

CHARLES J. CONNICK : DESIGNER AND WORKER IN STAINED AND
LEADED GLASS : NINE HARCOURT STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

City or Town Bronxville, State N.Y. No. 2454
Church Reformed Ch. Cor. Pondfield Rd. & Midland Date of Sept August 1, 1944.
Completion
Donor and Address
Architect Harry Leslie Walker, 30 Elm Rock Rd. Quality of Glass \$3600.00 (#33.00 per ft.)
Denomination and Minister Bronxville. Dr. Powell (John H. Jr.)
Footage 109 131 feet sight Sizes, full
Ventilators Yes - we to supply four. Set by
Position in Church Gallery window.
Height from floor 19 feet Protec- Groove Stone
tion Glass Rabbet Wood
Points of compass
Quality of light East.
Inscription "The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly." (Ps. 118:16). (See letter from Walker, Aug. 23, 1943).
Design wanted Staging
Shipping address Blue-prints Received
Bill to Templets
Photos of Cartoons Mailed

General Information (Preliminary study wanted, not a finished sketch). This is to be a War Memorial. The four main panels shall be devoted to Joshua, Gabriel, Michael and David, in the order named. It is not desired that this window be "dated", nor shall military symbols as such be emphasized. It is intended that the window shall be symbolical of courage, heroism and sacrifice in the cause of liberty, freedom, and the great Christian virtues. Mr. Walker says, in regard to all the windows, "May I again express my preference for a certain 'archaic' quality of posture and drawing, a lack of realism, and the use of more detail in the background of the figures, thereby slightly reducing the scale of the whole composition. Please remember that all the windows are relatively small, and close to the observer. I like the drawing and pattern of the 'Love' Window at Princeton, especially your treatment of the Last Supper."

For addresses of those to be notified as window progresses, see other side.

Text suggested by C.J.C.: "The right hand of the Lord is exalted: the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly". (Psalm 118:16).

Option of designs sent June 23, 1943
for the first suggestion, the text: 118th psal.

right hand
of the Lord

valiantly.

Characteristic symbols occur under
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In the second section, I refer to an idea which is constantly growing stronger within my consciousness; that is, that good will, brotherhood, and all the warm impulses of the human heart are also a mighty part of the great disturbance we call war.

See sketch

In other words, I am eager to have you consider those the valiant young soldiers, David and Jonathan and their friendship, as a memorial to our own youngsters who have developed that sense of brotherly devotion that makes David and Jonathan such wonderful symbols, along with Saint Michael (Captain of the Hosts of Heaven) and Saint Gabriel (Messenger of Peace).

the following arrangement:
window as shown on Sketch A, with
with dragon) and Gabriel (with
text from Psalm 118:16, as
eried parts of the window use
pairs of Angels as the Basis

The verse that has been running through my mind as I worked out this design is from Saint James, third chapter, 15th verse: "The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace"; - for many bright-eyed youngsters that I know in the service are quite consciously peacemakers and believe profoundly in a world permanently at peace.

of the war Memorial design, and
of Angels. With the cross as the
a first importance, "Governors"
the great tradition."
of the tracery of the War

Here, instead of symbols, I have roughly suggested subjects for medallions which I hope you will recognize, on left to right, as Saint Michael and the Dragon; the Lamb from the Lion; the Covenant; and the Annunciation of Saint Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin (or The Annunciation to the Shepherds). These are, of course, well known symbols of peace in Christian art.

rd is exalted: the right hand of

July 26, 1943. Walker wrote: "...We have decided upon the following arrangement: Use the general scheme for the lower parts of the window as shown on Sketch A, with Joshua and David as the central figures and Michael (with dragon) and Gabriel (with trumpet) as the supporting figures; Use the scriptural text from Psalm 118:16, as shown at the bottom of Sketch B. For the upper traceried parts of the window use the color scheme indicated on Sketch B, with the 9 Choirs of Angels as the Basis of the design, and the Cross in the central light."

Aug. 2. C.J.C. wrote: "I've been studying the tracery of the war Memorial design, and am sending herewith my suggestions for the 9 Choirs of Angels. With the cross as the supreme symbol, you will note that "Councillors" have first importance, "Governors" second, and "Ministers", third, in accordance with the great tradition."

Aug. 5, 1943. Walker wrote: "I am enclosing your study of the tracery of the War Memorial window, which seems satisfactory to me."

This window is designed to symbolize in color and light, the Christian virtues, and especially the qualities of Courage, Heroism, and Sacrifice, in the cause of Liberty and Freedom which so nobly characterize a Christian people in the stress of war.

The theme is announced in the text, running across the lancets, from the 11th Psalm, 18th verse, - "The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly."

This thought is personified in the dominant figures of the Old Testament warriors of Jehovah, - Joshua and the young David in the central panels, - Joshua with his spear and shield, and David with sling and frail staff.

It is again emphasized in the outer panels by the Archangels - Saint Michael, Captain of the Hosts of Heaven; and Saint Gabriel, Messenger of Peace and glad-tidings. Saint Michael bears his flaming sword and shield and Saint Gabriel, the trumpet.

The predellas are related to the figures above. Below Saint Michael is a symbol of his triumph over the dragon. Joshua stands before the seven priests with their seven trumpets, the ark of the covenant, and the shattered walls of Jericho. The inspired David defies the giant Goliath, and the angel Gabriel brings his glad-tidings to the shepherds of Bethlehem.

The tracery is devoted to the Nine Choirs of Angels - "The whole company of heaven and all the powers therein" - with the Counsellors in position of first importance, ranging around the central symbol of the Cross, the Governors below, and the Messengers at right and left.

The ruby-winged Seraphim, nearest the Cross, bear hearts symbolical of Divine Love. The blue-winged Cherubim have open books signifying Divine

Wisdom, and the Thrones hold symbols of the Seat of Heavenly Grace. Of the choir of Governors, Dominations are represented in the two outer panels below, with their symbols, the swords. Virtues at the left bear the spear and Powers at the right hold the dragon in chains. The choir of Messengers are symbolized in the four outer members of this tier -- at right and left. The Principalities, with their lily symbol, are balanced in the two inner ones, with Archangels at the extreme left bearing the scales and Angels at the extreme right with the censer.

The smaller tracery members above the lancets are enriched with six-pointed stars of the Old Testament and five-pointed stars of the New Testament, and the symbolism is completed in the smaller tracery members with flames and stars of inspired zeal and heavenly glory.