Introduction

So far no comprehensive brochure has been written on St. Bartholomew's Church in Liège, its

world-famous baptismal font and the other six wonders of Belgium. This prompted the idea of

working out a brochure filling this regrettable gap.

The first part of the brochure (11 pages, 10 photographs by the author) for the first time shows

the pictures of all five scenes on the font as well as the interiour of St. Bartolomew's Church.

The second part (7 pages, 6 pictures from the internet) shows the other six cultural wonder of

Belgium, their artists names and the location of these works of art along with their web

addresses.

In the third part (5 pages) the tourist visiting one of the seven towns may find data of further

sights, city tours and hotels.

For all main data web addresses are given. Thus, without losing time, the reader can delve into

these wonders by means of his or her own computer or the hotel's computer, without having to

buy extensive printed material. In this way a personal visit of these works of art will be prepared

in the most effective way.

Berlin, November 2, 2009

Dr. Utz Retter, Berlin

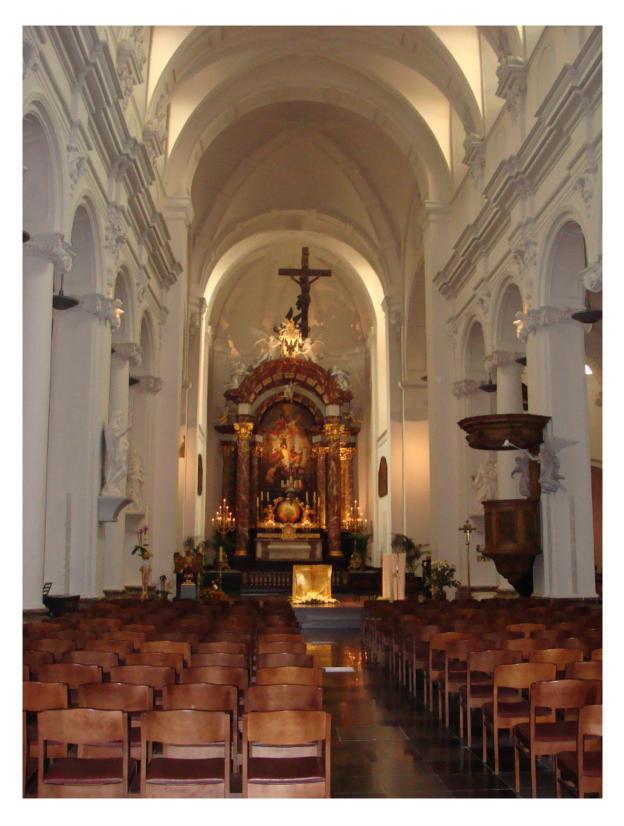
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Part 1: The Baptistmal Font at St. Bartholomew's Church in Liège

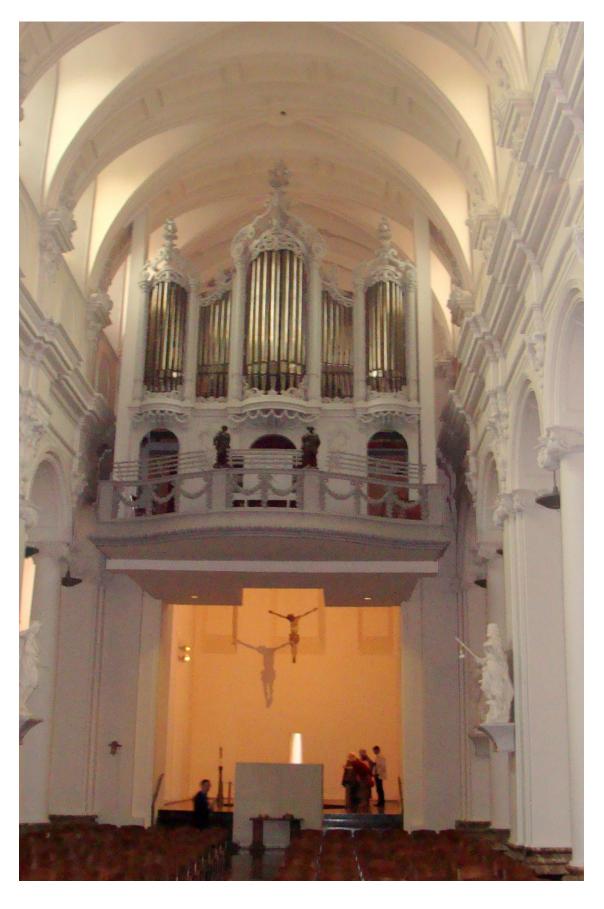


Former Collegiate Church of St. Bartolomew in Liège.

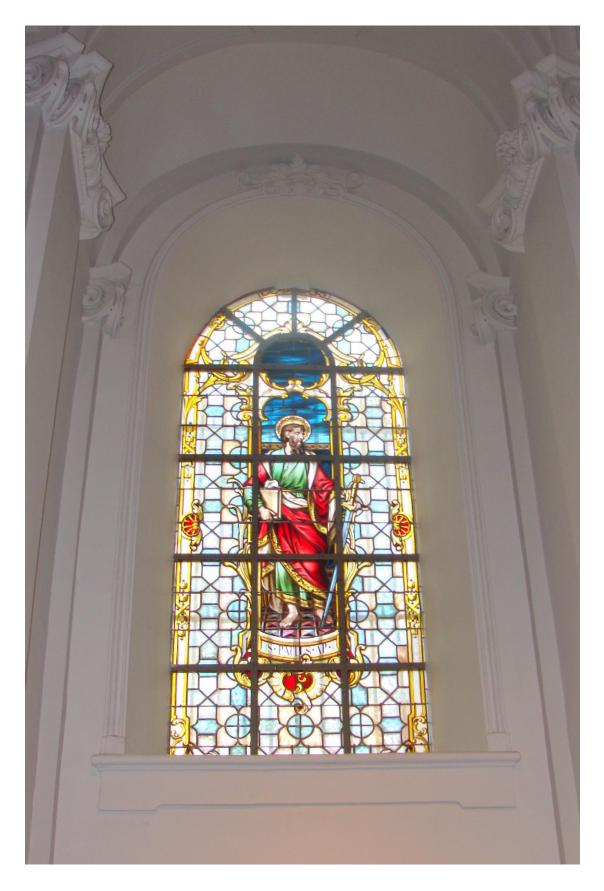
Romanesque church in the style of Rhine-Meuse area. Built from the late 11th to late 12th century. It is the oldest sacral building in Liège.



View towards the altar



The organ



Church window



Baptismal Font at St. Bartholomew's Church in Liège

Created by the goldsmith Reiner von Huy, also called Renier de Huy, from 1107 to 1118. It combines contributions of acien, Byzantine art with that of the Meuse valley. The font consists of brass coated with gold foil. It rests on 12 oxen symbolizing the 12 apostles and the 12 tribes of Israel. The font is one of the seven wonders of Belgium.



John the Baptist's Sermon

The herald wearing the coat of a desert hermit calls of repentance on publicans dressed like rich merchants and a solder in coat mail and pointed helmet.



Baptism of New Converts or Penance Baptism

John the Baptist baptizes two young men standing up to their knees in the Jordan river. "indeed baptize you with water but he that cometh after me shell baptize you with the Holy Ghost". The bearing of two of John's disciples indicates their intention of turning to "him that cometh after John".



Baptism of Christ

This ist he main scene: John the Baptist stoops down to put his right hand on Christ's head. Jesus stands in the water of Jordan, represented in Byzantine style of art, up to his waist. His position symbolizees life rising from the water. With his right hand he makes the sign of the Holy Trinity. Here the tree devine persons are united and represented, for once, in image. Good Father appears, his shining head inclined towards his Son. The Holy Ghost is symbolized by a drove. Left of Christ two angels bow, their hands veiled as a sign of awe, according to oriental rite.



Baptism of Centurion

According to the Apostels, the Roman centurion Cornelius called for Peter to learn the Christian teaching. In accordance with Hebraic law, jews were not allowed to enter a foreigner's house. In Peters's dream God made him understand that everbody in awe of him would be accepted. Accordingly, Peter baptized Cornelius. This scene shows that the temporally authority, here the empire, is hallowed by God.