



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

# St. James Cathedral Orlando, FL



## OVERVIEW

Rohn & Associates Design developed and implemented a massive \$1 M interior renovation and expansion of the Mother Church of the Diocese of Orlando, St. James Cathedral, to commemorate its 125th anniversary. While much-needed repairs to the infrastructure were conducted, Liturgical Designer Rolf Rohn and his team began an intense collaboration with then-Bishop Thomas Wenski (now Archbishop of Miami), Sister Elizabeth Worley and Antonio Aguerrevere, Director for the Diocesan Office of Design and Construction, to determine the Cathedral's needs and vision for the future. After they showed an unwavering commitment to Rolf's designs and program, the Rohn team began a very spiritual journey to create art and liturgy that work together.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Rolf redesigned the space to be functionally up-to-date and adhere to USCCB guidelines, with a focus on aesthetic details to emphasize Catholic traditions and liturgical actions of the sanctuary and other areas so that a complete interior harmony was achieved. The scope of work included a new hand-carved crucifix, murals, liturgical furnishings, appointments and interior decorating.

## PROJECT EXECUTION

- Rolf designed all-new liturgical furniture that was sculpted by highly skilled Italian artisans from four varieties of polished marble. The rich crimson hue (carefully selected to symbolize the blood of Christ) is mottled with rose and beige to harmonize with the interior of the Cathedral. The baptismal font, altar, ambo, Tabernacle and Bishop's chair feature bas relief carvings of St. James, Saints Peter and Paul, and the Four Evangelists, as well as columns with a shell motif to honor the Cathedral's patron saint.
- A stunning oil-on-canvas Pentecost mural in sunset hues was designed and painted by Rohn Custom Studio artists Renate Rohn and Victoria and Julian Christina. The impressive 800 square-foot mural features Mary at the center, Jesus' disciples on either side and the Holy Spirit descending upon the Apostles to empower them—as well as us—to share his redemption with the world. The painting complements the beautiful furniture and new stencil work around the sanctuary and nave.
- A series of 18' x 12' Renaissance-style murals frame the altar area and teach about the four most important moments in the life of St. James.
- The focal point of the entire sanctuary is a magnificent 8' 7" wooden crucifix and 6' 6" corpus mounted in front of a hand-painted oil-on-canvas mural of the City of Jerusalem displaying the magnitude of Christ's suffering and love for us. Rolf designed and donated the mural.
- Rohn Custom Studio also executed the Cathedral's sculptural and decorative details.



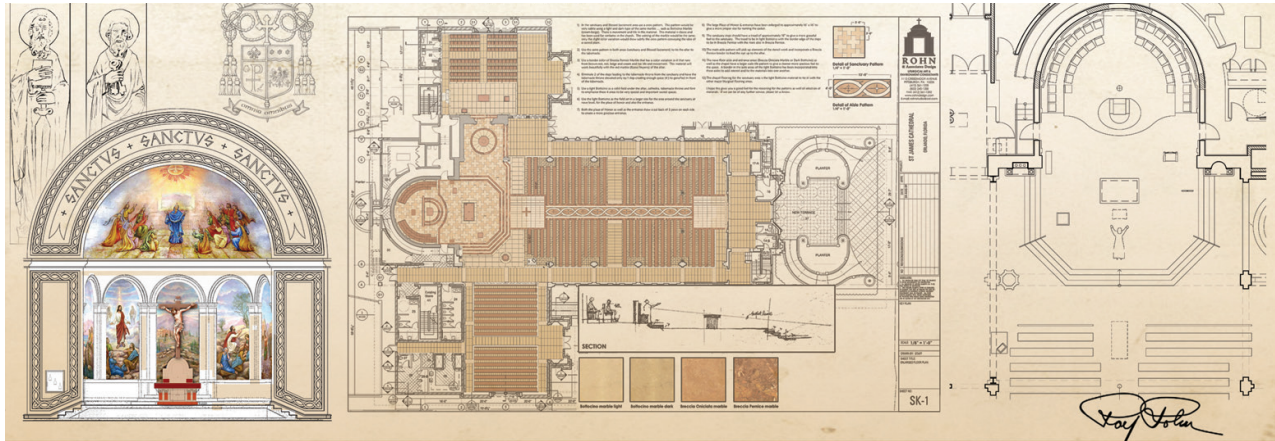


## COMPLETED PROJECT

Rolf and his team provided a spectacular renewed interior worthy of this very special place in the worship life of the Diocese of Orlando for the Bishop to lead and serve the local Church. The St. James Cathedral is now a biblical walk through the New Testament told through the beauty of timeless art.

## RECOGNITION FROM CATHEDRAL LEADERSHIP

“It is very important for the youth of the Cathedral to know the rich history and tradition of their parish...There are so many signs and symbols of our faith right in front of them. It is always exciting to hear them explain this to their friends that are not Catholic...One of the youth that attended the cathedral tour was not Catholic...After the tour he asked if he could become more involved with the Youth Ministry at the cathedral.”—Nancy Webb, Youth Ministry Leader







BEFORE





COMPLETED PROJECT

