

Second Altar

The second altar of Saint Clement church was installed in 1931 when the wooden parts of the church were replaced with stone. The new altar and decorations that literally filled the entire church interior were rich in symbolism and finely crafted by Harold Rambusch of Rambusch Design Company of New York, New York.

The Byzantine-style statue of Saint Clement that served as the centerpiece of this decorating scheme was moved to the front of the Choir Loft during the 1968 renovation. In addition to the changes of the main altar, the side altars were also updated. Both the Gospel-side altar, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Epistle-side altar, dedicated to Saint Joseph, were decorated with new statues that matched the style of the new Saint Clement statue. The statues that were located in these side altars are now both located above the Gospel-side altar. All three statues were carved of wood from Oberammergau, a village in southern Germany known for woodcarving, and were decorated in the studios of the Rambusch Design Company.



Third Altar

The third altar of Saint Clement was installed after the Second Vatican Council to meet the requirements of the new liturgical directive. This third altar was a movable wooden altar that near to the edge of the predella rather than fixed against the back wall of the sanctuary.

This wooden altar served as a transitional altar while the parish planned and executed a large-scale renovation of the entire sanctuary. The renovation of the church began in 1968 with the removal of the marble communion rails from the front-most part of the sanctuary and was completed in 1972 with the installation of the current altar, the carpet in the sanctuary and the painting of the church interior.



Fourth Altar

The fourth altar, the one currently installed in the sanctuary, was installed during the early 1970s as part of the complete renovation of the sanctuary. The main altar and the altar of repose against the back-wall were built in part from the former communion rails. Made of ornate purple-grey marble (Rosso Levanto, imported from Turkey or Italy), the communion rails were repurposed so that they could continue to adorn the sanctuary.

The main altar is built of two large pieces of the communion rail as the stipes (supports) with another larger slab of white marble placed on top as the mesa (table-top).

The Risen Christ mosaic was also installed during the 1968-1972 renovation. This mosaic closely follows the color palette, stylistic features, and subject matter of the mosaics of Saint Clement Church in Rome.