



THIS IS OUR CATHEDRAL

Information for Parents and Religious Educators

As you visit our beautiful Cathedral Basilica in the pages of this book, you will notice that there are very few words on the picture pages. This is so the person with developmental or learning disabilities with whom you are sharing this may focus on the pictures. Just before each picture page is more specific information. Much of this is intended for you, which you can then share in the way best understood by your son, daughter or learner.

This is a *PRAISE** resource developed by the department for Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities of the Archdiocese of Newark. Please feel free to share it with anyone you know wishing to help children become familiar with their parish church, the sacred space we gather to worship God and celebrate God's presence with us in life.

**Persons Recognized Affirmed Included with Spirit-filled Energy* - The *PRAISE* Project is the work of talented professional educators with generous hearts in collaboration with the department for Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities.

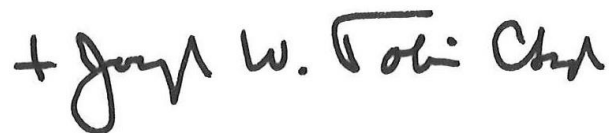
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Dear Children,

Welcome to our Cathedral Basilica! This is a very special church because it is the church of all the parishes in our archdiocese. It celebrates God's great love for us and our love for God. It is filled with details that tell of the many wonderful stories of our Church community, with Jesus and many of the saints. Saints are people noted for living for God very well.

I hope you visit the pages of this book often and become familiar with its details. I look forward to you visiting the Cathedral Basilica in person so I can meet you.

Sincerely yours in Christ the Redeemer,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R." The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark

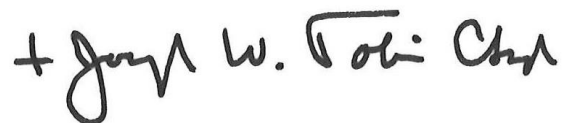
Dear Parents,

Thank you for the time, energy and love you devote to sharing the richness of our Catholic Tradition with your children. You are the primary educator of the faith, by the witness you give in the details of your life. Please visit the pages of this book often with your child(ren).

Our beautiful Cathedral Basilica is a tribute and celebration of God with us. It is filled with many detailed accounts of great events in the life and mission of Jesus and of great people and events in the Church's history. However, this book is meant to serve only as an introduction to The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, so there are many details not included. Only the most important elements are included, so he or she does not feel overwhelmed and, therefore, uncomfortable with this sacred space. Most of the pages will correspond to equivalent places in your own local church.

I hope you visit in person with your child(ren), because the Cathedral Basilica is your church as well. God bless you and guide you as you walk with and care for your child(ren) in life.

Sincerely yours in Christ the Redeemer,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Tobin" with a cross at the beginning.

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark

It is the church of all the parishes in our archdiocese. The archdiocese is like a family made up of parishes like yours in Bergen County, Essex County, Hudson County and Union County.



The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart,
Newark New Jersey.

The archbishop guides his church, the parishes of the archdiocese. He serves like Jesus the Good Shepherd.

The archbishop is the pastor of the archdiocese.

The crosier, the pastoral staff, carried by him reminds us of this.

The hat worn by the archbishop for Mass is called a mitre.



Here is Cardinal Tobin

Here is the altar and it is also called, “The Table of the Lord.” It is on this table that the bread & wine become Jesus.

It is from this table that we are all fed.



The Altar - “The Table of the Lord.”

The crucifix shows that Jesus died on a cross.

When we go to Mass, we remember that
Jesus died and was raised from the dead.



Crucifix - Jesus on the cross

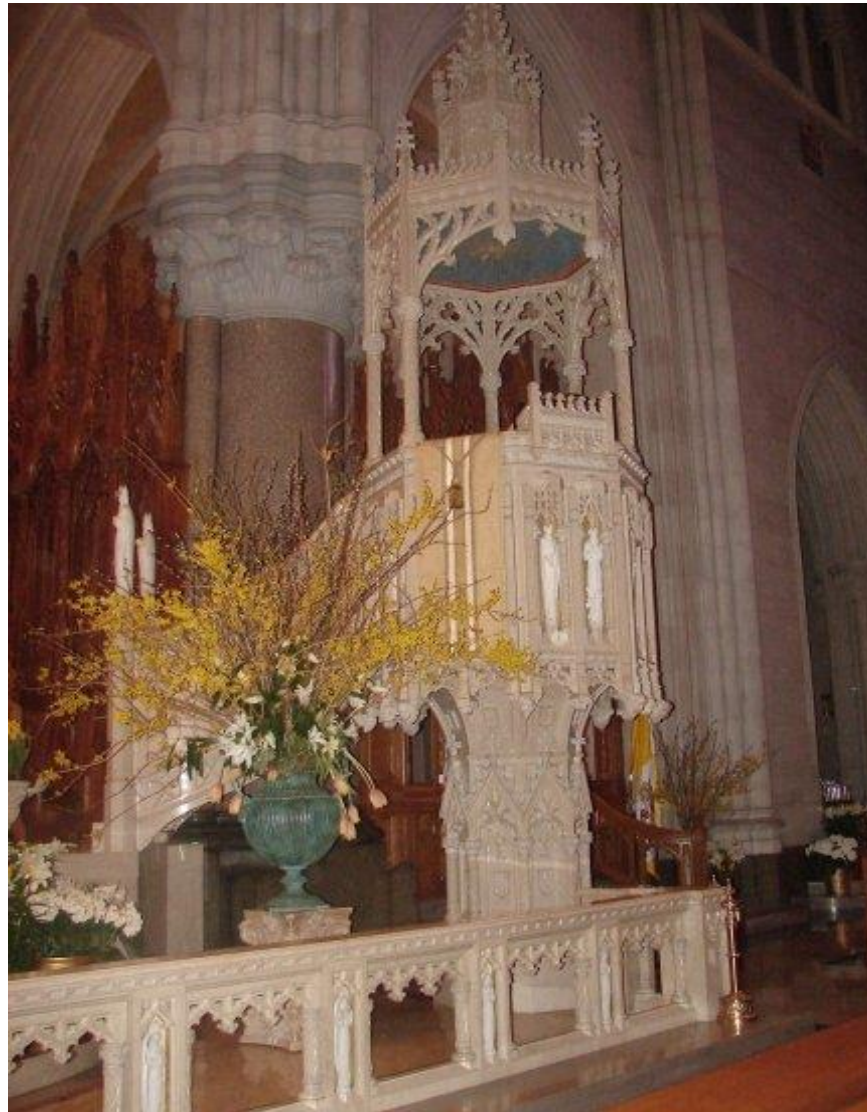
Cathedra is the Latin word for chair. It is a symbol of authority in the Church.



Cathedra - The Archbishop's Chair

Here is the ambo, where God and Jesus stories are told. They are in the Bible.

This ambo is bigger and different from the one in your parish.

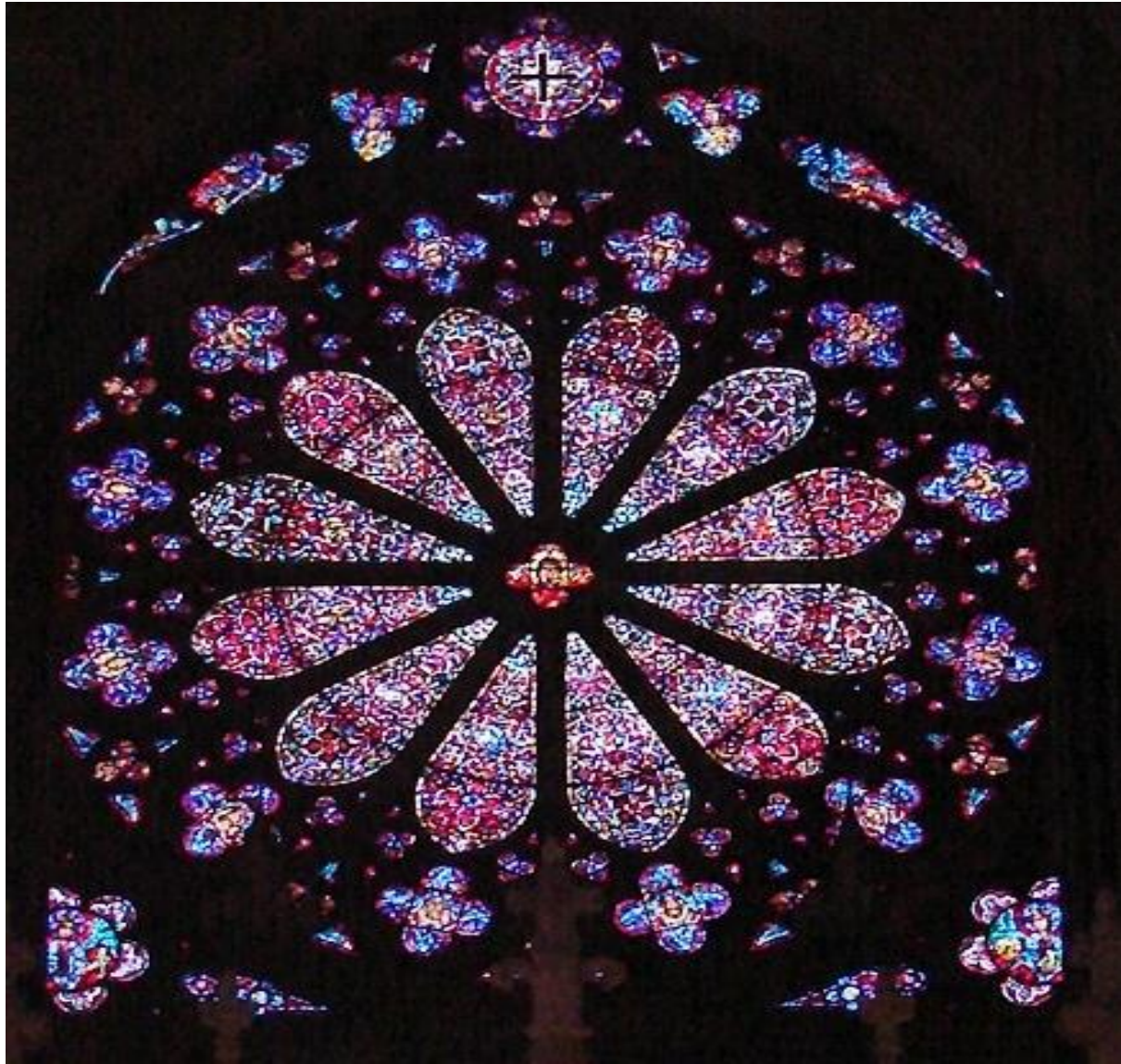


Ambo - where God and Jesus stories are told. 15

There are a lot of colorful stained-glass windows in the cathedral. The sunlight shines inside the cathedral through these windows in many beautiful colors.

The design of the rose windows is a beautiful circle with a lot of different details. We can never say how beautiful they really are.

Talking about God is like this. We can never really say how wonderful and amazing God is. The many different colors of light shining inside the cathedral are like the many ways that God's grace is with us every day.



Rose Window

This is the Tabernacle that holds Jesus in the Sacred Hosts. It is in The Lady Chapel, named in honor of Mary, the Blessed Mother. She is the mother of Jesus.



Tabernacle - A special place for Jesus.

The Sanctuary Lamp is near the Tabernacle.

It is always lit. This shows us that Jesus is present in the Tabernacle and with us always.



The Sanctuary Lamp

Mary has many different titles, because she is so important to us. Many of these are shown in the different pictures of Mary in the Lady Chapel.



Lady Chapel

The water of Baptism cleans us and makes us new.
At Baptism we become part of the Church.



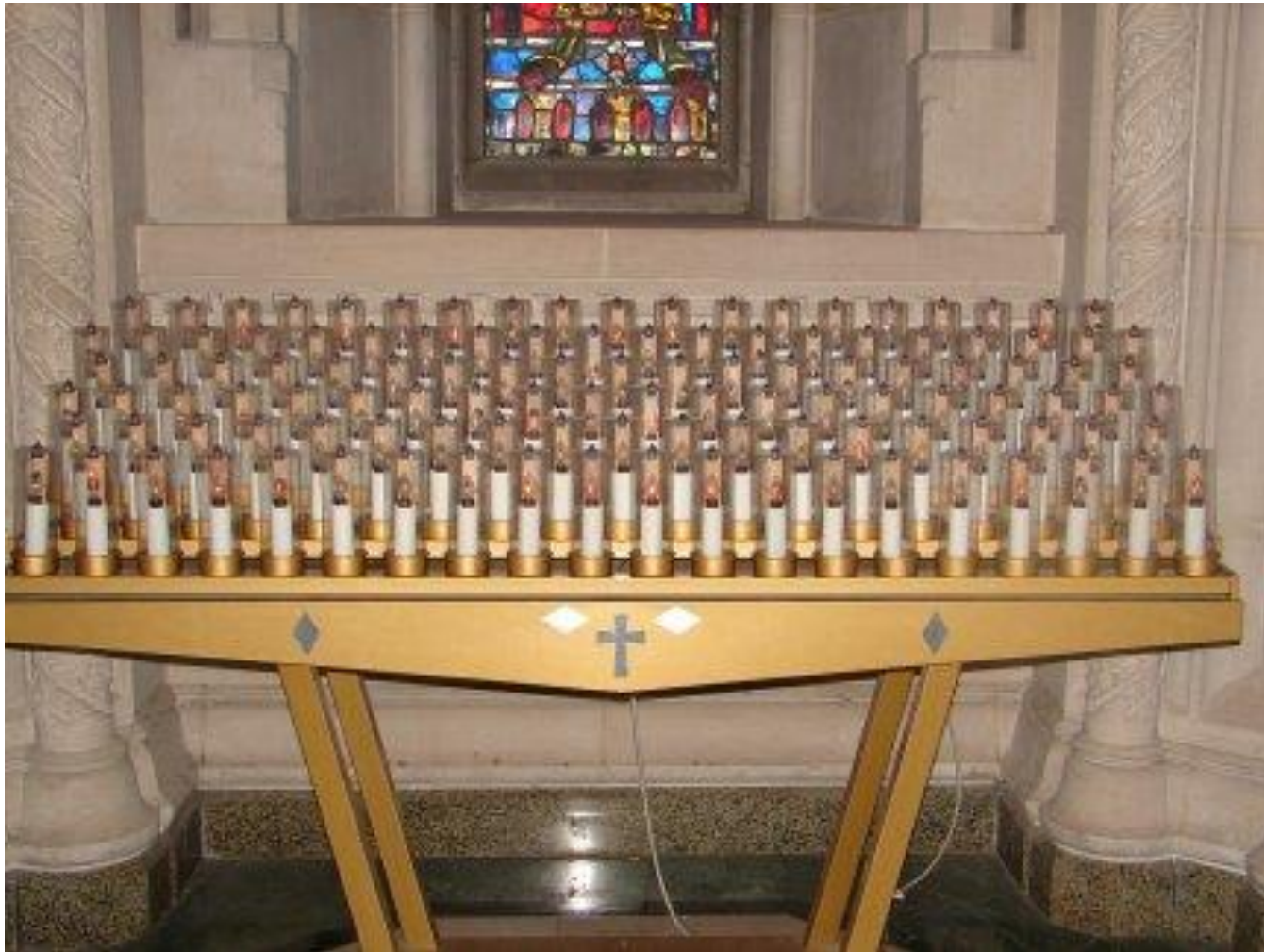
Baptismal Font

This is the Reconciliation Room, where we tell the priest about the unloving choices we have made. He forgives us in the place of Jesus.



Reconciliation Room

We light a candle and say a prayer for someone or ask God to help us. A candle with light is a sign that God is with us.



Prayer Candles

This is the Sacristy where supplies for Mass are kept.



Sacristy

We put our right hand in the Holy Water and bless our selves with the Sign of the Cross. It is like washing our spirit clean and having God cover us. We do this when we enter a church and when we leave. This reminds us of our baptism.



The Holy Water Font

The music of the organ is beautiful. It helps us to sing our prayers to God and make them stronger.

It has 9513 pipes!



The Organ

These are books that are good to read. They tell us about God and about being Catholic.



Book Stand

It is inside the main entrance to the cathedral.
The canopy (*umbrellino*) shows that the cathedral is a basilica. It was named a basilica by Pope John Paul II.

The first section under the canopy comes from the Archdiocese of Newark's coat of arms.

It is named after The Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Below all of it, it says, "Come to me" in Latin.

Part of the
archdiocese's
Coat of Arms

The Sacred Heart
of Jesus



Canopy

Pope John Paul
II's Coat of Arms

The Cathedral Basilica's Coat of Arms

Pope John Paul II visited Newark on October 4th 1995. This is when he named the Sacred Heart Cathedral a basilica.

Basilica is a special title given to a church by the pope.



Pope John Paul II

In the Gospel by Matthew, Jesus said, “You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.” (Mt 16:18)

The pope guides the Church, in the place of St. Peter. St. Peter was a follower of Jesus and we say he was the first pope.

The pope is also the Bishop of Rome.



Pope Francis

Together, all parishes around the world in the different archdioceses and dioceses, including the Vatican, make up the whole Church.

But the Church is the people, not the buildings. The buildings are where the people meet.

Pope in Rome



Parishes



(Arch)dioceses



The Whole Church