

PAST IS PROLOGUE

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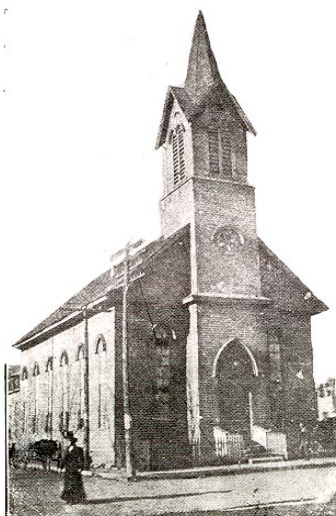
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The simple wooden church (below) dedicated in 1873 served as the pro-cathedral from 1890 until the present cathedral was finished in 1902. It was dismantled in 1906 and rebuilt at a new location as St. Peter the Apostle Church, the first parish for African-American Catholics..



CATHEDRAL IN DALLAS

CATHEDRAL SHRINE OF THE VIRGIN OF GUADALUPE

The Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe in downtown Dallas is first of all a parish church where more than 12,000 people attend Mass every weekend and where weddings, baptisms, and funerals are celebrated.

It began as a simple frame church built in three months in 1873 for a brand new parish. In 1890 when Dallas became a diocese that simple church was made the pro-cathedral (temporary cathedral).

In 1898 construction began on a permanent cathedral but because of limited funds a planned steeple and bell tower were eliminated.

The new Sacred Heart Cathedral was dedicated in October of 1902 and was one of Dallas' grandest buildings.

One-hundred-and-three years later, in 2005, the missing steeple and bell tower were added and the exterior cathedral design of the architect as originally



planned was complete.

In 1966 Sacred Heart Cathedral was merged with the nearby Our Lady of Guadalupe Church into a

single parish. Ten years later in 1976 the Cathedral name was changed to the Cathedral Shrine of The Virgin of Guadalupe.



The interior of the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe after the 2005 renovations

Why is it called a cathedral?

A cathedral is where a special chair is located that only the bishop may sit in. It is his seat.

Another word for diocese is "see" which comes from the Latin word for seat, "sedes".

Dallas is sometimes called the See City, because it is the seat of the bishop's authority. The bishop's chair or seat is called the "cathedra".

It is the chair that gives us the name cathedral, the place where the bishop's cathedra or chair is located.

The cathedra in Dallas is carved with the diocesan coat-of-arms.



Bishop Kevin J. Farrell, seventh Bishop of Dallas, is shown in the cathedra or bishop's chair, shortly after he was seated there for the first time as part of his installation in May of 2007. He is wearing the mitre, holding the crozier and wearing his cross and his ring, all symbols of the bishop's office.

Cathedral Renovation

Something old and something new

Renovation is a necessary and an ongoing process for historic buildings and Dallas' cathedral is no exception.

Much has been accomplished since the most recent renovation began in 2000 but there is still much to do to restore the exterior. The roof needs repair, the stained glass windows need re-leading and cleaning, and pollution has taken a toll on the stone and brick work. A campaign is underway to raise the funds to complete the renovation

and restoration work over the next few years.

When the original main altar was removed in 1966, there were several attempts at remodeling including the installation of a large tapestry of Our Lady of Guadalupe by Father B. G. Eades. In 2001 it was replaced by a computer-generated copy of the original image on the tilma of St. Juan Diego that was blessed by Pope John Paul II. A crown made from jewelry donated by

members of the parish was placed above the new image.

In 2002, the centennial of the dedication of the cathedral, a new altar and sanctuary were dedicated. The following year a new floor was installed, the pews refinished and air conditioning was replaced. Ground was broken for the new bell tower and steeple in 2004 and in 2005 a new Cathedral Plaza donated by the Catholic Foundation was completed. In 2005 the new bell tower was dedicated.

Much has been accomplished but much remains to be done to not only renovate but to restore the Cathedral to its original condition. The campaign will offer the community and the cathedral parishioners an opportunity to share in completing the restoration of the important and historic cathedral.

The challenge of renovation is to honor the past while at the same time planning and providing for the future of a historic landmark that at the same time is also a vibrant and dynamic parish community.

Nicholas Clayton: Cathedral architect

In 1887 Father Joseph Martiniere, pastor of Sacred Heart Church first contacted Texas pioneer architect Nicholas Clayton about designing a new church.

Ten years later, after a number of different designs, he completed the plans for the new Sacred Heart Cathedral. His design of soaring spires on the new building had to be abandoned, but when completed in 1902 the Cathedral was one of the most impressive structures in Dallas.



Nicholas Clayton

The Original high altar

Michael Coerver, a parish-ioner of the cathedral and a skilled wood craftsman, made and donated the original high altar for the cathedral.

When the cathedral was renovated in the 1960s it was found that much of the altar had been destroyed by termites and it had to be discarded.

Originally there were four side altars, some wood and some marble. Only the two marble ones remain.

A new marble main altar was installed and dedicated in 2002. Because of changes in liturgical norms, it no longer is at the back of the sanctuary but is near the front and is more like a table to remind us that the Eucharist or Mass was first of all a meal.

The original cathedral high altar was carved of wood and painted to resemble marble.



Cathedral window honors martyred rector

The first priest to be ordained for the Diocese of Dallas was Father Jeffrey Aloysius Hartnett a native of County Kerry, Ireland.



Father Jeffrey Hartnett window in the cathedral

Father Hartnett's family, like many Irish, came to Texas with the railroads in the 1860s and 70s. When Father Hartnett was ordained in 1892 he served in several parishes and in 1898 was made rector of the Cathedral.

The following year he was called to minister to a person dying of small pox. He walked miles in a blizzard to reach the patient. Later, he contracted the disease and died. Because of this heroic witness he is considered a martyr.

Circuit riders were first priests

Before Sacred Heart Church, the predecessor to the cathedral, was established in 1872, Catholics in Dallas were ministered to by priests from as far away as Nacogdoches in East Texas.

These priests would ride horseback and visit various towns and villages saying Mass in people's homes. The places they visited were called a circuit, and the priests were called circuit riders.

Dallas was still located in Nacogdoches County when priests from there started visiting. The first was a Father Sebastian Auguneur, who said Mass in the home of Maxime Guillot.

In 1868 a mission station was established as St. Paul and the circuit riders would visit all over North Texas from there. One of the priests from St. Paul was Fr. Joseph Martiniere. In 1893 he was made pastor of Sacred Heart Church.

Diocesan crest symbolizes history

Crests or coats-of-arms tell about the history of a place or a family, the crest of the Diocese of Dallas is no different.

At the top of the crest is a bishop's mitre, the tall hat worn by bishops that is a symbol of their office.

Beneath that is a red shield with a number of objects. The red is the color of the Sacred Heart, patron of the diocese.

In the upper right hand corner are crossed swords, the symbol of St. Paul who died by the sword. It represents the mission at St. Paul, Texas in Collin County. St. Paul mission was the first Catholic Church in what is now the Diocese of Dallas.

In the lower left corner is a star, it represents the Lone Star of Texas.

Running diagonally is a wavy line with three blue fleurs-de-lis. The fleur-de-lis, or flower of life, is a symbol of the Holy Trinity and is also the national symbol of France. In the crest both symbols are meaningful.

The wavy line represents the Trinity River, whose original name was Most Holy Trinity. Three fleurs-de-lis represent the Trinity. They also recall the French priests who first served the diocese. So the crest is a symbolic history of the diocese of Dallas.



Diocese of Dallas crest



A Cathedral Shrine

In 1966 when the Sacred Heart Cathedral parish was merged with Our Lady of Guadalupe parish Bishop Thomas Tschoepe petitioned Pope Paul VI to rename the cathedral in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

It took ten years to get an answer but in 1976 the Pope gave permission to rename the cathedral to the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe. The Dallas cathedral became the first cathedral in the United States to have as its patroness Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Empress of the Americas.

A giant tapestry of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe was made by Father B. G. Eades, a priest-artist of the diocese.

In 2005 when the cathedral was renovated the tapestry was replaced by a computer generated copy of the image of the virgin on St. Juan Diego's tilma. After being blessed by Pope John Paul II in Rome, the image was installed in the Cathedral in 2001.

Catholic Quiz

Where does the name cathedral come from?

Answer

It comes from the bishop's chair or cathedra.

Cathedral builder

Bishop Edward Joseph Dunne, the second Bishop of Dallas, was a man with a mission. That mission was to build a great cathedral in his new See city.

Bishop Dunne put every cent of the generous gifts from his Chicago parishioners and fellow priests into the fund to build a new cathedral.

Foregoing an Episcopal residence and choosing instead a room off of the back porch of the cathedral rectory, he began planning a cathedral worthy of what was then the largest city in Texas.

In 1898 he laid the cornerstone for Sacred Heart Cathedral and dedicated the impressive new structure in 1902.

Budgetary restrictions prevented the construction of the bell tower and small steeple included in the architect's original design.

Both would be added, along with a carillon as part of the 2002 Save the Cathedral Campaign.



Parishioners of All Saints Church in Chicago commissioned this pastel portrait of Bishop Edward Joseph Dunne

Bells: an ancient religious symbol

No one knows when bells were first invented, but they have been an important part of religious history from Old Testament times.

When Constantine first recognized the Christian religion, priests began to hang bells outside of their churches.

Bells were used to signal the times for prayer at Matins (6 a.m.), None (Mid-day) and Vespers (6 p.m.). In medieval times they called people to pray the Angelus, the Ave Maria prayer.

Before there were clocks, bells tolled the hours. The word clock comes from the Dutch word for bell, "klok."

The Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe has 49 bells, ranging in size from over 5 foot to less than 1 foot. They are called a carillon and can be played like a piano from a keyboard.

At the cathedral there are two keyboards, one high in the bell tower and one lower near the choir loft where the carillonneur may practice without having to climb up the tower.

It has long been a custom to bless or baptize the bells before they are raised to the tower. Sometimes they were even given names. The cathedral bells were blessed by Bishop Charles Grahmann, who was bishop when they were installed but have no names.

It took many men and heavy duty cranes to raise all the bells for the carillon to the 224 foot cathedral tower. A special steel frame was constructed to bear the weight of the new bells. Only after the bells were raised could the tower be finished.

The carillon was a gift from James Moroney, Jr., a descendent of one of the early families in the parish.



Workmen prepare to raise one of the largest of the cathedral bells to the tower. The bells were blessed before being raised.