



Church Window Restoration Project Begins!

St Mary Church window restoration begins this month, **January 2017**. We have contracted with [Stained Glass by Shenandoah](#) in Front Royal, Virginia to complete this important refurbishment work. Shenandoah is a nationally recognized leader in the stained glass restoration industry. Locally, they have done work at St. Cecilia Church in Oakley and Old St. Mary Church in OTR.

Window Restoration Details...

- The restoration includes all 40 windows in church. This comprises windows visible in the nave of the church as well as windows located in hallways above the sanctuary and vestibule.
- The total project is estimated to take approximately 18 months.
- Groups of windows at a time will be prepared, removed, and transported to Shenandoah's factory in Virginia for the restoration work. It is necessary to do the work off site due to EPA regulations.
- When windows are removed, plywood that matches the interior stone of the church will be installed to cover the opening.

As we celebrate the Centennial of the church building and during the window restoration work, we will highlight historical and architectural information (to the best of our ability!) on each group of windows as their restoration begins/takes place. We invite any parishioner with window/building historical info to share your knowledge. Please call the rectory (321-1207) or bmock@smshp.com. Thank you!

The windows were designed by [The Charles Connick Studio of Boston](#). The Connick Studio has been responsible for the rose windows in St. Patrick Cathedral in New York City and windows in the National Cathedral in Washington D.C.

The first set of windows scheduled for restoration include the windows on the south face (parking lot side) of the building and windows located in the sacristy and windows to the right of the sanctuary; **a total of 11 windows**. This does not include the big sanctuary window which is scheduled later in the spring of 2017. The timeline for prep, removal, transport, restoration, return, and reinstallation of these 11 smaller windows is approximately **34 days** with a reinstall date at the end of February.

- ◆ The sacristy windows depict: Ships, a symbol of the church itself, signifying a way to salvation; a window with three fleur de lis - representing the trinity; a baptismal font; and a dove.
- ◆ A small window to the right of the altar has a vertical scroll with the letters INRI, often found at the top of a crucifix...perhaps this was designed as a resurrection window. A hidden angel can also be found in this particular window.

Please feel proud that you are a current day parishioner and are here to support and participate in the preservation of these historical windows...the first time in 100 years! We are richly blessed with a century of history in every window. Stay tuned as the restoration project progresses.

Thank you to Deacon John Schuler & Marisue Naber for their leadership on our church restoration. God Bless you!