



CATHEDRAL SQUARE

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About Cathedral Square

Cathedral Square is the vision of the 11th bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, Most Rev. Walter A. Hurley, and has been made a reality through the generous contributions of donors and diocesan parishes.

“Cathedral Square celebrates the vibrancy of the Catholic community of West Michigan and enables us to more effectively further the mission of the church here in our diocese,” said Bishop Hurley during the blessing and dedication of Cathedral Square in September 2008.

Anchored by the Cathedral of Saint Andrew, the Mother Church of the diocese, Cathedral Square is an 11.5-acre campus located in the Heartside Neighborhood of downtown Grand Rapids. Encompassing a three-block area where meandering sidewalks meet peaceful garden settings, Cathedral Square is punctuated by the Italian-style Piazza Secchia, a gift from Joan Secchia situated just outside the main entrance of the cathedral and reminiscent of Michelangelo’s Piazza del Campidoglio in Rome. The piazza serves as a gathering space for outdoor religious celebrations and other events.

Cathedral Square Center, the hallmark of Cathedral Square, is home to the administrative and ministry offices of the Diocese as well as the administrative offices of Catholic Charities West Michigan. The newly renovated 100,000 square foot Leadership in Energy and Efficiency (LEED) certified building located at the corner of Wealthy Street and Division Avenue also houses the Catholic Information Center, Michigan Church Supply and Saint Mary’s Health Care Pharmacy. The building’s second floor features the Sophia L. and Peter Martin Wege Conference Center, a modern conference and meeting facility with state-of-the-art audio visual technology.

Cathedral Square Center is highlighted by the Peter Melvin Wege Gardens, a landscaped area on the east-facing side of the building and the Miner S. and Mary Ann Keeler Plaza, a welcoming space on the west-facing side. The diocesan offices, previously housed at the former St. Joseph Seminary on Burton Street and other locations throughout the city, were consolidated at Cathedral Square Center in July 2008. Cathedral Square including the center, were officially blessed, dedicated and opened on September 23, 2008.