



Chapel Architectural Notes

All Chapel furnishings were custom designed and fabricated by local artisans, just as the furnishings in the Church. It was founding Pastor Father Todd O’Leary’s strong belief that appointments should be “truly worthy of the Lord’s house.” And that our Creator deserved a little creativity, too!

Saints Depicted in the Retablo

Top tier (left to right)	Mary, Our Divine Lord, St. Thomas the Apostle
Middle tier (left/right)	St. Thomas Aquinas / St. Clare
Bottom tier (left/right)	The Guardian Angels who traditionally stand vigil by the tabernacle

The Centennial Dome over the Altar

The windows in the dome commemorate the 100-year history of the Diocese of Tucson (1897 - 1997) – at the time the Chapel was designed. Showcased are the official insignias of St. Thomas the Apostle and then Pope John Paul II + the Diocese’s first six bishops:

- Jean-Baptiste Salpointe (1868 - 1896)
- Peter Bourgade (1897 - 1899)
- Henry Regis Granjon (1900 - 1922)
- Daniel James Gercke (1923 - 1960)
- Francis Joseph Green (1960 - 1981)
- Manuel Duran Moreno (1982 - 2003)

The Ten Commandment Stained Glass Windows

Each of the clerestory windows represents one of the Ten Commandments. As the commandments come to us from the Hebrew Scriptures, each commandment is numbered with its Hebrew symbol...beginning at the Chapel’s southwest corner.

The Seven Sacrament Stained Glass Windows

The eye level stained glass windows represent scenes from the New Testament, depicting the seven sacraments. Beginning at the southwest corner of the Chapel, worshipers will discover in order:

- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Eucharist
- Penance
- Anointing of the Sick
- Holy Orders
- Matrimony

Shrines of St. Jude and St. Anthony

At the Chapel entry are two memorial shrines. One is in honor of St. Jude, patron of “desperate situations.” The other is for St. Anthony, “wonder worker.” Similar shrines are almost always found in mission style churches because the lives of the peasant parishioners were very hard and dangerous.

Statues of Mary and Joseph

In 1992, the Parish commissioned two bronze statues of Mary and Joseph from legendary painter/sculptor Buck McCain.