

Church of the Blessed Sacrament Progress Report on Rose Window July 2018

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As repair work continues on the exterior of the church building, I wanted to update you on another portion of the work currently underway, the restoration of the Rose Window. Our Rose Window, by Clement Heaton, is a Gothic stone tracery rose in a design configuration loosely based on the 13th century upper “giant” west rose window in Reims Cathedral, France. It depicts twelve angels playing musical instruments with a Chalice and Host in the center. Considered exceptionally large, the Reims Rose is 40’ wide, only 8’ in diameter wider than the 32’ diameter Blessed Sacrament Rose.

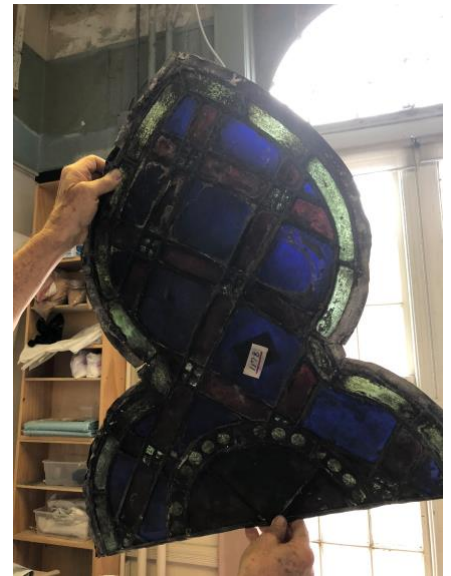
It is important to note that the Rose window restoration really has two portions, the exterior safety glass and the interior stained-glass panels. The exterior glass will be fully replaced in August/September, with the reinstallation of the restored stained-glass immediately to follow. As you will see in the photos below, the window itself was in great need of repair and restoration. *Sunlites Stained Glass*, based out of Rockaway Beach, NY, began its examination and removal of the stained-glass panels in the winter of 2018. All 249 stained-glass panels are now in the *Sunlites* workshop under restoration and 75% of the in-studio work is now complete. Please note, too, that while we are not now involved with the restoration of the Nave/Side stained-glass windows, there were 40 pieces of broken exterior safety glass on those windows and 26 minor cracks. Those broken pieces were fully replaced and the cracks sealed by *Sunlites* in June as part of the waterproofing of the building.

Thank you to everyone who is helping make this work possible- please contact the Business Office if you are interested in helping!

Father Duffell

Rose Window In-Studio Work Progress

Description	Number of Panels	Percent Complete
Removed from stone frame and transported to shop	all 249	100%
Photo documented	all 249	100%
Rebars removed	all	100%
Rebars restored, painted, numbered	all	100%
Rebar wires removed from panels for replacement	all	100%
Lead borders repaired	200	85%
Leads scraped of old putties, both sides of panels, prepped for cementing	all	100%
Broken pieces replaced with new kiln-fired replacement pieces	68	n/a
Flattened and re-soldered	185	75%
Cleaned	112	45%
Select panels solution-soaked	80	tbd
Panels cemented, buffed, and finished	112	45%
New rebar wires attached	<i>last in-shop step</i>	



***Above:** Deteriorated pieces of the Rose Window with dirt accumulation, bowed glass, and cracked joints; the glass is cleaned, putty removed and replaced under each lead joint, and each piece re-flattened...*

***Below:** Father Duffell examines the work in progress; Craftsmen at Sunlites replacing putty under lead joints, Patrick Clark showing portions of cleaned panels; cleaned panels racked and ready to be reinstalled; old vs. restored panels; each panel is tracked using a number system and a detail card...*

