

HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH – “ROSE WINDOW”



THE TERM “ROSE WINDOW” (1) REFERS TO THE LARGE, MAIN STAINED GLASS WINDOW OF A CHURCH. IT IS DESIGNED TO LET IN LIGHT AND SOMETIMES AIR INTO THE WORSHIP SPACE. ROSE WINDOW DESIGN VARIES FROM CHURCH TO CHURCH BASED UPON THE ARCHITECTURE (BYZANTINE, ROMANESQUE, GOTHIC, ETC.) AND PERIOD BUILT. MANY ARE QUITE ORNATE IN COLOR, DETAIL AND IMAGERY. THEY ARE GENERALLY BASED UPON THE DENOMINATION OF THE CHURCH, ITS NAMESAKE OR DEVOTION. THEY ALL SEEK TO INSPIRE. THEY USUALLY APPEAR EITHER AROUND THE DRUM OF A DOME AS AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE (JERUSALEM), TOP OF THE DOME OF THE PANTHEON (ROME) OR HIGH IN THE END OF A LOW-PITCHED GABLE AS IN HOLY NAME’S CASE.

HOLY NAME OF JESUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH’S ROSE WINDOW WAS BUILT WITH THE CHURCH IN 1878. IT IS OF GOTHIC DESIGN. THE WINDOW MEASURES JUST UNDER 10 FEET HIGH AND JUST UNDER 10 FEET WIDE. THE ORIGINAL WINDOW WAS A SERIES OF NINE (9) SEPARATE GLASS PANELS IN A WOOD FRAME IN A “TIC-TAC-TOE” PATTERN. THE EDGE CORNERS OF THE WINDOW HOST ROUND PANELS FLANKED BY SQUARE GLASS WINDOWS. THE EXTERIOR OF EACH PANEL WAS PROTECTED BY AN OUTER PANE OF GLASS.

HOLY NAME’S ROSE WINDOW IS THEMED FOR OUR LORD JESUS AND SPECIFICALLY AROUND PARTS OF HIS CRUCIFIXION.

THE PANELS IN ORDER DEPICT (STANDING OUTSIDE FACING THE ROSE WINDOW):

- **UPPER LEFT** – THE CLUBS AND TORCHES USED BY JESUS’S GUARDS TO BEAT AND TORTURE HIM ON HIS WAY TO CALVARY. (2)
- **UPPER CENTER**– JESUS AS THE SACRIFICIAL LAMB, SAVING US FROM OUR SINS.
- **UPPER RIGHT**– JESUS’S ROBES AND THE DICE USED TO CAST LOTS FOR THEM. (2)
- **MIDDLE LEFT** – THE CROSS JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED ON AND HIS CROWN OF THORNS.
- **MIDDLE CENTER**– THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS.
- **MIDDLE RIGHT** – THE COLUMN, WHIPS AND ROPES USED TO BEAT JESUS ON HIS WAY TO HIS CRUCIFIXION.
- **BOTTOM LEFT** – THE REED AND SPONGE USED TO GIVE JESUS HIS LAST DRINK, SPEAR USED TO PIERCE JESUS’S SIDE AND THE LADDER USED TO REMOVE OUR LORD FROM HIS CROSS. (2)
- **BOTTOM CENTER**– “IHS”, CHRISTOGRAM / MONOGRAM, FOR JESUS’S NAME.
- **BOTTOM RIGHT**– THE TOOLS USED TO FASHION JESUS’S CROSS. (2)

THE ROSE WINDOW STOOD FOR OVER 135 YEARS IN WITNESS TO COUNTLESS MASSES, SACRAMENTS AND EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE PARISH BUT BY 2013, THE WINDOW HAD FALLEN INTO SEVERE DISREPAIR. THE WOOD FRAME NO LONGER ABLE TO WITHSTAND NORTHEAST WEATHER WAS AT RISK OF FALLING

HOLY NAME OF JESUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

245 PROSPECT PARK WEST, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11215

HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH – “ROSE WINDOW”



OUT. THE GLASS, SOLDER AND LEAD “CAME” HOLDING THE STAINED GLASS TOGETHER WEAKENED BY AGE AND ELEMENTS BECAME BARELY RECOGNIZABLE. THE ROSE WINDOW FADED INTO FACADE OF THE BRICK EXTERIOR OF THE BUILDING.

IN FEBRUARY 2013, THE HOLY NAME BUILDINGS COMMITTEE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF FR. JIM CUNNINGHAM WAS TASKED TO TAKE ON THE WORK AHEAD OF THE “RESTORATION OF HOLY NAME OF JESUS – 135 YEARS – FULFILLING OUR VISION” PROJECT.

THROUGH A DONATION FROM A GENEROUS BENEFACTOR, THE LITURGICAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT OF FR. JIM CUNNINGHAM AND THE STAINED GLASS ARTISTRY OF HOLY NAME’S OWN MEL PYNN, THE NINE (9) GLASS PANELS WERE PAINSTAKINGLY REMOVED ONE BY ONE; MOST COMING APART IN MEL’S HANDS. ONCE THE GLASS WAS REMOVED, A NEW ALUMINUM CAST CUSTOM WINDOW FRAME WAS COMMISSIONED AND INSTALLED. NEW PROTECTIVE CLEAR GLASS WAS FASHIONED ON THE EXTERIOR MAKING THE WINDOW FULLY WATERTIGHT.

THE NEW MODERN FRAME, INSTALLED IN PIECES COULD NOT MATCH COMPLETELY THE OLD STYLE WOOD FRAME. THE NEW FRAME COULD NO LONGER SUPPORT THE EDGE ROUND WINDOWS. THIS CUSTOMIZATION ADDED TO THE MORE THAN 50% OF THE GLASS MEL HAD TO RECREATE BY HAND (ETCHING, HAND PAINTING AND KILN FIRINGS). ALL IN ALL, THE WINDOW IS AN ADAPTATION OF THE ORIGINAL WINDOW. A KEY ELEMENT MEL ADDED IS THE RED RIBBON BAND ADORNED WITH THORNS TYING ALL NINE PANELS TOGETHER. PROFESSIONAL STAGE LIGHTING WAS ADDING DURING “THE RESTORATION OF HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH” PROJECT WHICH MAKES EVENING VIEWING ALL THE MORE DRAMATIC.

UNDER THE ROSE WINDOW YOU WILL FIND THREE CATHEDRAL STYLE WINDOWS. THOSE WINDOWS WERE ALSO REPLACED AND WILL HOST IMAGES OF THE HOLY FAMILY SALVAGED FROM HOLY NAMES’ BROTHER’S HOUSE. CURRENTLY YOU WILL FIND “THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS” IN THE MIDDLE WINDOW. AS THEIR RESTORATIONS COMPLETE, ST. JOSEPH AND THE BLESSED MOTHER WILL BE ADDED ALONG WITH OTHER NEW WINDOWS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CHURCH.

THE WINDOW NOW AGAIN MAKES THE DRAMATIC LITURGICAL STATEMENT HOLY NAME’S ORIGINAL FOUNDERS HAD INTENDED.

NOTES:

- (1) - [HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/ROSE_WINDOW](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rose_Window)
- (2) - IN THE ORIGINAL ROSE WINDOW, THIS PANEL WAS FULLY ROUND.

HOLY NAME OF JESUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

245 PROSPECT PARK WEST, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11215

HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH – “ROSE WINDOW”



BEFORE:



HOLY NAME OF JESUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

245 PROSPECT PARK WEST, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11215

HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH – “ROSE WINDOW”



AFTER:



OUTSIDE VIEW LOOKING IN.



INSIDE VIEW LOOKING OUT.

CATHEDRAL STYLE
WINDOW (FRONT OF
CHURCH UNDER THE
ROSE WINDOW)



HOLY NAME OF JESUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

245 PROSPECT PARK WEST, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11215