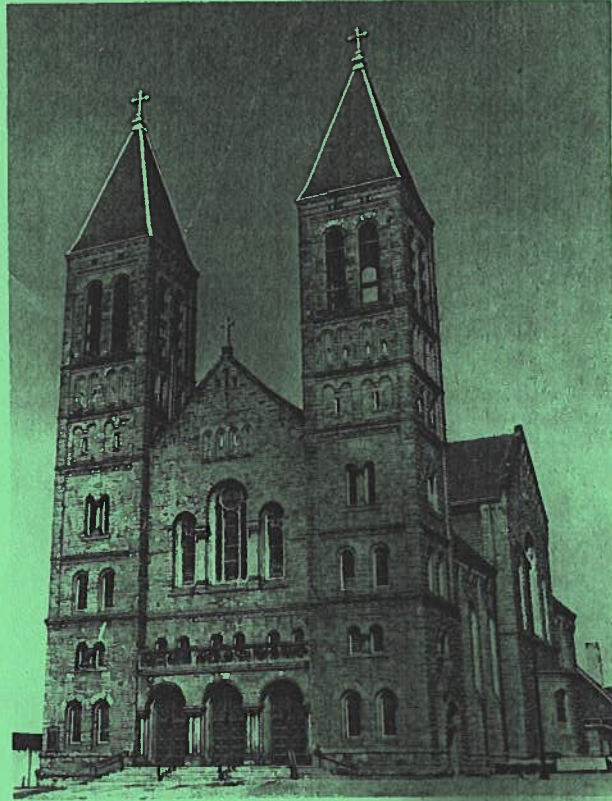


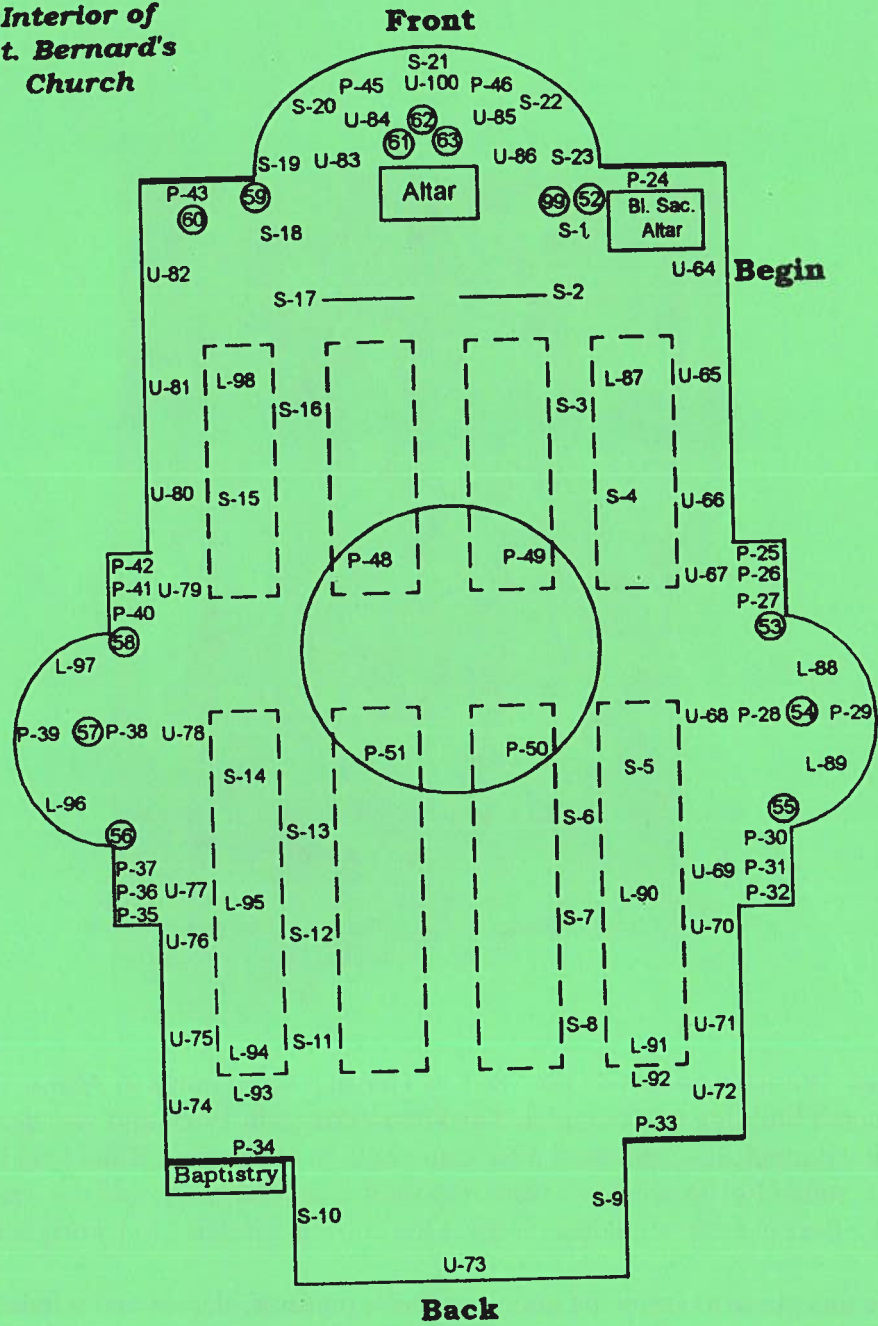
St. Bernard's Church Guide to Art and Architecture



St. Bernard's Parish was founded in 1861 by German Immigrants in Akron, Ohio. The current church building was completed and consecrated in 1905, and was designed by William P. Gunther; it is patterned after cathedrals in Germany's Rhineland region. The impressive stained-glass windows were imported from Germany, and the marble altars from Italy. Recent restoration has returned the church's interior to its original beauty.

Please use this guide to enjoy the many symbols, pictures, statues and windows in St. Bernard's. Formal tours for groups, which include a detailed history of the church and its past and present ministries, may be arranged by calling the Church office at (330) 253-5161.

**Interior of
St. Bernard's
Church**



S=Symbol; P=Paintings; #-Statues; U=Upper Windows; L=Lower Windows

Interior Layout of St. Bernard's

S=Symbol, P=Paintings, #'s= Statues, U= Upper Windows, L=Lower Windows

- S-1 Chi (X) and Rho (P) are the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ.
- S-2 The cross and two tablets represent Jesus Christ who proclaimed the Ten Commandments as God's law.
- S-3 The chalice, wheat and grapes are signs of the Eucharist.
- S-4 A flowering branch depicting Mary as the flowering of God's love.
- S-5 The letters A and M stand for "Ave Maria" or "Hail Mary" in English.
- S-6 Keys and the papal tiara refer to St. Peter who was given the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven by Christ.
- S-7 Ω (Omega) is the last letter of the Greek alphabet. In Revelations, Christ calls himself the Alpha and the Omega.
- S-8 A Jerusalem Cross or Greek Cross with four small crosses symbolizing the five wounds of Christ (hands, feet and side).
- S-9 Chi and Rho are the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ.
- S-10 Consisting of an A, a R and a crown, this stands for "Ave Regina" meaning "Hail (Mary) The Queen."
- S-11 IHS is an abbreviation of the Greek word for Jesus.
- S-12 Again, referring to Christ as the Alpha and Omega.
- S-13 The triangle and three interlocking circles express the unity and equality of the Trinity.
- S-14 IHS is an abbreviation of the Greek word for Jesus.
- S-15 The cross and crown tells us that Jesus is King and was crucified for our salvation.
- S-16 The dove and olive branch symbolize the peace of the Holy Spirit.
- S-17 The menorah is a seven branched candle holder, which early Christians used to symbolize the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- S-18 Again, the symbols for Ave Regina.
- S-19 through S-23 concern the Passion and death of Christ*
- S-19 The nails and crown of thorns.
- S-20 The hammer and pliers for the nails.
- S-21 The post-crucifixion cross.
- S-22 Ladder, crosses for the two thieves, spear and sponge.

- S-23 Scourging post and whips.
- P-24 Painting of the Holy Family, highlighting St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus.
- P-25 St. Ansgar, Apostle of Denmark (801-865). Noted for being a preacher and living a life of humility, he converted the King of Denmark and built a church in Schleswig.
- P-26 St. Elizabeth of Hungary (1207-1231). Daughter of the King of Hungary, she was widowed and spent her years dedicated to helping the poor. The roses in the cape represent the bread she gave to the poor.
- P-27 St. Catherine of Siena, a Dominican, and a writer of works describing her mystical relationship with Christ.
- P-28 "The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" in John 1:29. he stands upon a book with seven seals from Revelations 5:1,7.
- P-29 Mary is queen of Heaven, Christ the King is her son.
- P-30 St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor, who pope from 590-604. His most famous "Pastoral Rule" taught bishops to enforce discipline, laid down strict moral rules for married couple and enforced celibacy for the priesthood. He emptied the papal treasury to care for persecuted Jews and victims of plague and famine.
- P-31 St. Boniface (673-754), Apostle of Germany.
- P-32 St. Louis (1226-1270), also known as King Louis IX of France. Tradition holds that he acquired the Crown of Thorns from the emperor of Constantinople and enshrined it in Sainte-Chapelle.
- P-33 The Good Shepherd.
- P-34 The Good Samaritan.
- P-35 St. Vincent de Paul (1580?-1660).
- P-36 St. Peter, First Pope and Martyr (died around 64 AD)
- P-37 St. John the Baptist.
- P-37 The pelican pierces her own breast to give nourishment to her young in time of famine, an allusion to Christ's nourishment of us with his Body and Blood.
- P-39 Jesus Christ (the anointed one) in King.
- P-40 St. Michael the Archangel.
- P-41 St. Edward the Confessor (1003-1066) An English king noted for turning tax money over to the poor and rebuilding Westminster Abbey, where he is buried.
- P-42 St. Peter Canisius, Second Apostle of Germany (1521-1597).
- P-43 St. Laurence (?-258), martyr.
- P-44 through 47 surround the main altar and refer to the Eucharist*
- P-44 Angelorum Esca: "Food of Angels"

- P-45 Nobiscum Deus: "God with Us"
P-46 Hostia Sancta: "The Holy Sacrifice"
P-47 Pignus Gloriam: "Our Pledge of Glory"

Celling

- P-48 St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
P-49 St. Mark, Evangelist
P-50 St. Luke, Evangelist
P-51 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- 52 St. Anthony of Padua, Doctor of the Church (1195-1231), shown holding the Infant Jesus.
53 St. Pius X, Pope (1835-1914).
54 St. Dominic (1170-1221) and the Virgin Mary.
55 St. Pellegrino Laziosi, patron saint of cancer cases.
56 St. Therese of Lisieux, "The Little Flower," (1873-1897)
57 Sacred Heart appearing to Margaret Mary.
58 Infant of Prague.
59 St. Anne, Mother of the Virgin Mary.
60 The Blessed Virgin Mary
61 St. Nicholas.
62 St. Bernard (1090-1153) Abbot and Doctor of the Church.
63 St. Boniface.

Windows

- U-64 Jesus preaching to the crowd delivering the Beatitudes.
U-65 Jesus and the apostles in the Garden of Gethsemani.
U-66 Jesus giving keys to Peter.
U-67 St. Catherine of Alexandria, special patron of the Dominicans.
U-68 Descent of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost.
U-69 St. Boniface.
U-70 Martha and Mary, showing Martha preparing a meal with Mary at the Lord's feet.
U-71 Jesus saving the adulteress.
U-72 Pilate addressing the crowd.
U-73 St. Cecelia, patron saint of music.

- U-74 Jesus telling Peter to cast his net again, bringing in a quantity of fish.
- U-75 Jesus healing the sick.
- U-76 The Finding in the Temple.
- U-77 St. Barbara.
- U-78 The Ascension.
- U-79 St. Rose of Lima (1586-1617)
- U-80 The Presentation of the Lord.
- U-81 The Three Wise Men.
- U-82 The Nativity.
- U-83 St. Anne with Mary.
- U-84 Jesus appearing to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.
- U-85 The Annunciation.
- U-86 The Blessed Mother and the child Jesus.
- L-87 The letters A and M with a crown, signifying "Ave Maria Regina" or "Hail, Mary our Queen."
- L-88 St. Helen, (247-330), Empress. Mother of Constantine and finder of the True Cross.
- L-89 St. Mary Magdalene.
- L-90 The cross, anchor and heart tell of faith in Christ who died on a cross, hope because we are anchored in Jesus and love because He loved with a heart that had no limits.
- L-91 The Bible.
- L-92 The harp and star refer to King David.
- L-93 A baptismal font signifying new life.
- L-94 The chalice and bread of the Eucharist.
- L-95 IHS, and abbreviation of the Greek Word for Jesus.
- L-96 St. Aloysius, or Louis Gonzaga (1568-1621), Jesuit.
- L-97 St. John Berchmans, S.J. (1599-1621)
- L-98 The cross and crown of Jesus.
- 99 The ornate baptismal font features Jesus being baptized by St. John the Baptist. Within the base are carvings depicting the four Evangelists and their symbols.
- U-100 A small round window with a dove depicting the Holy Spirit.