

Welcome.

No matter your background, your faith, or your reason for visiting, we welcome you to Washington National Cathedral. Each year, the Cathedral opens its doors to hundreds of thousands of worshipers and visitors who come to find peace and inspiration, listen to beautiful music, and experience the Cathedral's extraordinary art and architecture.

CATHEDRAL ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Built of Indiana limestone, the Cathedral is the sixth largest in the world. Its design is unique and not copied from any earlier building. The building is shaped like a cross, with a long nave—a tenth of a mile—and two shorter transepts.

The Cathedral's architectural style is Gothic, characterized by great height and the use of pointed arches, boss stones, ribbed vaulting, large windows, and flying buttresses. These features lift the eye upward, but also serve a structural purpose. The weight of the roof passes downward along the vaulting, and then on to the piers, where it is resisted by the flying buttresses. Because the walls do not support the weight of the roof, they can be thin and tall, permitting large windows decorated with stained glass.

Throughout the building, the architecture and art instruct and inspire. Works in wrought iron, stone, stained glass, wood, and fabric art decorate the building. More than beautiful decoration, this art is part of the Cathedral's iconography—the planned system of images and symbols designed to teach Christian beliefs, reveal the presence of God, and pay tribute to our country's history and values.

Visitor Services

 **PUBLIC RESTROOMS** are down the stairs by the main entrance.

 Elevators rise to the **PILGRIM OBSERVATION GALLERY** for views over the city and exhibit galleries.

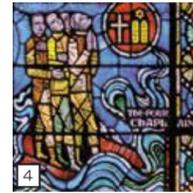
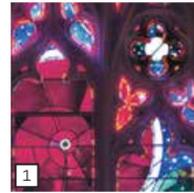
 The **CATHEDRAL STORE** sells gifts and souvenirs, including a general guidebook on the Cathedral's history and architecture.

 Stairs lead downstairs to the lower level chapels, as well as to additional shopping and snacks.

 A **CAFÉ** is located on the Cathedral Close.

 At the west end of the nave and inside the main entrance visitors may obtain **INFORMATION** about the Cathedral or start an audio or a guided tour.

 A wheelchair-accessible **HANDICAPPED RESTROOM** is adjacent to the nave. Another is located on the lower level. A **WHEELCHAIR RAMP** is located on the north side. **WHEELCHAIR ACCESS** to the lower level is available through an elevator in the south transept.



Main Level (the Nave)

30 MINUTES—HIGHLIGHTS

Follow the numbered items to tour the “must see” highlights of the Cathedral's art and architecture.

1 The **SPACE WINDOW** commemorates the Apollo 11 mission to the moon and holds a piece of moon rock brought back by its crew.

2 **THE CROSSING** is the center of the two transept “arms” and the “body” of the long nave, which form the shape of a cross. Piers soar nearly 100 feet to the vaulting. The sculpture on the **CANTERBURY PULPIT** depicts people and scenes relating to the translation of the Bible into English. Stones for the pulpit came from Canterbury Cathedral in England. A crucifixion scene is high overhead on the rood beam (“rood” is an old word meaning cross or crucifix).

3 From a number of vantage points near the crossing platform, one can see the **THREE ROSE WINDOWS**.

In the **NORTH TRANSEPT** is the Cathedral's oldest rose window, entitled *Last Judgment*. A life-sized figure of Jesus Christ as judge can be seen in the center. Stained glass artist Lawrence Saint attempted to follow medieval stained glass techniques in crafting this window.

The Cathedral's three rose windows are linked thematically by three sacred events connecting humanity with the divine: the Creation, the Last Judgement, and Life Everlasting. The theme of the rose window in the **SOUTH TRANSEPT** is the *Church Triumphant*, with imagery from the biblical book of Revelation.

Looking west from the mid-nave crossing is a view of the magnificent **WEST ROSE WINDOW**. Known as the *Creation Rose*, this window brings the creation story inside the building with an abstract interpretation that casts light throughout the nave. This window and all of the **NAVE CLERESTORY**, or the top level, windows were designed by Rowan LeCompte, and are admired for their clarity, sparkle, and brilliant color. The 18 clerestory windows portray the progress of the Hebrew people as God prepared them for the coming of the Messiah.

4 A tribute to those who have served in our armed forces, the art of **WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL** tells stories of sacrifice and the struggle for freedom.

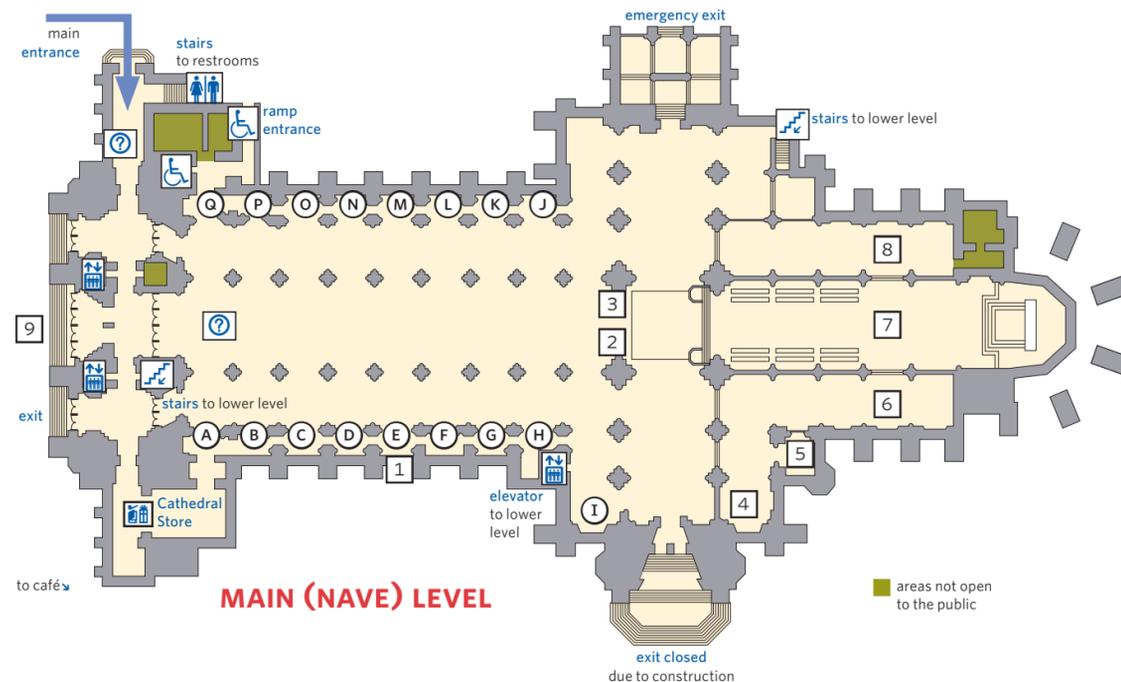
5 A statue of the Christ Child welcomes visitors to **CHILDREN'S CHAPEL**, built to the scale of a six-year-old child. The kneelers feature baby animals; the wrought iron depicts imaginary ones.

6 The red needlepoint kneelers of **ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL** recognize noted Americans, each displaying symbols for the accomplishments of an individual. Carvings at the altar portray the Last Supper and the crucifixion; the windows tell of the miracles of Jesus.

7 At the east end of the Cathedral nave is the **HIGH ALTAR**. One-hundred-and-ten figures of men and women exemplifying the highest ideals of Christianity surround the central figure of Christ in Majesty, completing the iconographic story with the redemption of humankind through Jesus Christ. The bishop's chair, the Glastonbury Cathedra, is on the left.

8 The ornate reredos in **ST. MARY'S CHAPEL** shows scenes from the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus. The windows depict the parables of Jesus; the sixteenth-century tapestries tell the story of David and Goliath.

The altar panels of **HOLY SPIRIT CHAPEL** were painted by noted American illustrator N. C. Wyeth. The dove, a symbol for the Holy Spirit, is used in the iron gate and altar painting. *Reserved for quiet prayer.*



9 The Cathedral's great iconographic story—the movement of humankind from creation to redemption—begins outside at the **WEST FAÇADE**. The art here explores themes of creation. The carved tympana above three massive portals show the creation of day, the creation of humankind, and the creation of night. The three statues are of Peter, Adam, and Paul. The great bronze gates show scenes from the lives of Peter in the north portal, Abraham and Moses in the center portal, and Paul in the south portal.

EXTENDED TOUR—MEMORIAL BAYS

Follow the letters to explore the side bays of the nave level if you have more time.

MEMORIAL BAYS—SOUTH

A A heroic marble statue of the first president dominates **GEORGE WASHINGTON BAY**. The abstract design of the window reflects the search for freedom that led to the founding of our nation.

B **MARYLAND BAY** is rich with symbols of the state and its diverse religious heritage in its stone carving and in its stained glass. The land for what is now the District of Columbia was once part of Maryland.

C Colorful windows depicting the lush lands explored in the 1803 Lewis and Clark expedition to the American northwest are in **FOLGER BAY**.

D In 1891, a group of men met in the Washington, D.C. home of Charles C. Glover to promote plans for building the Cathedral. This event and others are commemorated in the **GLOVER BAY** windows.

E In memory of Charles Warren, lawyer and historian of the Supreme Court, **WARREN BAY** contains symbols of law.

F **WOODROW WILSON BAY** is enriched by myriad images in stone and glass symbolizing events in the life of our twenty-eighth president, who is buried here. *War and Peace* is the title of this striking and colorful window.

G Windows in **LEE-JACKSON BAY** contain scenes from the lives of these two Civil War generals.

H Behind its wrought iron gate, **MELLON BAY** may be used for private prayer. Carvings relating to Andrew W. Mellon are on the column capitals.

I The artwork in the **BAPTISTRY** depicts symbols representing baptism. A nearby elevator provides wheelchair access to the lower level.

MEMORIAL BAYS—NORTH

J **KELLOGG BAY** is a memorial to diplomat and statesman Frank B. Kellogg and reflects his ardent desire for universal peace. On the east wall is a carving of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., preaching his last Sunday sermon from the Cathedral's pulpit on March 31, 1968.

K The **HUMANITARIAN BAY**, also known as Boardman Bay, honors such servants of humankind as George Washington Carver, Albert Schweitzer, Elizabeth Fry, and Francis of Assisi.

L Peace and universal unity are the themes of Henry **WHITE BAY**. The windows contain symbols of the League of Nations, the United Nations, peoples of the world in prayer, and peaceful uses of atomic energy.

M *America the Beautiful* is symbolized by the brilliant color and abstract design of the windows of the **BETTELHEIM BAY**.

N The **NATIONAL CATHEDRAL ASSOCIATION BAY'S** windows portray some of the roles of Christian women as “life-givers, healers, purifiers, and teachers.” Members of the NCA from across the nation built this and other sections of the Cathedral, and continue to support its programs.

O The windows of **DULIN BAY** depict the twenty-third psalm in vivid colors.

P Philip Hubert Frohman, beloved Cathedral architect for more than 50 years, is memorialized in **FROHMAN BAY**. The dramatic, abstract window utilizes an imaginative design of leading and small pieces of glass.

Q In **ABRAHAM LINCOLN BAY** a heroic bronze statue stands before words from Lincoln's farewell address at Springfield, Ill. The floor is inset with Lincoln-head pennies; the window depicts in abstract form the *Agony of Civil War*.



CATHEDRAL HISTORY AND MISSION

President Theodore Roosevelt witnessed the laying of the Cathedral's foundation stone in 1907; 83 years later, President George H.W. Bush attended its completion in 1990. Officially called the Cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Washington National Cathedral is an Episcopal church, supported by gifts from individuals from across the country, and does not receive operating support from the federal government or from any church denomination.

The Cathedral is dedicated to serve as a house of prayer for all people and a spiritual home for the nation. It seeks to be a catalyst for spiritual harmony in our nation, reconciliation among faiths, and compassion in the world.

EXTEND YOUR VISIT

Thank you for visiting the Cathedral today. We appreciate your interest and hope that you had an enjoyable visit.

To learn more, or to continue today's experience, visit our website: www.cathedral.org.

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Lower Level (the Crypt)

EXTENDED TOUR—LOWER LEVEL

Follow the numbers to explore additional chapels and visitor spaces on the lower level.

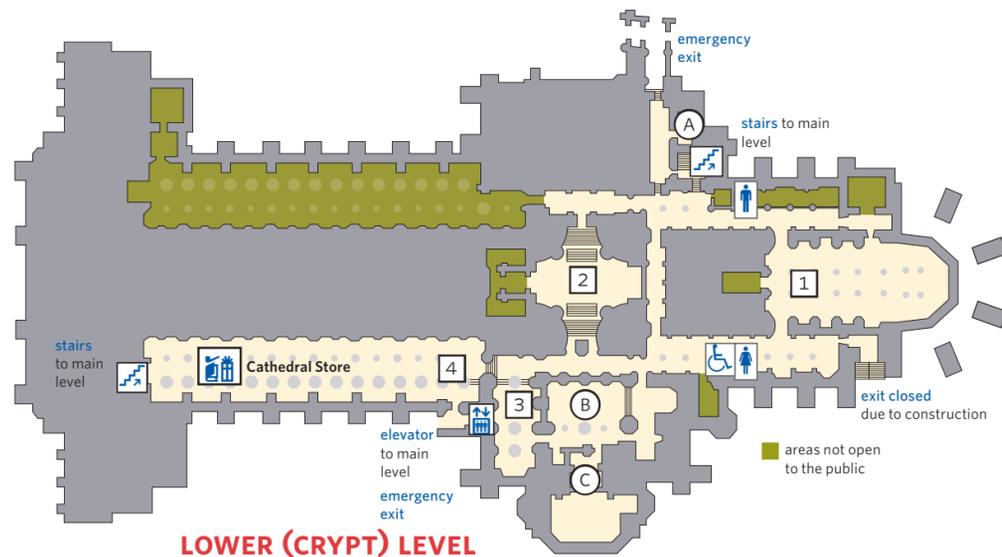
The crypt level is reached by the stairs near Holy Spirit Chapel, descending behind a detailed stone screen. The iconography of the crypt chapels deals with New Testament imagery and the promise of eternal life: Jesus' birth, his death and entombment, and his resurrection.

- The Cathedral's foundation stone was placed on this site, under what later became the altar of **BETHLEHEM CHAPEL**. This chapel contains symbols and depictions of the genealogy and birth of Jesus. In 1912 this became the first part of the Cathedral to be completed, and a service has been held here nearly every day since.
- Directly beneath the crossing is the **CHAPEL OF ST. JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA**. The somber mural tells the story of Jesus' entombment following the crucifixion. This chapel and Resurrection Chapel are primarily built in the Romanesque (or Norman) style of architecture featuring rounded arches and a heavier "feel" than Gothic architecture. The use of this style here imitates the medieval custom of building a Gothic cathedral over the crypt of an earlier, Romanesque one. *Not wheelchair accessible.*
- The **VISITORS' LOUNGE** offers a place to rest. Visitors may sign the state books here. An elevator provides wheelchair access to the nave and South Road.
- Sales in the **CATHEDRAL STORE** support the Cathedral. Books, religious art, Cathedral-themed gifts, music, and limited food service are available. This gift shop is open daily. *Not wheelchair accessible.*

EXPLORE QUIETLY: PRIVATE PRAYER

Follow the letters to find a space for private prayer or meditation on the lower level.

- The altar sculpture of tiny **GOOD SHEPHERD CHAPEL**, showing a shepherd tenderly holding a lamb, interprets the role of God as protector, especially to those who are injured or suffering. Open daily for private prayer.
- Peaceful **RESURRECTION CHAPEL** is decorated with colorful mosaics, portraying the appearances of Jesus after his resurrection. Quiet is observed in this chapel. *Wheelchair access to Bethlehem Chapel is through this chapel.*
- The **CATHEDRAL CENTER FOR PRAYER AND PILGRIMAGE** is open daily for quiet prayer and meditation. Check our website for the diverse programs in prayer, devotional practices, and reflection offered through the center.

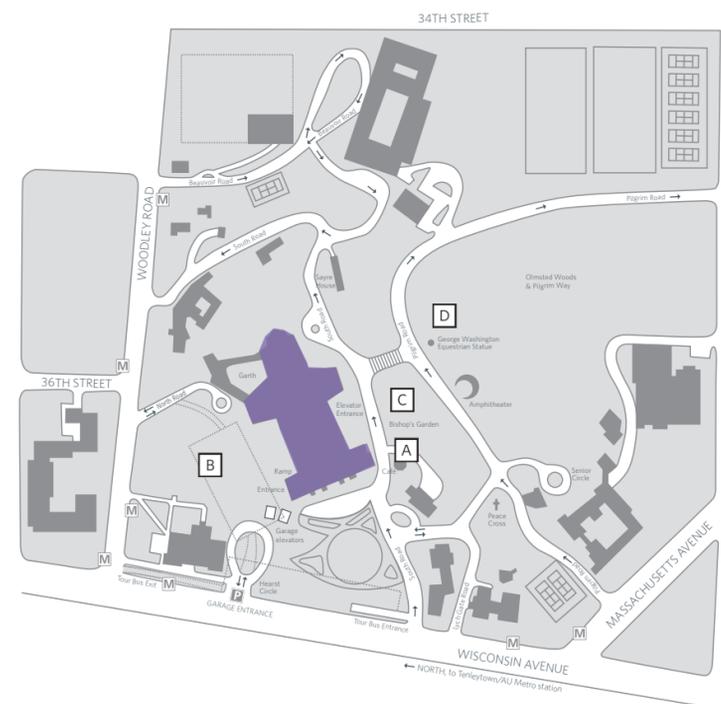


On the Cathedral Close

The grounds of the Cathedral, called the "Close," is 57 acres, which includes the Cathedral, three schools, the offices of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, and St. Alban's Church. Beautiful gardens enhance the grounds.

- Located in the Old Baptistry on South Road, Open City at the National Cathedral is a **CAFÉ** serving coffee, homemade pastries and desserts, sandwiches, and other light fare.
- A **PARKING GARAGE** provides on-site parking. Rates posted at the garage entrance.

THE CATHEDRAL CLOSE



MORE TO SEE: THE BISHOP'S GARDEN AND OLMSTED WOODS

Maps of the Bishop's Garden and Olmsted Woods are available in the Herb Cottage.

- The **BISHOP'S GARDEN** is modeled on a medieval walled garden, and features herb and rose beds. The garden offers an unparalleled view of nearly the entire south side of the Cathedral, including the central tower. The garden is open daily until dusk. *Not wheelchair accessible.*
- An equestrian statue of George Washington stands at the base of the broad, stone Pilgrim Steps. From here, the **PILGRIM WAY** winds through the five-acre Olmsted Woods, named for the landscape architect of the Close, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. *Partially wheelchair accessible.*



Preservation: the 2011 Earthquake and Beyond

This national treasure was damaged by a magnitude 5.8 earthquake that shook the east coast of the United States on August 23, 2011. The cost of repairing the beautiful carvings and vital structural elements of the building, especially the pinnacles of the central tower, is currently estimated at \$32 million or more.

With the initial \$10 million raised, Phase I earthquake repairs began in March 2014 and will be completed in spring 2015. This work includes cleaning and repairs of the interior high ceiling so that the protective netting put in place immediately following the earthquake can be removed, revealing a wonderfully restored vaulted masonry ceiling. Additionally the repairs address the six flying buttresses on the oldest portion of the building, the Cathedral's east end exterior (apse), improving their structural performance in case of another seismic event.

From the outside, scaffolding now dominates the Cathedral's silhouette, with the south transept and central tower sheathed in a metal framework. Most of this scaffolding is in place to stabilize building elements loosened by the earthquake and no active work is underway in these areas. The scaffolding will not be removed until the remaining \$22 million needed for

Phase II repairs is available and the work completed. In the meantime, some parts of the grounds and the Cathedral will remain off-limits as a safety precaution.

Work on the north transept is scheduled to begin in early 2016 with the limited Phase 2 funds raised to date.

Angels Needed

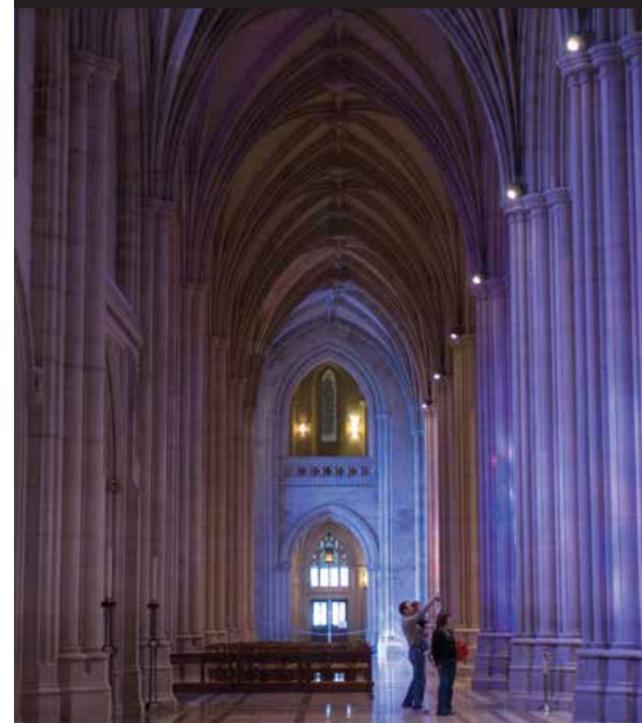
Despite this earthquake damage, the Cathedral remains committed to our calling to be a spiritual home for the nation. We understand that we have a long road ahead, but we are working hard to restore and preserve this magnificent building.

The work ahead will require millions of dollars and will take many years to accomplish. The repair work includes intricate stone carving and detailed masonry, and will require significant scaffolding and large cranes to access the damaged areas. We must rely on the generosity of visitors and friends to help raise the needed funds.

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.

the Self-guided TOUR

AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL



"Everything about this Cathedral invites us to reflect on something greater than ourselves: our story as a nation, our call to serve, and our walk with our Creator. Welcome to your Cathedral."

—The Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde
Bishop of Washington