



TRUSTED LITURGICAL DESIGNERS,
ARTISTS AND ARTISANS FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY

Our Lady of Providence Chapel at St. Vincent Hospital Worcester, MA



OVERVIEW

A hospital chapel is a sacred place that must radiate inspiration, comfort and faith upon all those who enter. While most hospitals have a non-denominational place for prayer, chapels in Catholic hospitals are unique in that God is present in the tabernacle and on the altar where mass is offered, and where worshippers encounter the living presence of Christ. Monsignor Peter Beaulieu, Director of Mission Integration at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, MA, enlisted the liturgical design experts at Rohn & Associates Design to ensure these devotional themes were properly executed in their new main chapel, Our Lady of Providence. Understanding the need to reflect the hospital's devotion to the Virgin Mary and her providential care, Liturgical Designer Rolf Rohn designed the new environment from the altar out to create a chapel that would deliver a sense of peace, hope and closeness to God while meeting Church and Diocesan guidelines.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The scope of work included space formation for the vestibule, chapel and reserved Eucharist, Blessed Mother shrine, confessional and sacristy.

PROJECT EXECUTION

- Rolf's design team developed a palette of soothing tones of grey, cream and blue that worked in harmony with the hospital interior and chosen dark wood furniture and pews. The palette and furniture, fabricated in Poland, complemented the sanctuary's semi-circle cream-colored marble floor and altar, which was intentionally shaped to give clear sightlines to everyone in the chapel no matter where they were situated. The chapel went from an allotted space of 16' x 16' to 32' x 22' deep.
- The sanctuary has a carved glass recessed space that was finished with an inspiring new bronze crucifix, majestically hung above the altar and a stunning gold-regaled bronze tabernacle.
- The full-height carved glass doors and chapel back wall speak of angels in adoration and the images of Christian mercy.
- The extraordinary curved sanctuary ceiling is adorned with hand-carved Stations of the Cross that wrap around the tabernacle and take on a new meaning for patients and their families. The Rohn team tactically placed and gently illuminated each Station to remind all who enter the chapel that no one suffers alone and that Christ is there for them, in the celebration of the Eucharist and his Word.
- Finishing touches include a Polish travertine marble Ambo that has relief carvings of Peter and Paul while the Altar table has the Four Evangelists.
- The Presider's chair is made from Carpathian oak and is beautifully upholstered.



COMPLETED PROJECT

Impressively, Rolf was able to provide a prayerful environment that, even though small, would not be cramped and intrusive. The Our Lady of Providence Chapel at St. Vincent Hospital is an awe-inspiring environment where individuals can seek solace to overcome angst and worry by trusting in God's Providence.



COMPLETED PROJECT



