



*The main altar in St. Bernard's Church (donated by Sarah Marley, Mary E. Marley, Maureen O'Leary, and the Patrick Marley Estate in memory of John Marley, Patrick Marley, Leo Marley and John J. O'Leary).*

3. *St. Thomas.* This apostle's shield shows a carpenter's square and a vertical spear. This gloomy and once doubtful apostle, is believed to have preached the Gospel in India. There he was stoned, shot down with arrows and left dying alone, until a pagan priest ran him through with a spear. He is said to have erected with his own hands, a church building at Malipur in East India; hence the carpenter's square. He is the patron saint of builders.

4. *St. Peter.* His most usual shield shows two large keys saltire; that is, crossed like the letter X. They recall Peter's confession and our Lord's statement regarding the Office of the Keys, which He committed to the Church on earth. (ST. MATTHEW 16:13-19.) St. Peter is said to have been crucified in Rome, requesting that he be crucified head downward, for he did not con-

sider himself worthy to die in the same position as that of his Lord.

5. *St. Bartholomew.* This apostle, thought to have been the same as Nathanael, is said to have been flayed alive and then crucified. An open Bible and a flaying knife recalls his faith in God's Word, and his martyrdom.

6. *St. James the Less.* This apostle's shield shows a vertical saw with the handle upward. St. James labored diligently in and about Jerusalem. Hegesippus, a very ancient historian, declares that he was taken to the top of the temple and pushed into mid-air. He was seriously injured, but staggered to his knees imploring the Lord to forgive his enemies. The enraged Jews stoned him, and as he lay dying, a fuller dashed out his brains with a fuller's bat. He is said to have been 96 years of age when he suffered this horrible martyrdom. His dead body was sawn asunder; hence this symbol.