St. Mary Catholic Church

1116 Chartres Street

Three churches have occupied this site, beginning in the mid-eighteenth century. Since its founding in 1845, the church has been known by various names: The Archbishops Church, Holy Trinity for the Germans, St. Marys Italian (early 20th century), Our Lady of Victory (1970s), and now simply St. Marys. It is no longer a parish church, as Masses are said at St. Louis Cathedral, but many a beautiful bride walks down its aisle every year. Receptions can take place at the adjoining Old Ursuline Convent, once the residence of the archbishop, or in the church complex.

Construction dates to 1845, during the administration of Archbishop Antoine Blanc, who dedicated many new churches during the years of rapid expansion in New Orleans. The principal architect was J. N. B. DePouilly, who led the rebuilding of St. Louis Cathedral in the early 1850s. A1919 expansion usurped space in the Old Ursuline Convent. A more recent renovation dates to 1977.

*Historic Churches of Old New Orleans* describes the windows as Bavarian, but that may refer to the style of painting (elaborate, painting-like, with inconspicuous lead lines) rather than the actual source of the glass.

The Pilcher organ was built for the Second Ursuline Convent and moved to St. Marys but is now in poor repair.

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*The Covid-19 epidemic of 2020 precluded a return visit to create a list of the windows.*

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