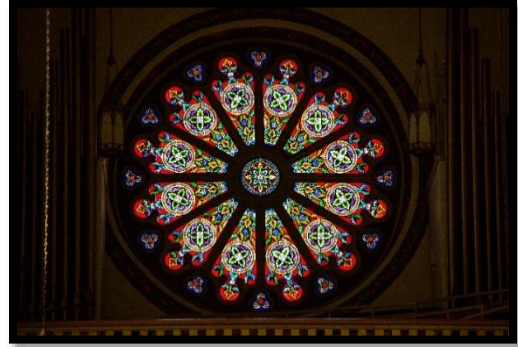


ATRIUM TOUR

Rose Window Skylight

The design on the skylight over the altar is based upon the rose window found in the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy.

The rose window in the Basilica of St. Francis, a large, circular window with a complex, ornate stained-glass design, is a prominent Gothic feature on the facade of the Upper Basilica and is notable for its intricate design and symbolism. This beautiful circular window, with symbols of the Evangelists, is part of the basilica's overall artistic and historical significance as a World Heritage site.



The circular design can symbolize the infinite nature of God, and the rose itself is a traditional Christian symbol for the Virgin Mary. The design has been interpreted as reflecting the harmony of the world and the dialogue between light and shadow.

The window features the Ascension of Christ at its center, surrounded by images of angels and disciples, reflecting a key moment in Christian theology. It is also surrounded by the symbols of the four Evangelists. While much of the basilica's art consists of later frescoes, the rose window is often considered a beautiful and integral part of the original structure.

The rose window measures 7.5 meters in diameter and 15 meters high, making it one of the largest in central Italy. The window is designed to allow a warm beam of light to penetrate the nave, creating a beautiful and serene atmosphere. It is a central element of the church's artistic and spiritual design, providing a source of light and symbolizing the harmony of the world and the infinite nature of God's love.



The Basilica also features other rose windows, including a North Rose Window which is known for retaining its original 13th-century glass. It depicts Mary enthroned with the Christ Child, surrounded by prophets and kings. The Basilica houses what is considered to be one of the most complete collections of medieval stained glass in Italy.