

THE ROSE WINDOW

The great “rose window” over the altar is a circle ten feet in diameter. It depicts the “light of the gospels.” Our church is illumined by the teaching of the gospels. Round windows are sometimes called “rose windows” because they were like a huge rose that opened symmetrically from the center, like a flower. Rose windows are a common feature in many churches of the gothic style. Our church can be described as “English country gothic” style. Our rose window and our altar face southeast, in keeping with the Catholic Church tradition of facing toward Jerusalem. When the people of our church are praying, they face toward the Holy Land. The orientation of this window has the happy effect of catching the early morning sun. Then, our church appears to be dappled with the colors of God’s light, the gospels. This window also recalls the words of the hymn, “Come Thou Almighty King” in which we sing, “Where the gospel, sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!”

