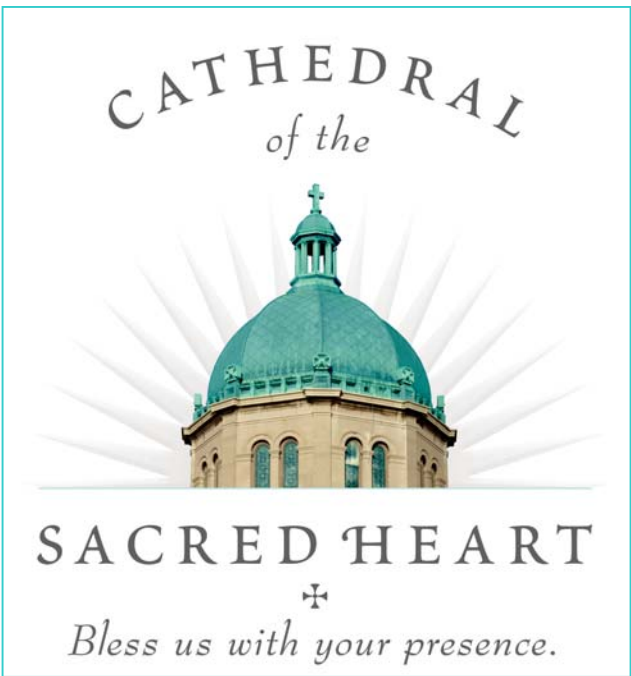


Welcome to the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart



A Self-Guided Tour

WORSHIP SERVICES

All are welcome to join us in our worship.

Saturday 5:15 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:15 p.m.

Monday 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday 12:05 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (while VCU is in session)

Thursday & Friday 12:05 p.m.

Most Rev. Francis X. DiLorenzo,

Bishop of Richmond

Rev. Patrick Golden, Rector

Designed by New York architect Joseph H. McGuire, the Cathedral is considered to be Virginia's finest ecclesiastical example of the Italian Renaissance Revival style. The building is constructed of Virginia granite and Indiana limestone with a copper dome and tile roof. Six fluted Corinthian columns support the architrave on the front of the exterior, which displays the motto "If Ye Love Me Keep My Commandments" (John 14:15). The outline of the coat of arms of the Diocese of Richmond appears above the name of the church to the left of the columns.

Richmond was a small town of only 16,000 when its first Catholic Cathedral, St. Peter's, 800 E. Grace Street, was built in 1834. After the Civil War, Bishop John McGill realized that the growing Catholic population would need a new house of worship. In 1867 he purchased a lot in what was then considered the far west end. Lack of funds prevented further action until 1884 when Bishop John J. Keane purchased the remainder of the present block. With the announcement of a gift of \$500,000 for the proposed cathedral from Thomas Fortune Ryan and his wife, Ida Barry Ryan, plans for the building were drawn up.

On June 4, 1903, Archbishop Diomedo Falconio, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, officiated at the laying of the cornerstone, which came from the Garden of Gethsemane. Three years later, thousands of people filled the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart for the Dedication on Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1906. The consecration ceremony was a milestone in both Richmond's history and the history of the Catholic Church in Virginia. The event was reported nationally, and the local newspaper devoted two special sections on the religious, architectural, and civic importance of the Cathedral.

The Cathedral Carillon was installed in 1995. It is a gift of the Most Reverend Walter F. Sullivan, then Bishop of Richmond, in celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the Diocese of Richmond and the 25th Anniversary of Bishop Sullivan's episcopacy. The 61-bell note Carillon was made by Van Bergen Foundries, Inc. of Charleston, South Carolina.

Framed by Richmond's Monroe Park, the Monroe Park campus of Virginia Commonwealth University, and the residential Fan District, the Cathedral serves as the Mother Church of the Diocese of Richmond and as the local parish for its Richmond congregation.

The Cathedral is a Virginia Historic Landmark, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and received the Historic Richmond Foundation's 1992 Award of Achievement for its restoration

The glass doors of the vestibule lead to a gathering space and Baptismal font (1) in the back of the church. The interior plan of the building follows the lines of a Latin cross. The nave, or body of the church, forms the long arm of the cross. The transepts, or arms of the cross, extend south and north, between Floyd and Park Avenues. The side aisles are separated from the nave by 32-foot high marble Corinthian columns supporting round arches. The interior decoration features marble and mosaic floor patterns and marble wainscoting.

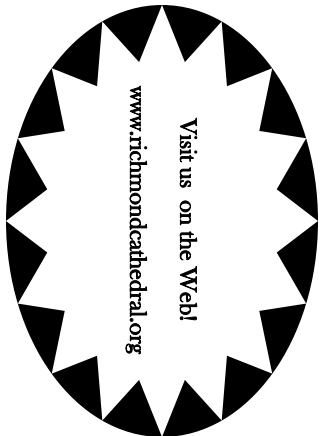
The organ loft is located just above the vestibule and contains 3,899 pipes and one of two consoles for the organ. Above the auxiliary sacristy (2) is a panel depicting St. Cecilia, patron saint of music, and over the Reconciliation Room (20) is a panel showing the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. The Baptismal font (1) is located near the front doors as a reminder that through the sacrament of baptism the faithful enter the church of Jesus Christ.

The stained glass windows on each side of the church, created in 1956 by Francis and Pierre Chigot of Limoges, France, show a progression of events in the life of Christ. The four windows on the left portray: the Incarnation, the Nativity, Jesus teaching in

the temple, and the marriage feast at Cana. The four windows on the right depict the conferring of the power of the keys to St. Peter or the foundation of the Church, the institution of the Holy Eucharist, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection.

Around the walls of the Cathedral below the windows are the Stations of the Cross, a series of 14 bronzed plaques depicting the last hours of Jesus's life. On the side aisles leading from the main entrance are cabinets containing the Oil of Catechumens used for anointing new Catholics, the Chrism (19) used for Baptism, Confirmation and priestly Ordination, and the Oil of the Sick (3).

Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
800 S. Cathedral Place
Richmond, VA 23220
(804) 359-5651



On the coffered ceiling of the barrel vault of the nave are four central panels with the coats of arms of the four popes who reigned from the laying of the cornerstone to the 25th anniversary of the building's dedication in 1931: Pope Leo XIII, Pope Pius X, Pope Benedict XV, and Pope Pius XI. Just below the ceiling vaults throughout the church are 24 clerestory windows by the Chigots depicting the bread and wine of the Eucharist.

The center aisle leads to the altar (4) which is located below the 96-foot high dome. At the apex of the dome is a dove, symbol of the Holy Spirit. Below the dome are medallions of the four Evangelists and their symbols: St. Matthew and the young man; St. Mark and the lion; St. Luke and the bull; and St. John and the eagle. On the archways between the columns that support the dome are coats of arms of several of the bishops of Richmond and several popes. On the ceiling of the transept are the coats of arms of Bishop Augustine Van de Vyver, during whose administration the Cathedral was built and dedicated, and Bishop Andrew Brennan, during whose administration the Cathedral observed its silver jubilee. The rose windows at either end of the transept are the last of the original windows installed during the construction of the Cathedral.

The sanctuary begins at the crossing of the nave and the transept. In the apse above the sanctuary are the nine Chigot windows representing the eight beatitudes and a center window symbolizing the Holy Spirit. The chair of the Bishop of Richmond (15) is on the left of the sanctuary, and pulpit (8) is on the right.

In addition to the main altar, there are four smaller marble and mosaic chapels. The north transept chapel (6) near the Park Avenue door (5) is dedicated to St. Vincent de Paul, patron saint of the diocese. The window by this entrance also depicts St. Vincent holding a child, and another child with a Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. The Cathedral is shown in the bottom panel of the window.

The north transept chapel (7) facing the congregation is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the tabernacle door depicts her pierced heart. The window to the right of the altar commemorates Mary, Queen of All Creation, a feast proclaimed by Pope Pius XII.

Beyond the main altar is the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (10) containing the tabernacle. The semicircular aisle or ambulatory is separated from the sanctuary by a wrought-iron grill. A low marble and brass railing was part of the original communion rail in front of the altar when it was located in the sanctuary before Vatican II prompted changes in the interior of the building. The first door on the right past the pulpit leads to the sacristy (9) and the second to the church lull and offices (11).

Three stained glass windows in the ambulatory were executed in 1931 by Rambusch Decorating Company of New York, which was commissioned to paint and decorate the interior of the church in honor of its 25th anniversary. The windows represent Christ the Priest and Shepherd; Christ the King; and Christ the Teacher and Redeemer. The steps below the middle window lead to the crypt (12).

The marble statue to the left of the windows is of St. Peter holding the symbolic keys to the kingdom (13). A Chigot window to the left of the statue illustrates the Ascension of Christ and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin into heaven. The door on the left is the bishop's entrance (14). A chapel dedicated to the Sacred Heart faces the congregation in the south transept (16). A heart surrounded by a crown of thorns appears on its tabernacle door. The appearance of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a 17th century Visitation nun, is shown in the window.

The chapel on the Floyd Avenue side of the transept is dedicated to St. Joseph, the patron saint of workers (17). The window by the entrance depicts St. Joseph as a carpenter. St. Peter's Basilica in Rome is shown in the lower panel. Above the Floyd Avenue door (18) is the coat of arms of the current bishop of Richmond, the Most Reverend Walter F. Sullivan. This brochure is intended to guide the visitor through the interior of the Cathedral. The tour begins just inside-

This brochure is intended to guide the visitor through the interior of the Cathedral. The tour begins just inside the glass entrance doors between the vestibule and the main body of the church at (I) on the floor plan.

KEY

1. Gathering space and baptismal font
2. Auxiliary sacristy
3. Oil of the Sick
4. Altar
5. North transept door to Park Avenue
6. St. Vincent de Paul Chapel
7. Blessed Virgin Mary Chapel
8. Pulpit
9. Sacristy
10. Blessed Sacrament Chapel
11. Door to parish center and offices
12. Stairwell to crypt
13. Statue of St. Peter
14. Bishop's entrance
15. Bishop's chair
16. Sacred Heart Chapel
17. St. Joseph Chapel
18. South transept door to Floyd Avenue
19. Chrism and Oil of Catechumens
20. Reconciliation room

Floor Plan of the Cathedral

