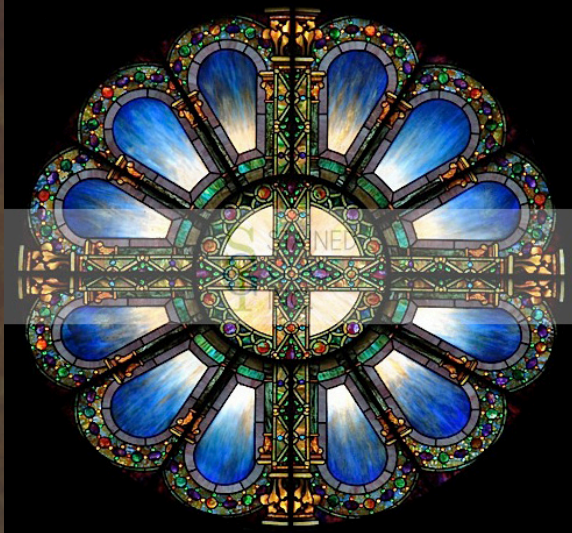


Stained Glass Rose Windows

Rose Windows



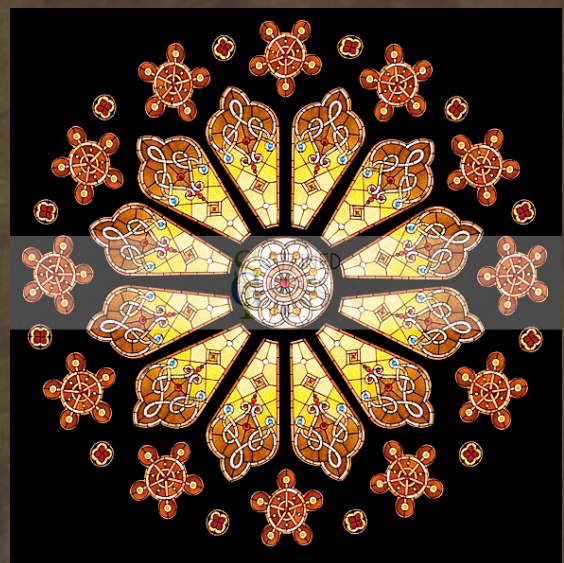
*Stained Glass Window
470: Emerald Cross Dial*

Because of their aesthetically pleasing symmetry, the often kaleidoscopic patterns they feature, and their fascinating symbolism, stained glass rose windows are captivating additions to any sanctuary. They are classic examples of Gothic stained glass windows, but can also work well in parishes featuring more modern architectural designs. All stained glass rose windows typically have a few characteristics in common. They are usually circular, for instance, and are divided into a number of distinct sections to provide the appearance of a bloom with multiple petals. Beyond that, however, stained glass rose windows are as diverse as any other category of cathedral stained glass. These ecclesiastic

stained glass windows may, for example, feature important Christian figures such as Jesus, the Apostles, or the Virgin Mary. Other stained glass rose windows have floral or music-related themes, while some showcase important Christian symbols.

Symbolism and Significance of Stained Glass Rose Windows

Rose windows created using stained glass can be used to honor saints, the Evangelists, or even Jesus Christ Himself. What some people don't realize is that the basic form and shape of rose windows carries a meaning in itself. Despite their deceptively simple appearance, rose windows have many layers of symbolic meaning. For example:



*Stained Glass Window
533: Rose Window*

Symbolism and Significance of Stained Glass Rose Windows continued

- The Virgin Mary is sometimes referred to as the “mystical rose.” Although this title was not ascribed to her until after rose windows became popular, a current connection between the flower and the Virgin Mother does exist.
- The basic shape of most rose windows is typically a circle, which is associated with the notion of unity.
- The number of divisions (petals) in many rose windows is the same: 12. This is of course the number of Christ’s Apostles, but 12 represents other ideas as well. It can be connected to divisions of time, the signs of the zodiac, and the number of tribes of Israel.
- Christ is usually placed in the center of rose windows, a position associated with importance.

Whether rose windows feature an abstract pattern designed to be a breathtaking source of color and light or an artist’s depiction of Christ suffering on the cross, they are sanctuary additions that are delightful to look at as well as significant from a religious perspective.

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See all of our stunning stained glass rose windows and find out more about our unique design process when you visit our site!