



THE BASILICA OF ST. MARTIN IN BONN

Since the 13th century, when the people of Bonn included the Mins-ter in their city's coat of arms, it has been the emblem of the City of Bonn. Although the face of the city has largely changed, it is still dominated by the Collegiate Church of St. Cassius and St. Florentius.



The basilica of Bonn as we know it today was built on the site of the graves of the two martyrs Cassius and Florentius, the city's patrons. The whole of its development is recorded, from its beginnings as a small place of worship in the late Roman period to its becoming the first large church complex in the Rhineland, and later a significant example of medieval Rhenish church architecture.

Most of today's building dates back to the period of active building work from the 11th to the 13th centuries. Its blend of Romanesque and gothic elements is unusually harmonious. The furnishings, too, most of which date back to the Baroque period, to the end of the 19th and to the 20th century, fit in well, giving the Basilica its own special atmosphere which envelops the visitor and makes him or her feel secure.

We invite you to take a short walk around the church and would like to point out a few items. (See inside!)

God, I have come before you as one of your many children. Lead my mind from distractions so I may think of you. Help me to place myself in your hands. You know what I want to say even if I cannot find the right words. You alone can make up for what is lacking in my life.

I just want to be here before you and to ask for your blessing, for myself, for my loved ones and for the whole world - Amen.

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SERVICES:

Saturday:	09.00 a.m. (crypt)
Sunday:	10.00 a.m. Solemn Mass, 12.00 p.m. und 06.30 p.m.
Monday	09.00 a.m. (crypt)
- Friday:	12.15 a.m. (prayer) 06.00 p.m.

If you would like to speak to a member of the clergy for confession or counselling, please contact the parish office.

Contact us:

Church in the City

The Catholic Parish of St. Martin

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You are entering a holy place
which speaks about GOD...
and about you,
about all of us, His people,
about our past and future.

Church in the City BASILICA OF ST. MARTIN MÜNSTERBASILIKA Bonn



English



DEAR VISITOR,

You have stepped out of the hectic urban bustle into this place of calm amidst the city's activity.



We warmly welcome you to our Minster, one of the oldest churches in Germany, and we wish you a few minutes of spiritual refreshment, contemplation and prayer.



From seven in the morning to seven in the evening people come here in trust to seek the closeness and help of God in prayer.

Looking at the church and its works of religious art, created to bear witness to faith, can encourage people to think about their own life and faith. The booklets available may help you to do so.

We hope that you will feel at home in this place of worship.

God bless you!

Parish Priest and
Dean of the parishes of Bonn



WALKING AROUND:

In the forefront of the central nave we can see **a larger-than-life statue of St. Helen** ①. The bronze statue was donated by Cardinal Franz Wilhelm von Wartenberg, Provost of the Collegiate (1629-1661).

The Organ ② was built in 1961 (Klais, Bonn). It was extended in 1980/81.

The Crypt ③. The shrine with the remains of the martyrs Cassius and Florentius and their companions is situated on a stone pedestal between the eastern pillars. A trap-door of bronze prevents access to the tomb, which is only accessible during the week of the patronal festival (10 October).
(Why not find a moment to pray and to ask for blessing before you leave?)

The new Crossing Altar ④ (Main Altar, H. Gernot, 1980) is of silver-plated bronze, and adorned with carved ivory insets.

The present High Altar ⑤ was completed in 1865 following the design of the architect Heinrich Wiethase. The Bonn sculptor Olzem was responsi-

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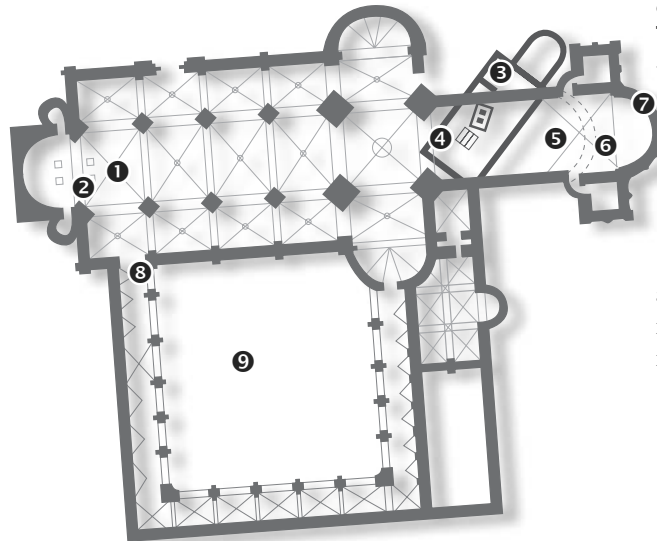
The apse mosaic ⑥: it was designed by Fritz Geiges and manufactured in Venice 1894, drawing inspiration from a Byzantine Deesis motif. The arm of God the Father, emerging from a radiant wreath, points toward Christ, who is enthroned in a mandorla, his right hand raised in blessing, while he holds the Book of Life in his left. His feet are placed on the globe. Angels carrying candles and wafting clouds of incense surround the Final Judge. Mary has both arms raised in supplication, while John The Baptist points to Christ: "Ecce Agnus Dei".

The Main Choir paintings ⑦ were performed in the 19th century. The typology of Redemption and Healing is demonstrated in 22 pairs of paintings, showing events of the Old Testament and the New Testament (Ask for the booklet from Mr. Koch about this specific topic).

The bronze portal ⑧ (H. Gernot, 1977) beside the Magdalene Altar leads to the cloister.

The cloister ⑨: Gerhard von Are had the two-storied collegiate building constructed with this cloister, rather than older versions, in the 12th century. Only three of the original four cloister wings are preserved. The northern arched passage had to give way to the widening of the side aisle in the early 13th century. Today, members of the clergy have their apartments here.

A booklet with more details about the history of the building and its art is available for € 2.50 at the Münsterladen.



Art, literatur and music
Münsterbasilika-merchandising

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