

Sts. Peter & Paul Stained Glass Window Project

The Stained Glass Window project of Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church is progressing more rapidly than I ever imagined it would. Only four narthex windows (St. Simon, St. Matthias, St. Philip and St. Bartholomew) remain to be adopted, since the committee has sponsored St. James the Greater (son of Zebedee)* from available funds. Nine clerestory windows are now in place: St. Donald of Scotland, St. Blaise, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Faustina, St. Francis Xavier, the Holy Patriarch Isaac, St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael. Eight more are now in the line-up with three currently being drawn: Pope St. John Paul II, Our Lady of Czestochowa, Our Lady of Schoenstatt, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Martin de Porres, St. José Sanchez del Rio (Cristero teen martyr)*, St. Kateri Tekakwitha (Lily of the Mohawks)*, and St. Juan Diego Cuahtlatoatzin (Mexico, of the Chichimeca People, received the visits of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Tepeyac). This will leave only eleven clerestory windows to be determined. The saint windows marked with an asterisk (*) are sponsored by the SGW Committee from general donations to the project and, prior to fabrication, may be adopted by other donors.

Given the progress being made, I offer this list of possible saints for consideration of those who may wish to sponsor a narthex or clerestory window: The Apostles—St. Simon, St. Matthias, St. Philip, St. Bartholomew—in the Narthex; for the clerestory, there are almost countless saints from which to choose from the official lists of the Catholic Church; some suggestions—St. Miguel Pro (Mexico, priest martyr); St. John Vianney (France, Patron of Parish Priests); St. Therese of Lisieux (France, Carmelite, Dr of the Church); St. Damien de Veuster &/or St. Marianne Cope of Moloka'i, Hawaii; St. Anthony of Padua (Portugal, Franciscan, Dr of Church); St. Maria Goretti (Italy, Virgin Martyr, Patroness of Teenage Girls); Sts Martha & Mary (with brother Lazarus, Personal Friends of Jesus); St. Augustine & St. Monica (North Africa, Bp, one of the four great Drs of Church & his mother [patroness of mothers]); St. John of the Cross (Carmelite); St. Theresa Benedicta of the Cross (Carmelite, Germany, Virgin Martyr [executed by Nazis] a.k.a. Dr. Edith Stein, co-patroness of Europe); St. Mary Magdalene (Disciple of Jesus, 1st to witness Christ Risen); St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (Italy, Foundress, American Immigrant, 1st US Citizen saint, Patroness of immigrants); Sts Perpetua & Felicity (Martyrs of North Africa); St. Charles Lwanga (Ugandan Martyr); St. Patrick of Ireland; St. Joan of Arc (France, Virgin Martyr); St. Nicholas of Myra (Bp, Patron of Children); St. Martin of Tours (Hungary, France, Bp, Patron of Soldiers); St. Ignatius Loyola (Spain, Soldier, Founder of Jesuits [Society of Jesus]); St. Thomas Aquinas (Italy, Dominican, Dr of the Church); St. Benedict &/or St. Scholastica (Italy, Twins, Founders of the Benedictines); St. Agnes (Virgin Martyr); St. Luke (Evangelist, Physician, Patron of Medical Profession, Artists); St. Dominic de Guzman (Spain, Founder of the Dominicans); St. Catherine of Alexandria (Egypt, Virgin, Martyr, Patroness of Philosophers); St. Catherine of Sienna; St. Gianna Beretta Molla (Italy, Physician, Surgeon, Wife of Pietro Molla [engineer], Mother [died from complications following the birth of their fourth child]); St. Hubert of Liege (Bp, Patron of Hunters); St. Claire of Assisi (Virgin, Foundress with St. Francis); Pope St. John XXIII; with hundreds and hundreds more to choose from, especially from the martyrs—e.g., of Vietnam, China, Japan, etc.

With the Venerable Fr. Michael J. McGivney being beatified by the Church this October 31st, his window will be modified with the new title and a halo (with his face re-drawn). The title-dedicatives of the six new clerestory windows will be re-done to incorporate the names of the saints portrayed along with the names of the persons honored. Individuals, families, or groups who may be interested in sponsoring a window may wish to make your interest known in a timely way. There is no commitment in place until the funding is complete. The funds for this project are exempt from assessment and are considered charitable donations to the church: the cost of narthex/Apostle window @\$16,000; clerestory window @ \$12,100. May the Lord bless and bring this work to the praise of his glory to completion. Fr. Richard