

Trinity Episcopal Church

Saint Louis, Missouri



Guide to Art & Design A Self-Guided Tour

Trinity Episcopal Parish

was founded in 1855 in the City of St. Louis. The church moved several times before finding its final home at the corner of Euclid and Washington in the Central West End.

Over the years, members of Trinity, committed to beauty and art, have amassed an eclectic collection of liturgical art and design pieces, some by nationally known artists and craftspeople and some by members of the church.

This brochure takes you on a tour of prominent pieces throughout the church and gives you a little history of each.

The tour begins outside the Euclid entrance pictured on the front of this brochure.

We hope you enjoy the tour!

[2]

Trinity Episcopal Church



The church building, originally St. James Memorial Episcopal Church in north St. Louis, was moved to Washington and Euclid in 1911. Trinity Parish adopted this location as our new home in 1935. The South Parish Hall (Harris Armstrong, architect) was added in 1954, and the North Parish Hall (Henderson and Gantz, architects) was added in 1980.

Enter through the red doors, turn right and walk into the chapel in front of you. To your left you will see:

[3]

St. Cecilia Window



The St. Cecilia Window in the Music Office was designed by Lea Koesterer. In 1987, the Society of St. Cecilia gave Trinity the window to honor the group's founders, Mary Gallatin and Helen Hendry.

Directly in front of you is:

[4]

The Chapel Altar and Altarpiece



The Altar was designed by the firm of Eames and Walsh, and painted by Charles Quest in 1935. It was restored in May 1987 in honor of John M. Anderson, M.D. (1916-1986), member of our Vestry from 1960 - 1969.

The Altarpiece is made of ceramic tiles designed and created by parishioner Patricia Degener in 2001.

To your right in the windowsill is:

[5]

The Brass Cross

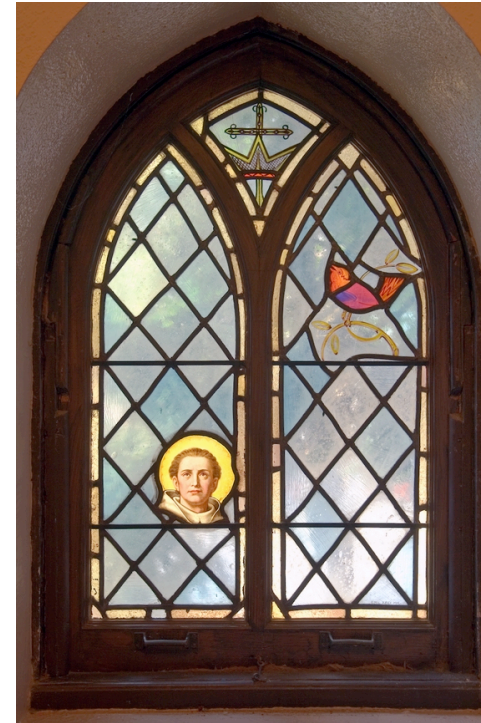


The Brass Cross on the windowsill dates from 1883 and contains the ashes of a wooden cross, supposedly the first Episcopal cross used in St. Louis. The cross burned in 1865 along with Trinity's first church building in at the corner of 11th and Washington. The cross is inscribed in honor of Maggie Larkin Thomson, who died in 1864, and Margaret Foote Thomson, who died in 1863.

Behind the Brass Cross is:

[6]

The St. Francis Window



The St. Francis Window was designed and created by the Emil Frei Co. in 1935. It includes a head, supposedly of St. Francis, reputed to be a fragment from a window of the cathedral in Reims, France, and brought to the United States after World War I.

To the right of the window is:

[7]

The Ledbetter Crucifix



This crucifix was hand-carved in 1996 by the Rev. Roy Ledbetter, a former parishioner.

Behind you, above the door are:

[8]

1000 Origami Cranes for Peace



In 2009, as a part of a special liturgical season of peace and justice, Trinitarians folded 1000 origami cranes as a wish for peace, in the Japanese tradition. This installation was first hung as a circular mobile in the sanctuary and found a permanent home here in the chapel.

Walk out of the chapel, turn right, and enter the sanctuary through the brown leather doors. Walk down the center aisle to the front of the church. Directly in front of you is the:

[9]

The St. James Altar

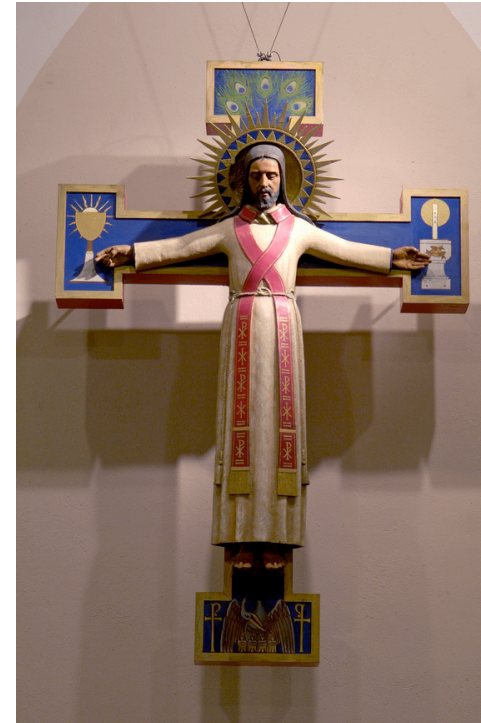


The Altar, from the original St. James Church, was carved in 1892. As was customary, the altar was placed against the east wall. In 1975, it was moved away from the wall to allow the celebrant to face the congregation. It is inscribed, "The Prophet Died for Our Sins."

Hanging on the wall above the altar is the:

[10]

The Trinity Christus Rex



The Trinity Christus Rex was commissioned from the firm of Eames and Walsh in 1935. The painting was by Charles Quest and the body of Christ was sculpted by parishioner Victor Berlindis. The whole piece was refurbished by parishioner Mary King Swayzee in 1984.

There is usually one of several banners hanging on a stand to the right of the altar. One is:

[11]

The Chapman Banner



This banner is one of two made in 1993 by parishioner and fiber artist Marjorie Hoeltzel as a tribute to Father William D. Chapman (Rector of Trinity, 1980-1993). Both banners include scraps of fabric donated by parishioners. The second was given as a gift to Father Chapman and his wife, Ellie.

Another banner that often hangs next to the altar is the:

[12]

Trinity Processional Banner



This banner was created in 2005, to commemorate Trinity's sesquicentennial. It was made by parishioner Jeff Wunrow of many different fabrics, including some donated by Trinitarians. The reverse side is also pieced and decorated with embroidery. The bells and silk flowers can be seen from both sides.

Walk up to the right of the altar and on the right wall you see:

[13]

The Credence Table



The Credence Table, also from the original St. James Church, likely was carved around 1908. It is engraved, "In loving memory of Mabel Mary Hulse." and depicts Jesus the Shepherd wearing a crown of thorns.

Turn around and walk to the opposite wall, where you see:

[14]

The Marcell Aumbrey



The Aumbrey is a niche where the consecrated bread and wine are kept. This space was created in 1975, and the bronze door was commissioned in 1984 from sculptor Lawrence L. Marcell.

Turn to your left and walk back down the chancel steps. Turn right, and on the wall in front of you is the first in a series of:

[15]

The Stations of the Cross



The Stations of the Cross are a set of fourteen bronzes commissioned in 1975 from sculptor Lawrence L. Marcell to celebrate Trinity's 120th anniversary. They begin in the northeast corner of the sanctuary and proceed to the left along the north, west and south walls. The Stations of the Cross depict the final days of Christ's life, and are used with meditation during Holy Week.

Trinitarians created a new set of Stations of the Cross in 2006. A brochure about that exhibit is also in the narthex and online.

Exit through the door to your right and off to the left is a door to the library. In the library on the far wall is:

[16]

"The Holy Family"



"The Holy Family" was painted by Frank Douglas Blanchard, who presented it to Trinity in memory of the Rev. Charles Bewick, who died of AIDS in 1989 after serving at Trinity for three years.

Retrace your steps back into the sanctuary and follow the Stations of the Cross along the right (north) wall. In the corner by the organ are:

[17]

The Sather Icons



Several icons representing holy women were given to Trinity by parishioner Larry Sather in 2003. An icon is always displayed atop the votive light stand in the small alcove next to the organ.

Continue to follow the Stations to your left and back up the opposite side aisle. In the southeast corner of the sanctuary to the right of the altar you will see:

[18]

The Baptismal Font



The Baptismal Font was carved in 1890 to the glory of God and in Loving memory of Charles Robertson Wilson. It is inscribed: "Suffer Little Children to Come Unto Me." The font is situated in a space that was a confessional before it was turned "inside out."

In recognition of the Feast of All Saints each fall, the baptismal font is removed and replaced with:

[19]

The Day of the Dead Altar



Parishioners bring photos of loved ones who have died, and our outstanding florist Jim Pfaff adorns the space with a panoply of flowers, candles, art, whimsy and "found" objects to create a stunning tribute to those who went before us.

During Advent, the Baptismal Font is again moved and replaced with:

[20]

The Trinity Nativity



These child-friendly figures were sewn by Kate Worland and embroidered by Gil Fisher in 1995. Kate and Gil modeled the figures--diverse in race, age, and sex--on other Trinitarians.

"The Light of the World"



"The Light of the World" the large painting in the South Parish Hall, was painted in 1984 by parishioner Emily Ann Cramer (1913-1999). The subject is a Trinity Sunday picnic in Tower Grove Park.

Trinity Window



Unfortunately, nothing is known about this stunning stained glass window which graces the west wall of the sanctuary.

All Saints' Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden and Labyrinth was dedicated in June, 1998, for the ashes of the faithful. The garden also provides space for meditation and picnics. In the southwest corner of the Memorial Garden is the

Trinity Monument



This Monument was created by Bill Severson in the 1970s as a tribute to Trinity's lasting presence in the Central West End of the City of St. Louis and as a testament to the power and love of Christ.

Leave the Sanctuary through the door to your right, and walk down the stairs into the South Parish Hall. On the wall behind you is:

[21]

Retrace your steps back into the Sanctuary and walk down the center aisle toward the main entrance. Above the door is the:

[22]

As you leave the church, turn left onto the terraced area and walk around the corner to the:

[23]



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