

Ecclesiastical Studios & Sons



*“German Church Decorators & Statuary
Artisans Specializing In The Sacred Arts”*

Don Wendt Owner/Decorator

Alex Wendt V.P/Jr. Decorator

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"When artistic talent is enlivened by the spirit of god, it becomes an act of worship that can become a witness to point people to Christ, and we in turn express our gratitude by displaying His glory in our art."



Cliff D. Foth, Alex E. Wendt, Micheal A. Wendt, Don A. Wendt

We specialize in the following professional services:

- *Plaster Restoration**
- *Providing All Scaffolding**
- *Mural Cleaning/Restoration**
- *Color Renderings**
- *Color Schemes**
- *Ecclesiastical Designs/Stenciling**
- *Statuary Restoration**
- *Altar Restoration/Refinishing**
- *Gold Gilding**
- *Marble Cleaning**
- *Faux Finishing**
- *Wood Refinishing/Wood Graining**



About Ecclesiastical Studios & Sons

Since 1956, E.S.S. has upheld a legacy of excellence in the sacred restoration of church interiors throughout the Midwest. Founded by our uncle Michael A. Wendt, carried forward by Don A. Wendt in 1989, and soon to be entrusted to the next generation Alex E. Wendt alongside our longstanding colleague Cliff D. Foth, our work honors tradition, beauty, and spiritual resonance.

We specialize in time-honored techniques including plaster restoration, architectural painting, ecclesiastical artwork, statuary refinishing, altar restoration, liturgical color design, and integrated interior concepts. Each space we touch reflects our commitment to craftsmanship and the sacred character it deserves—where art meets faith in enduring harmony.

Our Mission & Standards

- *We exist to bring life back to surfaces and stories—to restore, renew, and reveal the beauty that time may have dimmed.**
 - *Through the art of painting restoration, we pledge to deliver a level of service not just superior to our competitors, but exceptional in its care, craft, and consideration.**
 - *Ours is a commitment to cost-conscious excellence—where quality does not come at the price of integrity, and value is measured in satisfaction, not expense.**
 - *We believe every project is a partnership—a living conversation between our clients, our team, and our trusted suppliers.**
 - *Together, we build more than just restored churches; we build trust, lasting impressions, and environments that inspire.**
 - *Our work is guided by the spirit of collaboration, where each voice is heard and each hand plays a vital role in the final masterpiece.**
 - *As artisans and professionals, we never cease in our pursuit of knowledge.**
 - *We commit ourselves to ongoing education, exploring new techniques, materials, and philosophies, so that we may grow—not only as craftsmen but as contributors to our vocation.**
 - *We uplift those around us, sharing what we've learned, and becoming a resource as reliable as our word.**
 - *We aim for every interaction to be a memorable one—an experience defined by transparency, respect, and results.**
 - *Our clients entrust us with more than property; they entrust us with vision, pride, and the fruits of their labor.**
- In return, we give not just our best work—but our best selves.
- *We welcome each challenge with determination and set new goals not as limits, but as invitations to rise.**
- And in all things, we walk in integrity—because to us, a promise is not made lightly.
Our word is our bond. Our reputation is our legacy.

Some of our projects include

St. Ambrose Cathedral - Des Moines, IA - Des Moines Dioces
St John Nepomucene Catholic Church - Pilson, KS - Wichita Diocese
St. Francis Catholic Church - Burlington, KS - Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS
Holy Cross Catholic Church - Yorktown, TX - Victoria Diocese
St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church - Joplin, MO - Springfield Diocese
STS. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church - Shinner, TX - Victoria Diocese
St. Boniface Catholic Church - Scipio, KS - Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS
St Joseph Catholic Church - Leavenworth, KS - Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS
St. Pius X Catholic Church- Moberly, MO - Jefferson City, Diocese
Guardian Angels Catholic Church - Wallace, TX - Archdiocese of Houston - Galveston
St. Mary Immaculate Catholic Church - Valley Falls, KS - Archdiocese of Kansas City
Holy Name Catholic Church - Winfield, KS - Wichita Diocese
STS. Cyrill & Methodius Catholic Church - Granger, TX— Austin Diocese
St. Francis Catholic Church - St. Paul, KS - Wichita Diocese
St. Mary Catholic Church - Union City, IN - Lafayette Diocese
Mary Queen of Angels Catholic Church - Fort Scott, KS - Wichita Diocese
St. Francis Catholic Church - Cherryvale, KS - Wichita Diocese
St. Monica Catholic Church - Cameron, TX - Austin Diocese
Queen of Peace Catholic Church - Sweet Home, TX - Victoria Diocese
Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Floresville, TX - Archdiocese of San Antonio
Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine - San Antonio, TX - Archdiocese of San Antonio
Holy Cross Catholic Church - East Bernard, TX - Victoria Diocese
St. Patrick Catholic Church - Chanute, KS - Wichita Diocese
St. Joseph Catholic Church - Earling, IA - Des Moines Diocese
St. Partick Catholic Church - Perry, IA - Des Moines Diocese
St. Stanislaus Catholic Church - Chappell Hill, TX - Austin Diocese
St. Joseph Catholic Church - Humbolt, KS - Wichita Diocese
St. Mary Catholic Church - Shenandoah, IA - Des Moines Diocese
St. Joseph Catholic Church - Wichita, KS - Wichita Diocese



Examples Of Our Renderings



Our General Concept And on Site Sample

We enter each church with quiet wonder, asking not just what it is—but what it longs to be. What has faded from memory? What sacred story still breathes beneath the surface? We move through the space slowly—measuring light, tracing textures, attuning ourselves to echoes left behind by decades of devotion. Design begins on loose paper, but in presence. It's discovered in sunlight and shadow, tested against what's tangible. These spaces teach us what they need—if we're willing to listen.

Our work isn't dictated by blueprints. It's shaped in moments of felt truth. From the first walkthrough to the final brushstroke, we offer something simple: the ability to see grace where others might see decay.

To find beauty in wear. To leave something lasting, meaningful, and enduring for future generations to come.



Before



General Concept



After

At Ecclesiastical Studios & Sons, Don and Alex Wendt approach every church renewal not as a project, but as a calling to the greater good. From the very first conversation to the final, reverent unveiling, we are present—guiding each step with care, propose, and dedication. We commit to one church at a time, ensuring that no detail is overlooked, no story left untold.

Each sacred space is treated as a unique canvas of devotion, steeped in history and spiritual purpose. That’s why we never subcontract. Every brushstroke, every plaster repair, every gilded finish is executed in-house by hands formed through generations of experience and hearts attuned to the dignity of the Divine.

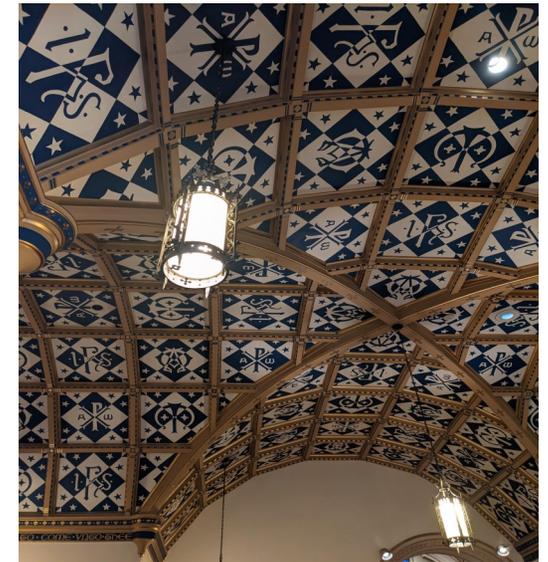
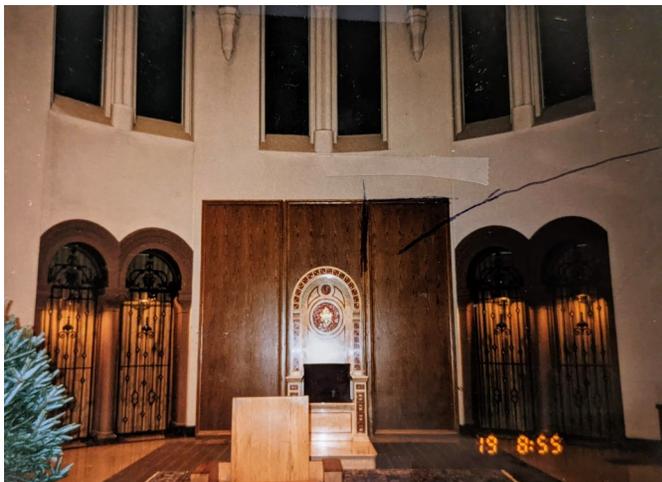
This way of working isn’t just about preserving craftsmanship—it’s about honoring the liturgical beauty and spiritual resonance that make each church a beacon of faith. By keeping the work within our family and studio, we safeguard the integrity of the design, uphold the highest standards of quality, and remain good stewards of both sacred heritage and your financial trust.



St. Ambrose Cathedral, Des Moines, IA

Fr. James Kiernan writes.....

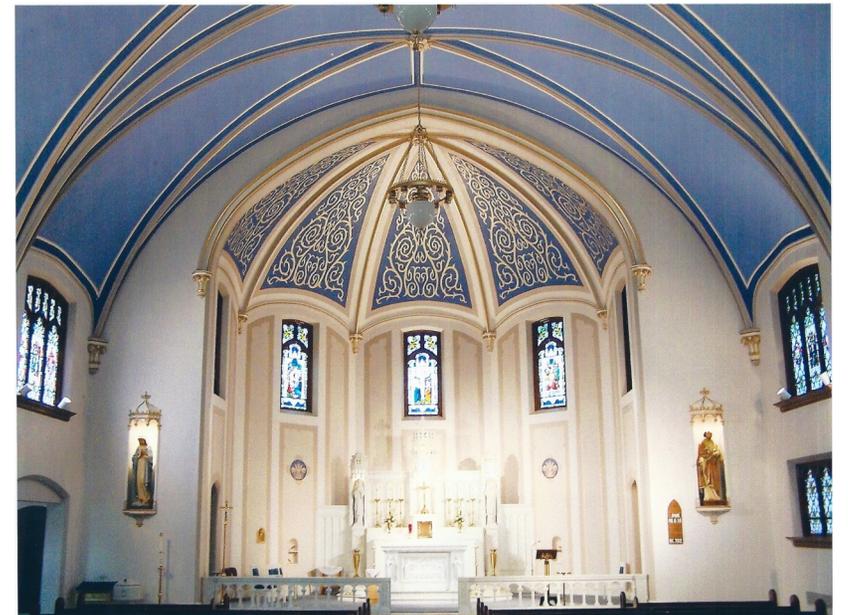
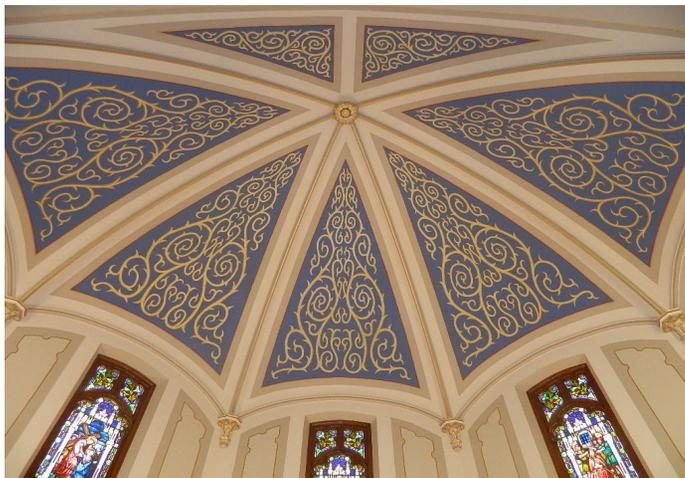
“You were challenged by the use of the cathedral for daily liturgies throughout the restoration process. Your orderliness and cleanliness made that possible. your men are so pleasant to work with. You take time from questions to suggestions, Artistically your creativity has impressed everyone, shown by your concept, design, and completion of the entire cathedral. Your design for the Cathedra was the perfect solution no one had thought of. You gave this parish quality. Everything from plaster to paint was done perfectly, even to the areas of the ceilings people never see. I appreciated that you were open to changes and suggestions. The great thing for us has been that both the lay people and the priests think the whole project made our cathedral beautiful. And so we thank you, your efforts and concern and artistic skills have been a gift to us all”.



Holy Name Catholic Church, Winfield, KS

Fr. Bernard X. Gorges writes.....

“Ecclesiastical Studios & Sons masterfully and respectfully extracted the exquisite detail found within the architect. They further designed, constructed and installed a new side altar and modified a portion of the existing altar to increase functionality, true craftsmanship. Your creative color scheme accents the beauty of the architectural detail and allowed the historic stained glass windows to emanate their radiant beauty. Don demonstrates great respect and insight into the Eucharistic Mystery. He free-handed the ornamental design in the apse, with great care. He added depth and height to the focal point our worship, Mr. Wendt demonstrated great respect for the structure, it’s history, and it’s design, it’s purpose”.



St. Monica Catholic Church, Cameron, TX

Fr. Dimitrij Colankin writes....

“I want to thank you for your beautiful work by having restored and decorated the church of Saint Monica in Cameron, TX. Your creative and artistic ideas made the church more beautiful than I have ever imagine. By adding “Alfa and Omega” in the sanctuary, the chi rho above the side door, and the lyre above the organ. I really loved the phrase that Alex researched “Nothing is far from God” that adorns the main entrance into the church. I am deeply grateful for the picture of the “Divine Mercy”, the statue of Juan Diego, the restoration of the Calvary scene in the cemetery, and all the work on our sign in front of the church that Alex donated to project. That was truly unexpected, and I can tell you, it is beloved by all the people at church. Don and Alex you certainly did a beautiful restoration and decoration beyond all of our expectations. The parish community has been enjoying all of your artistic work. I am glad our paths crossed, we could not have done it without you”.



St. Joseph Catholic Church, Humboldt, KS

Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted, D.D., J.C.D. Coadjutor Bishop of Wichita wrote after the rededication....

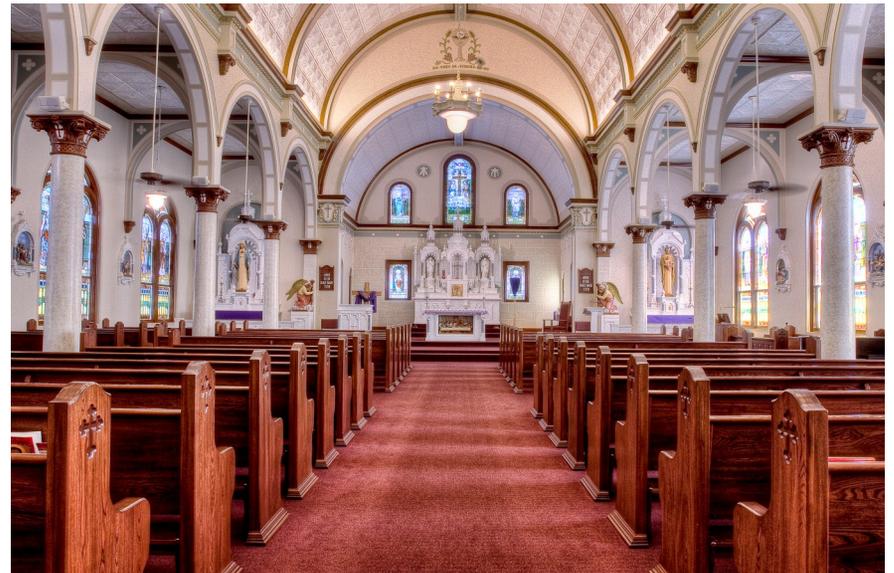
“Your work reflects a great respect for the existing architecture and an appreciation of the role which architecture can play in inspiring the faithful. We deeply appreciate the contribution which you are making to the devotional and liturgical life of our people. May the Lord continue to bless you and your work, with prayers and best wishes I remain”.



Holy Cross Catholic Church, Yorktown, TX

Fr. Roger Hawes writes....

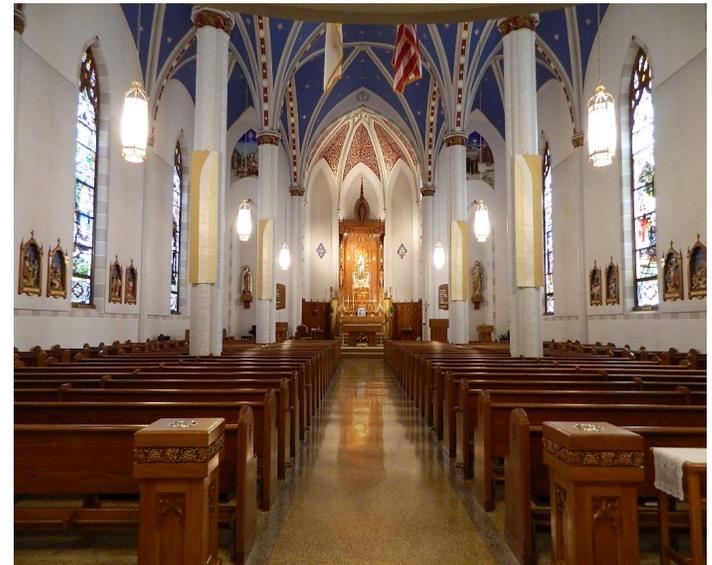
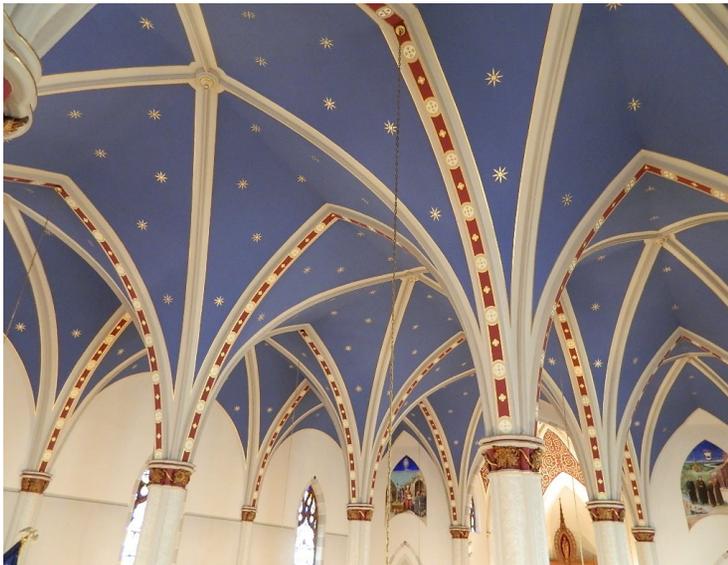
“Each time I walk into the church I see beauty of our renovation. When I look at the chalice with the words, “do this in memory of me” written beneath it I think of your artistic ability. The bishop was here the other day and we blessed the new baptismal font and rededicated the new altar. As for myself, I can’t express in words how wonderful it turned out. Your work ethic was superb as you stayed on schedule. This is not to mention your total attention to this job and never adding to the cost. That having been said, you never varied from the price. Your honesty and integrity put me at ease, your artistic ability and gift of seeing what the finished product would look like was comforting. It’s like walking in to heaven”.



St. Joseph Catholic Church, Leavenworth, KS

Fr. David McEvoy Vice Prior Provincial for the Carmelite Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary writes.....

“Don and his crew are true “artists” and approached the painting of our church with creativity and respect for the uniqueness of our church. Unlike many workmen who limit the scope of their endeavors to the minimum they are being paid for, Don always held the big picture in mind. From the beginning until the end of the project we have been totally pleased with the work and the professionalism of Mr. Wendt and his crew. Don supervised the entire project, was always on-site, and did no other jobs until our work was completed. He began on time, and finished the project on time”.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, San Antonio, TX

Fr. James L. Lambert S.J. writes.....

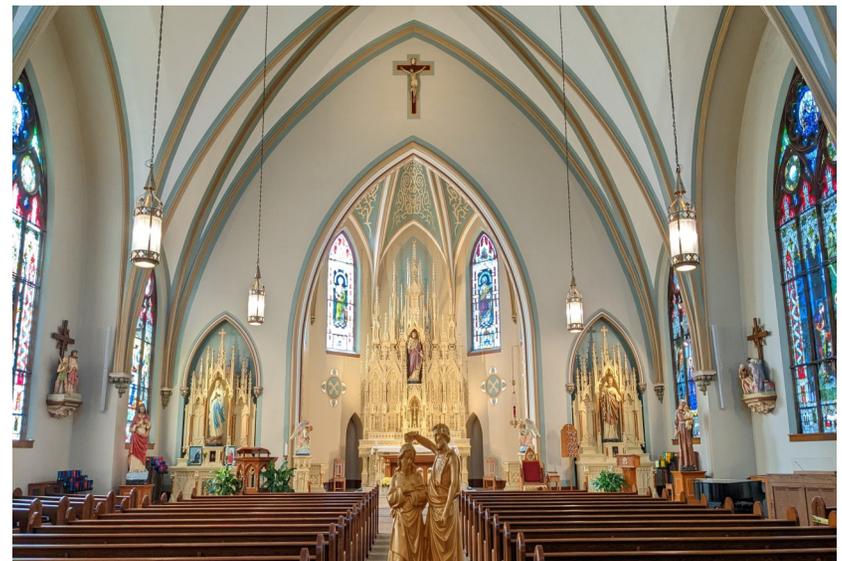
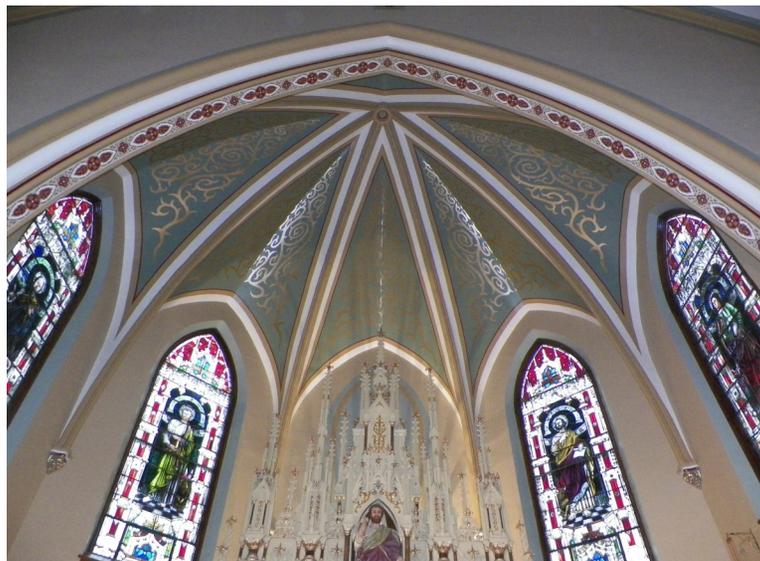
“We were especially impressed by the initiative that Mr. Wendt took to suggest improvements in the church and by his interest in executing decorative design features beyond our initial planning. His desire was to do the best possible decoration of the church, to bring out the architectural features of the building, and to emphasize the spiritual focus of this Shrine church. One of the notable advantages of Ecclesiastical Studios & Sons (in addition to the high quality of the work) is the fact that all scaffolding, materials, tools, and supplies were included. There were no additional expenses. When you sign a contract with Ecclesiastical Studios, you know from the beginning exactly what the final cost of the contracted work will be”.



St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Joplin, MO

Fr. J. Friedel writes....

“St. Peter the Apostle church has recently completed the renovation of our beautiful 106 year old gothic church. Fortunately, we were able to secure the talents of Ecclesiastical Studios & Sons to assist us in our efforts. From conception to completion, Don wendt and his talented colleagues helped us to conceptualize and realize our dreams to restore St. Peter’s luster and pass on to future generations, the legacy of a beautiful structure that has been passed on to us. Renovation is never an easy process but E.S.S. made the project much more enjoyable than I would have ever thought possible. From skill at repair to an artist’s eye at enhancing subtly hidden details, the skill of their craftsmanship was abundantly evident. Without reservation, Ecclesiastical Studios & Sons receives my highest praise, admiration, and recommendation”!



St. Francis Catholic Church, St. Paul, KS

The parish council members write...

“We have now celebrated two Christmas and Easter seasons in our church. Although this project was controversial in the beginning, the end result has developed parish unity that we have not seen in a very long time. In fact, we experienced standing room only during the holiday services and have received numerous compliments from visiting relatives. Because of your display of craftsmanship and decorating abilities, we highly recommend you and your associates for other jobs of this kind. Your ideas and coordinating skills were very innovative and appropriate to our church. Your work ethic was impeccable. The parish council as a whole was impressed with your daily dedication to the project. We are truly grateful for you, thank you for all of your hard work”.



Award Winning And Nationally Recognized Projects



- St. Patrick Catholic Church, Perry, IA - 1999
- St. Patrick Catholic Church, Chanute, KS - 2004
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, San Antonio, TX - 2006
- St. Joseph Catholic Church, Leavenworth, KS - 2008
- Holy Cross Catholic Church, Yorktown, TX - 2011
- St. Pius X Catholic Church, Moberly, MO - 2013
- St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Joplin, MO - 2014
- St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Chappell Hill, TX - 2015 Exterior
- St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Chappell Hill, TX - 2016 Interior
- Sts. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church, Granger, TX - 2017
- St. Mary Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Valley Falls, KS - 2018
- St. Monica Catholic Church, Cameron, TX - 2021
- Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Omaha, NE - 2023
- St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Cherryvale, KS - 2024
- St. Mary Catholic Church, Nevada, MO - 2025
- St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Burlington, KS - 2025



- St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Joplin, MO - 2014
- St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Chappell Hill, TX – 2016



Before & After



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Omaha, NE



St. Pius X Catholic Church, Moberly, MO

Before & After



Holy Cross Catholic Church, East Benard, TX



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Cherryvale, KS

Before & After



Sts. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church, Granger, TX



St. Boniface Catholic Church, Scipio, KS

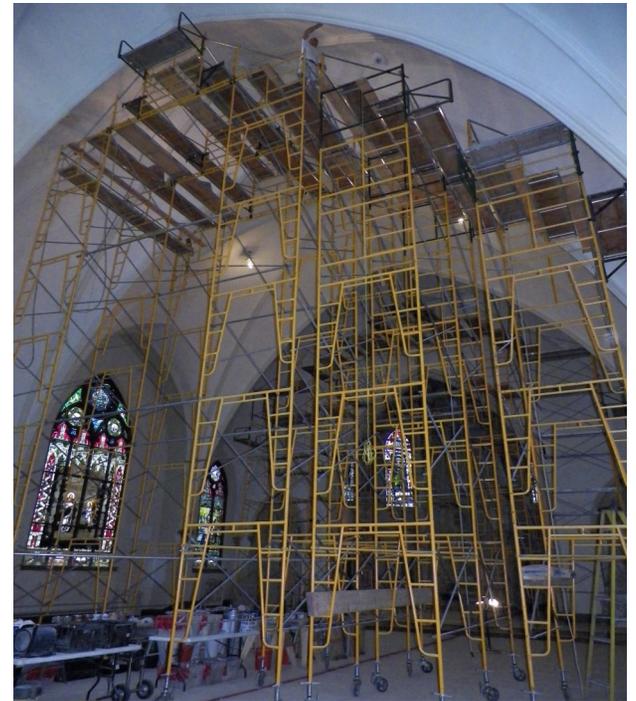
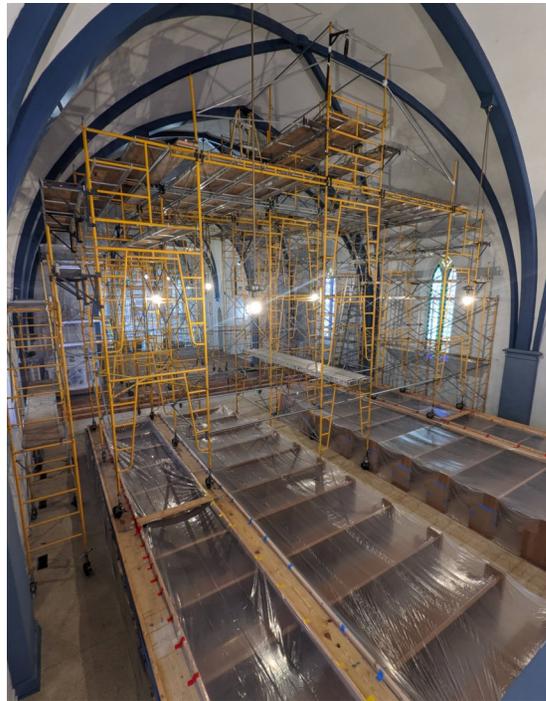
Before & After



St. Mary Catholic Church, Nevada, MO



St. Mary Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Valley Falls, KS







Thank you for taking the time to explore our information packet. Your interest means more than words can express, as it reflects a shared love for the sacred beauty and spiritual depth embodied in the Catholic faith.

We would be deeply honored to accompany you in the restoration of your church—a place not only of worship, but of wonder; not just a building, but a living testimony to faith, community, and tradition. Our mission is to preserve these sanctuaries with the utmost reverence, craftsmanship, and attention to every meaningful detail.

Over the years, we have been humbled and grateful to serve parishes across the Midwest, each one a sacred chapter in a larger story. To all the clergy, parishioners, and communities who have placed their trust in our care, we extend our heartfelt thanks. Your support continues to inspire the work we do.

We look forward to the opportunity to walk with you in safeguarding your church's legacy—restoring not only its structure, but rekindling the spirit it holds.

**Don & Alex Wendt
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