



Maple-Leaf News

Winter 2012

Laugh a little, learn a little & take a break from the daily grind

Restoring The Heart

Bishop Guertin High School Chapel Renovations

With the capital campaign "Restoring the Heart" officially underway for a number of months, Brother Mark Hilton, president of Bishop Guertin High School, asked Maple-Leaf to assist in the budgeting process for the school's upcoming chapel renovations, as well as the exterior modifications for new chapel gardens.

The Restoring the Heart campaign involved raising funds for complete interior renovations of the existing chapel, including new furniture, artwork, fittings, altar and baptismal font. Exterior work entailed linking the chapel to an outdoor garden, consisting of the addition of exterior doorways and stairs, benches, pavers, a fountain and a cross reflective of those built by Father Andre Coindre, founder of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

The vision for renovating the chapel at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua was to provide a warm, inviting place to worship that would meet the school's current and future needs. As construction manager, Maple-Leaf was assisted in this goal by the chapel's architect, Arris Design Inc. of Providence, R.I.

The 2,470-square-foot existing chapel



A view of the newly-renovated Bishop Guertin High School chapel.

renovations called for seating for 100 parishioners. Specializing in historic restoration projects and churches, Arris Design developed an interior design that was aesthetically pleasing and would make visitors feel welcome.

Named in honor of Bishop Georges-Albert Guertin, third bishop of Manchester, the private college preparatory Roman Catholic high school originally opened its doors in 1963 in a partly-condemned former orphanage building on Main Street. In 1964, as the student population grew, a new building and campus opened on the current Lund Road site. The chapel interior remained in its original state until the recent renovations.

Talks about renovating the chapel started in 2008, but it wasn't until the summer of 2011 that any demolition took place. The 12-foot-high stained glass

windows were temporarily protected and the tabernacle, pews and statuary fixtures were removed for safekeeping. A marble piece from the former high altar featuring an engraved deer was preserved for later use.

With no extensive work slated for the existing radiant heat system, the brass heating vents and grilles were refinished and reinstalled. The previously upgraded sprinkler piping was rerouted and both piping and sprinkler heads were concealed with melt-away white covers to preserve the look of the renovated chapel.

The rear masonry wall leading into the adjoining school corridor was removed and a full rear wall of new entry doors with sidelite windows was installed to offer an uninterrupted view of the chapel's new bright interior. The baptismal font, complete with interior lighting, is the focal



MAPLE-LEAF CONSTRUCTION COMPANY INC.

5 Congress Street • P.O. Box 443
Nashua, NH 03061-0443
TEL (603) 882-7498
FAX (603) 595-8688
www.maple-leafnh.com

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The holiday season is upon us.

We recognize all that we have to be thankful for, and take time to appreciate our individual blessings. As a business, we are grateful for our dedicated, hardworking employees, outstanding building team partners, supportive corporate friends and, of course, our loyal clients, who are the heart and soul of our company and the reason it exists.

On behalf of the entire Maple-Leaf Construction team, we wish you a safe and healthy holiday and a new year filled with happiness, hope and great opportunity.

Chapel... *from page 1*

point, as it appears immediately inside the new chapel entry.

Eldorado cultured stone was attached to the existing masonry at the tabernacle wall and a wooden ceiling installed above. The preserved, engraved marble deer piece, cut and modified, is now part of the tabernacle table (see photo at right).

A concrete floor extension covered with polished marble tiles sits at the front of the chapel, and new carpeting was added. Pews were refinished to match the cherry millwork throughout the rest of the chapel, and paint and wallcoverings complete the walls above the gleaming marble wainscot.

The altar was relocated to the marble floor extension in the middle of the chapel, and spotlights now shine upon the wall-mounted statues of Mary and Joseph. On a side wall, two icons of founding Brothers hang in an alcove known as the "Brothers' Niche." Floating shelves will eventually hold flowers or candles.

And as the light shines down upon worshipers from pendant light fixtures featuring adjustable lighting that helps to enhance church services, the shifting patterns of natural light play across the chapel through the stained glass windows.

As the fundraising efforts continue to complete the chapel garden portion of the project in the future, Maple-Leaf Construction would like to thank the Bishop Guertin faculty and staff for allowing us to be a part of this important project.

If you would like to assist Bishop Guertin in its ongoing efforts, the Restoring the Heart Capital Campaign information is available on their website, BGHS.org, or you can call Br. Mark Hilton, president, at 603-889-4107.



Planning A Project? Have Questions? Give Us A Call!

We are happy to be your one-stop resource for any questions you may have...whether we constructed your building or not, we're here to serve you. Call one of our commercial project managers at 603-882-7498 or e-mail Loren Dubois, President, at ldubois@mlccinc.com.



**MAPLE-LEAF CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY INC.**

5 Congress Street
P.O. Box 443
Nashua, NH 03061-0443



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