great, noted for his Gregorian Chant.

The bottom panels depict the martyr, Cecilia in her tomb. (Prior to the renovation, there was a second children's balcony.)

The main Moller organ in the choir loft has three manuals, and at present contains thirty-two ranks of pipes with seventeen preparations.



# Main Entrance Stained Glass



Upon entering the Cathedral through the main entrance, you will see several stained glass windows in the main doorway. These windows contain the symbols of the Apostles. From left to right and from top to bottom, the symbols represent the following:

**THREE BAGS:** Matthew, who before being called as an Apostle worked as a tax collector  
**CROSS & LOAVES:** Phillip, to whom Christ spoke about the loaves of bread feeding the multitude  
**KNIFE & BIBLE:** Bartholomew, who was martyred by being flayed alive and then crucified  
**SQUARE & SPEAR:** Thomas, who built a church with his own hands and was martyred with a spear

**THREE SHELLS:** James the Greater, the first great missionary among the Apostles  
**THE KEYS:** Peter, to whom Christ gave the keys of the kingdom of Heaven  
**CHALICE & SNAKE:** John, who was offered a poisoned chalice in an attempt on his life  
**"X" SHAPED CROSS:** Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, who was crucified on a cross of this shape

**FISH & BIBLE:** Simon, a fisher of humanity, who accompanied Jude on many missionary journeys  
**SAW:** James the Less, who was thrown from a pinnacle, stoned, and then sawn in half in Jerusalem  
**SHIP:** Jude, who traveled afar on many missionary journeys  
**AXE & BIBLE:** Matthias (Judas Iscariot's replacement), who was stoned and beheaded



# Inside Our Cathedral



The Cathedral of Saint Peter is the largest Cathedral in Illinois and serves the people of the Catholic Diocese of Belleville, which includes all of southern Illinois.

In 1842, a parish named for St. Barnabas the Apostle was established on a location to the east of the present Cathedral. The name was changed five years later to the Church of St. Peter. In 1863, a new, larger brick church was built on the present site to accommodate the rapidly growing parish.

In 1887, the church became the Cathedral of Saint Peter and, as such, the seat of the new Diocese of Belleville. In 1912, the Cathedral was nearly destroyed by fire with only the exterior brick walls remaining.

The present Cathedral was modeled in the English Gothic style after the Cathedral of Exeter, one of the smaller but more beautiful Cathedrals in England. In 1956, the brick walls were refaced with Winona splitface dolomite and trimmed with Indiana limestone.

In 1966, the Cathedral of Saint Peter underwent a major renovation: a new sanctuary and the addition of the south nave.

A word about the Cathedral Gothic architectural style:

Gothic architecture incorporates many of the styles of medieval European architecture, in particular those associated with cathedrals and churches from the 12th to 14th centuries.

The Gothic style attempts to create a physical representation of the Heavenly Jerusalem. This style emphasizes verticality and features almost skeletal stone structures with sharply pointed spires, cluster columns, ribbed vaults, pointed arches using the ogive (S) shape, and sculptural detail. The focus of these features was large stained glass windows that allowed more light to enter than was possible with earlier architectural styles. High vaulted ceilings and slender columns added to the splendor of this novel architectural style.

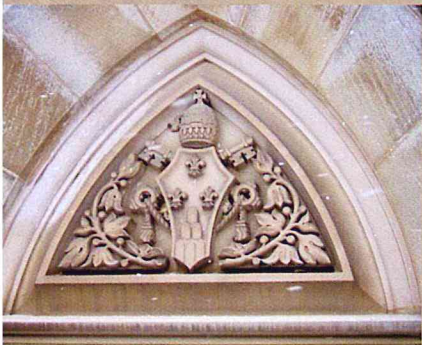
The concept of the Gothic Cathedral with its loftiness and huge dimensions was to draw the hearts and minds of the faithful upward towards the majesty of God.

In this way, Gothic architecture is a fitting model for our Cathedral. As we are drawn into worship of God, we can be constantly reminded of God's grandeur and glory even within the very physicality of the building.



# South Entrance

MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD



The south entrance of the Cathedral boasts three more papal coat of arms. Above them, the first words of the Blessed Virgin's "Magnificat" can be seen (top). Represented over the left door is the coat of arms of Paul VI; over the center door is that of Saint Pius X; finally, over the right door is the coat of arms of Blessed John XXIII.

MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD



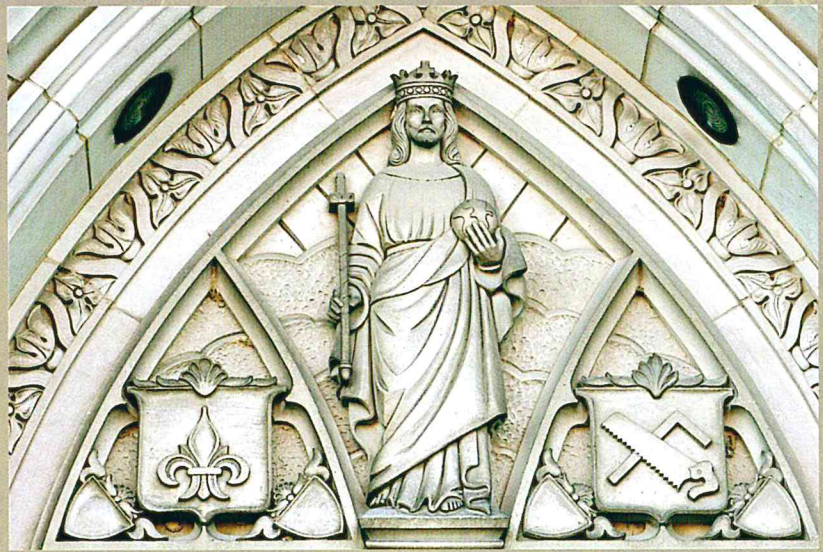
Other artwork not shown includes: on the west side of the Cathedral over the oriel bay windows are sculptured symbols of Mary, Queen of Martyrs, and the Chi-Rho (P with an X through it) combined with the letter "M," which represents Mary, the Mother of Christ.

Over the other window is a representation of Saint Paul as a sword and a scroll. Saint Andrew is depicted as an "X" with an overlaid branch while Saint Peter is symbolized by an inverted cross with overlaid crossed keys.

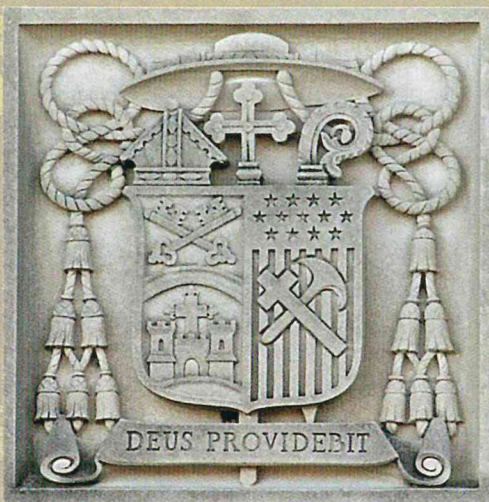
On both the east and west sides near the top of the Cathedral are empty niches built to hold statues in the future.



The arch above the main doors of the north entrance, called a tympanum, contains a relief of Christ the King. The fluer-de-lis represents the Blessed Virgin while St. Joseph is represented by a saw and carpenter's square.



Christus Rex  
(Christ the King)



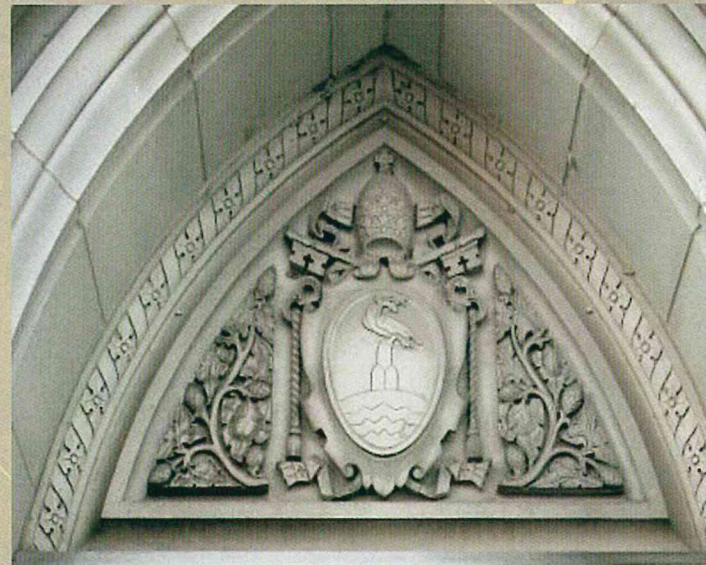
"Deus Providebit" or "God will provide" (left) can be seen in the banner of Bishop Althoff's coat of arms.



"Ave Maria" or "Hail Mary" (right) adorns the banner of the coat of arms of Bishop Janssen, the first Bishop of the Diocese of Belleville



Papal coat of arms of His Holiness, Leo XIII, who on January 9, 1887 erected the Diocese of Belleville



Papal coat of arms of His Holiness, Pius XII during whose pontificate the Cathedral exterior was renovated (1956)



# Beauty in Stone



Statue of Saint Peter near the top of the north entrance of the Cathedral



North entrance of the Cathedral

The Cathedral exterior contains many symbolic sculptures. In the high central niche of the north side is a statue of Saint Peter, the patron of the Cathedral.

The Holy Spirit is portrayed as a dove on the north face of the tower. Likewise, at the same level on different faces of the tower are three fish symbolizing the Blessed Trinity.

The following two pages display examples of the north entrance sculptures and adornment.

## Translation of Cornerstone:

"You are Peter and  
upon this rock,  
I will build  
my Church." +++

(Matthew 16:18)

Year            1866 \* Erected  
                  1956 \* Renovated



Cornerstone