

“The jury felt the design team did a nice job of not only restoring the church, but updating it to the present liturgy. Photographs illustrate a strong return to the original quality of the church without losing it’s character, nothing is out of place. New visitors to the building may feel it is a preserved original interior. A well done historic restoration.”



In 2014, St. Anthony’s Church was severely damaged by fire and the 1924 Italian Romanesque Revival Church was in danger of being shuttered.

A wheelchair lift provides access to all levels and an accessible bathroom was created. The altar was brought forward and a tabernacle was placed behind it in a new devotional chapel with custom wrought-iron gates. Original statuary niches were recreated allowing for a reconciliation room and sacristy behind them. The pew layout was modified to allow for a baptismal font in the center as the new “heart” of the church.

Surviving murals were restored, new murals were created and a decorative scheme was developed that respected the original design intent. The wood truss ceiling and stained glass windows were restored; three were recreated from photographs.

Custom furnishings incorporate motifs used in the decorative painting, mechanical systems were replaced and new LED lighting was installed. The parish is once again a thriving community.

## Interiors | Award of Merit

# The Restoration of St. Anthony's Church Schenectady, New York

Lacey Thaler Reilly Wilson  
Architecture & Preservation



**Submitting Member Architect:** Mark Thaler, AIA  
**Additional In-House Design Team:** Beth Lacey, AIA  
**M/E/P/FP Engineer:** MH Professional Engineering  
**Lighting Design:** Lilker Associates  
**Decorative Art Consultant:** Evergreen Architectural Arts  
**Liturgical Design:** Rev. Richard Vosko  
**Acoustics:** Clayton Acoustics Group  
**Fire Restoration:** Legere Restorations  
**Construction Manager:** Wainschaf Associates  
**Asbestos Abatement:** Op-Tech Environmental Services  
**Mill-work:** David Fuller Cabinet Makers  
**Painting:** Evergreene Architecture Arts  
**Stained Glass Windows:** Chapman Stained Glass Studio  
**Ceramic Tile:** M&S Tile Marble Designs  
**Flooring:** Hansen's Wood Flooring  
**Architectural Metal work:** The Helderberg Blacksmith  
**Client:** St. Anthony's Church

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