

HISTORY

On October 20, 1872, Anastacia Aragon, daughter of Pabrito and Incarnata Aragon, was baptized by the Rev. Carlos M. Pinto, S.J., with Ricardo Castillo and Marcellina Chavez as sponsors. Thus begins the recorded history of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. The first parish was named St. Ignatius, staffed by Jesuit Fathers. The first parish church was built in 1873 at 13th and West Streets. After this church was destroyed by fire in 1882, a second church was built on Grand Avenue between 10th and 11th Streets. In 1887, Bishop Joseph P. Machebeuf, first Bishop of Colorado, appointed Rev. Bender as the first diocesan pastor of the parish. On February 6, 1910, the Rev. Thomas J. Wolohan was appointed Pastor. Under his direction the present church was built at a cost of \$48,000 and renamed Sacred Heart.

Sacred Heart became the Cathedral of the new Diocese of Pueblo established on November 15, 1941. A major renovation took place in 1988 to repair structural damage, update the heating and cooling systems and provide restrooms and a handicapped accessible entrance. The restoration revived treasures of stained glass and French Gothic architecture. The Cathedral was placed on the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior on February 6, 1989. As the Mother Church of the Diocese of Pueblo, it is the primary site for major Diocesan celebrations throughout the year.

INTERACTION BEFORE MASS

We come together, as friends, happy to see one another, preparing to celebrate God's great gift with each other. We believe that all liturgies celebrated here are not just time for private meditation and contemplation, between "me" and God, but a time to celebrate with each other as a community of believers, the People of God.

BRINGING FORTH OUR GIFTS

On the third Sunday of each month, the faith community comes forward before the regular collection to make an offering to support the Parish Outreach Program. In addition to providing funds to the Pueblo Cooperative Care Center, Catholic Charities, Posada and the Police Chaplain's Fund, this visible sign of our gifts is used to ease the temporal burdens of the less fortunate in our parish and our neighborhood.

A WALKING TOUR

Gathering Space

The Pavilion on the south side of the church, designed by Hurtig, Gardner & Froelich Architects, serves as a hospitality center. In addition to gathering here before and after Mass, this space is used as a gathering place for grieving families at funerals, and for wedding couples to greet their guests after the church service. This space is also used for overflow crowds at liturgical celebrations.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Tapestry

Several women artists from Sacred Heart Parish in Alamosa, CO under the direction of Sr. Angela Lobato, RSM designed and made this likeness of Our Lady of Guadalupe using a special type of needlework called Colcha Embroidery from Mexico and presented it to Bishop Arthur N. Tafoya as a gift to the Cathedral. It is a reminder that she is the co-patroness of the Diocese of Pueblo. The pedestal beneath the tapestry was designed and made by John Lest.

The Last Supper Scene

Formerly part of the main altar in the original church, the Last Supper scene was a gift from the Fortino family and is mounted over the entrance doors from the Pavilion into the body of the Church.

Baptismal Font

Baptisms are celebrated several times throughout the year. The font reminds us of our new life in Christ and as we enter the Church, we bless ourselves and renew our baptismal promises.

Sanctuary Furnishings

Our liturgical furniture was designed by Gunther Woorlein of Lamy, NM, in consultation with liturgical architect Rev. John Buscemi. The solid oak carved altar was donated by the Cathedral Altar Society, and the Bishop's Chair was a gift of the Bishop's Guild. In 2008, the Rector of the Cathedral, Msgr. Leonard E. Racki commissioned John Lest to design and install the oak handrails on the sanctuary steps.

Eucharistic Tower and Shrines

Present liturgical directives call for one altar and the tabernacle to be placed in a wall niche or Eucharistic Tower either in the main body of the Church or in a separate Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The original main altar was redesigned into the Eucharistic Tower and portions of the side altar into shrines of the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph. This work was completed by John Lest.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross were restored by Cypriano Rodriguez and artists from Conrad Schmidt Studios of Milwaukee. The Stations are accented by special halogen lighting.

Cathedral Organ

The console of the splendid Cathedral organ is located downstairs in the music area in keeping with current liturgical norms. The instrument is a three manual Allen digital organ installed by Southwest Church Organs of Denver. Morel & Associates, also of Denver, interfaced the 11-rank Kilgen pipe organ (circa 1927) located in the loft at the rear of the Church with the Allen Digital Organ. Dedicated August 3, 2008, the glorious sounds of the organ not only uplift and support congregational singing but also enable the playing of great organ literature.

The Cathedral Steeple

On August 6, 2008, the steeple of the Church was struck midpoint by lightening which resulted in a fire that caused great damage to the steeple. By the efforts of the Pueblo Fire Department firefighters, the Church itself was spared any major damage. The steeple was reconstructed by H.W. Houston Construction Co. and rededicated on February 22, 2009. The steeple tower has two cast bronze bells to call the faithful to worship.

Stained Glass Windows

The greatest treasure of the Cathedral is its Stained Glass Windows designed and installed by Emil Frei, Sr. of St. Louis, MO. His primary style was one of exquisite figure work in a German Background of what would appear to be marble tracery in glass.

Wall on the left facing the altar (windows on the south side of the Church)

- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Heaven (large window above the Pavilion entrance)
- Jesus presenting Peter with Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven
- Apparition of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary
- The Good Shepherd
- Jesus meets the daughters of Jerusalem

Window above the loft

- Rose window depicting St. Cecilia, Patroness of Music

Wall on the right facing the altar (windows on the north side of the Church)

- St. Patrick
- The Sermon on the Mount
- The Annunciation of Mary
- The Prodigal Son
- Jesus as Teacher sharing with women and children (large window above the Music area)

Sanctuary facing left to right

- St. Paul
- Guardian Angel
- Jesus knocking at the door that can be opened only from the inside (the door of our hearts)
- St. John the Evangelist.

In 2007, the Stained Glass Windows were restored to their original glory by Stephen Frei, who has carried on his grandfather Emil's legacy. The Friends of the Cathedral Committee was instrumental in raising the funds needed for this project.

Ambry for the Sacred Oils

The Ambry contains three large vessels of oil consecrated by the Bishop during the Chrism Mass each year. Oil of the Sick, used for the Anointing of the Sick; Oil of Catechumens, administered during the Catechumenate; and Sacred Chrism for Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders. The Knights of Columbus Council, #557, donated the ambry. Its design is in keeping with the Eucharistic Tower and Shrines.

Nave (main body of the Church)

The colors were carefully selected to raise our spirits upward in prayer and to highlight the beauty of the stained glass windows. Indirect lighting creates a prayerful environment for the many services and concerts held in the Cathedral.

Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus

A bronze sculpture of the patroness of the Diocese of Pueblo by artist Huberto Maestas of San Luis, CO, was commissioned by Anthony Capps-Capozzolo, a native of Pueblo. The sculpture located outside on the south side of the Church is cast in sixteen pieces of bronze depicting the face of then Sister Thérèse Martin, the "Little Flower" who endured much physical suffering in her short life. She is clothed in the traditional habit of the Carmelite Order.



Photo by Deacon Jacob Shafer

Bishops of Pueblo

- ✠ Most Reverend Joseph C. Willging (1941-1959)
- ✠ Most Reverend Charles A. Buswell (1959-1980)
- ✠ Most Reverend Arthur N. Tafoya (1980-2010)
- ✠ Most Reverend Fernando Isern (2010-2013)

Rectors of the Cathedral

- ❖ Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Wolohan (1941-1946)
- ❖ Rev. Msgr. Joseph J. Walsh (1947-1948)
- ❖ Rev. Francis J. Bottler (1948-1951)
- ❖ Rev. Msgr. Peter F. Maas (1952-1967)
- ❖ Rev. Msgr. William P. Doll (1967-1977)
- ❖ Rev. Msgr. Joseph P. McGuinness (1977-1983)
- ❖ Rev. Richard F. Becker (1983-1993)
- ❖ Rev. Anthony A. Wojcinski (1993-2001)
- ❖ Rev. Msgr. Mark A. Plewka, (Administrator from 2001-2003)
- ❖ Rev. Roger P. Dorcy (2003-2005)
- ❖ Rev. Msgr. Leonard E. Racki (2005-2013)
- ❖ Rev. Msgr. James F. Koenigsfeld (2013-present)

CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART

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Photo by Deacon Jacob Shafer

Eucharistic Liturgies

Saturday (Vigil)	4:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am, 10:15 am, 12:00 Noon
Holy Days	12:00 Noon, 5:30 pm
Weekdays	12:00 Noon

Baptized into the Body of Christ and inspired by the Word of God; we, the Parish of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart are called to ongoing growth in our identity as Eucharistic people and our mission of spreading God's reign of Love by our words and actions.