the Coming of the Messiah.

From a number of vantage points near the crossing can be seen the great height and the use of pointed arches, boss stones, ribbed vaults, and the “body” of the long nave, which form the shape of a cross. This nave is subdivided into five bays by stone buttresses, some of which are decorated with carved figures of animals; the columns are covered with carved capitals. From the crossing space there is a view of the 120-foot organ pipes in the south transept and a view of the nave windows. In the main entrance, the nave is characterized by an alternation of arches and columns. The columns are covered with capitals carved by famous craftsmen, such as the “Doric” and the “fluted Doric.” The columns are divided into three orders, and the upper levels are separated by a heavy entablature. The nave is 344 feet long, and the total height is 250 feet. The nave is divided into six bays by five large fluted piers, which carry the massive structure of the building. The nave is separated into three aisles by solid columns, and the aisles are subdivided into bays by smaller columns. The aisles are painted with murals depicting scenes from the Bible.

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The Crypt is reached using the main elevator to the lower level, then follow the letters to find a space for private prayer or meditation on the lower level. Follow the letters to find a space for private prayer or meditation on the lower level.

TheCryptVisitorSpaces

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**Lower Level**

**AT HOME THE CATHEDRAL**

Follow the walkways to explore additional work in process, and enjoy this unique perspective. The crypt is reached using the main elevator to the lower level. The crypt level is reached by the stairs near Holy Spirit Elevator Entrance.

The Cathedral is a national treasure our Creator. Welcome to your Cathedral. Everything about this Cathedral invites us to reflect on something greater than ourselves: our Maker and our own role as stewards of the earth. The Cathedral is an unparalleled view of nearly the entire south side of the Washington Monument, where the dome of the National Gallery of Art and the Capitol are visible.

**Lower Level (the Crypt)**

**EXPLORE GUEST PRAYER SPACES**

The Crypt features the Baptismal Chapel, a chapel and visitors lounge on the lower level.

**ON THE CATHEDRAL CLOSE**

The Cathedral is located at 3101 36TH STREET NW. The Cathedral is open daily until dusk. The grounds of the Cathedral, called the “Close,” is 57 acres, which includes an unparalleled view of nearly the entire south side of the National Mall.

The Bishop of Washington

Preservation the 2011 Earthquake and Beyond

**THE CATHEDRAL CLOSE**

**TO HELP PRESERVE THE CATHEDRAL**

To help preserve the Cathedral for the future, consider joining the National Cathedral Association (NCA). Members receive discounts, special opportunities, and a subscription to the award-winning Cathedral Age magazine. Or, to make a one-time gift, please visit support.cathedral.org to make a secure online donation.

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**On the Cathedral Close**

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