

St Thomas More Church Leicester 1996 Re-order: Our contract was to restore damaged original 1950's mosaic, replace flat stone floors. Replace steps produce a new mosaic.

Our Co was called in to assist in the Re-order of the above church which was built in the early 1950's the Church needed to be up-dated and also have some of the fittings replaced = stone floors & steps which had been originally fitted with a soft marble and had become cracked & pitted = un-safe .

As can be seen from our reference from Mr Price the Senior contracts manager for Granite Construction the Main Contractors it was a difficult contract.



Start of project in the background is the section we installed a new mosaic.

Our Co installed a new mosaic and the Incumbent Priest (Irish) as per custom could have a design or decide on part of the installation. The final design which is a stylised variant of the Irish Ring Cross the colours and finished size were a result of talks with the client.

We also moved a Baptismal Fount and cut into the stone floor a circle of segmented green (Verde) marble again following the Irish influence.

Our Co removed the damaged stone steps & flat marble floor and installed Limestone steps and a new Limestone flat floor throughout.

P2.

Pictures below show steps with the marble removed and before the steps had been cleaned & prepped for new limestone steps.



Original marble steps have been removed prior to prepping for new Limestone.

The Steps & flat floor area had all the old mortar and lipping ground down with diamond grinders.

As usual most of the work carried out on either a contract like this a re-order or refurbishment or restoration the work done is of a type that is invisible when looking at the end result= the finished floor.

The prep work took Heritage Tiling & Restoration more than a week before the areas were suitable to start re-laying the new flat stone floor /steps install a new glass mosaic etc.

We installed the new mosaic designs such as a Chi-Rho and restored the damaged areas on the original mosaic.

P3.

Picture below shows the new Celtic Cross as approved by the Incumbent priest, in various instalment stages.



The Cross outer circle was fitted first then the field tile fixed.



The Main design in colours chosen by the client.

P4.

Below showing completed new mosaic design of a Celtic Cross above the original mosaic.



Design of the New Celtic Cross plus the rest of the back ground mosaic.

In all we installed more than 80 sq metres of new mosaic and repaired/restored various loose & damaged sections of the original mosaic.

Fore-ground shows the top step with parts of the legend = St Thomas More then his date of birth and death.

Below that are the new Limestone steps, in the back ground are the new Celtic Cross mosaic plus the complementary designed side & rear panels before rising to a raised new Limestone plinth for the Altar.

The Church foundation stone was laid in 1950 by Bishop Ellis & Blessed & opened by Bishop Ellis in 1952. the Re-order was started on the 8/1/1996 and completed for Rededication by Bishop James McGuinness on 20/9/1996.

Our Co finished off the installation of our works on time and within budget even though as usual while installing flooring we had the problem of allowing others access whilst still maintaining a steady progression of the works.

P5.

Pictures below show the new Chi-Rho the finished view of the Limestone steps and part of the new mosaic & original mosaic.



The New Chi-Rho glass mosaic.



Part of the new Limestone steps original & new mosaic.

P6.

The picture below shows part of the new installed Limestone steps plus part of the mosaic inset dates, plus part of the flat stone flooring.



New Limestone steps & flat floor plus mosaic

After all the works were completed the various parts of the flooring = stone & mosaic were thoroughly cleaned and all the grout & mortar haze and dirt etc removed until the floor was spotless.

After drying out for a couple of days and covered to prevent any dirt etc to stain the clean floor, we then applied 5 coats of a water based sealer to all areas of the floor.

The floor looked stunning after we had finished sadly some of the others pictures we had were lost in an office fire on our PC and back up but the surviving pictures are enough to show the size & breadth of work undertaken on this contract by Heritage Tiling & Restoration Co.

P7.

Reference: For St Thomas Church.

Granite

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3 February 1997

To whom it may concern

Dear Sirs

Re: Church of St Thomas More, Knighton Road, Leicester - Heritage Tiling
and Restoration Co

We write to confirm that the stone and mosaic works undertaken by Heritage Tiling and Restoration Co at the above Church was executed very professionally under difficult conditions.

The Client was extremely pleased with the outcome which is a credit to the Company. We would not hesitate in working together again should the opportunity arise.

Yours faithfully



M R Price
Senior Contracts Manager