



St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church

Dundas, ON, Canada



Project Information

Project category:
Public Buildings/Spaces

Period of construction:
1863

Years of MAPEI involvement:
2018

MAPEI coordinator:
Gino D'Alesio

MAPEI distributor:
Prosol Hamilton

Project owner:
St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church

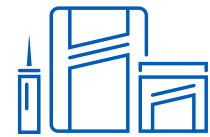
Architect:
Tarbutt Construction Ltd.

Photographer:
Gino D'Alesio



Project Overview

St. Augustine's Church is a magnificent Gothic-style church constructed in 1863. It was built to satisfy the needs of a small but ever-expanding congregation in Dundas, Ontario, after a spectacular fire destroyed the church of 1827. To protect the structural integrity of the construction, MAPEI products were used to waterproof the front foyer and provide crack isolation.



Products Used

Mapeguard® UM
Mapelastic® AquaDefense
Ultracolor® Plus FA
Ultraflex™ LFT™ White



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Staying Power

If St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church in Dundas, Ontario, has a story to tell, it's one of staying power.

Re-built after an 1863 fire, the church has had its parishioners trod over its floors through two World Wars and the Great Depression. It has hosted more than 150 years of funerals, wedding processions, midnight masses and weekly Sunday services. And through all of that, the church's wooden joists and floor support were still holding up well. But the floor covering was becoming a concern, so MAPEI was invited to step in.

The original church floor was made of stark wooden planks and later covered with vinyl composite tile, and then again with a linoleum overlay. The flooring needed to be replaced due to indentations and damage, especially in the center aisle and in between the pews due to heavy foot traffic. Plus the floors needed an updated look.

The restoration work required removing the two layers of the previous flooring, going down to original subfloor. Then the 11,500 sq. ft. (1 068 m²) of surface needed preparation to properly receive tile according to modern industry standards.

MAPEI products on the jobsite

Mapeguard UM underlayment membrane was applied atop the new plywood laid down throughout the church. That's because, unlike a rigid cement board, **Mapeguard UM** uncouples tile from the substrate below, minimizing cracking and de-bonding. The unique engineered tri-layered design of **Mapeguard UM** absorbs lateral stress from the substrate without transferring this force to the tile or stone, which maintains exceptional bonds.

While **Mapeguard UM** does provide waterproofing, the heavy traffic endured by the church's front foyer inevitably results in significant pooling from worshippers' boots tracking in snow and slush in

wintertime. With this in mind, **Mapelastic AquaDefense** premium waterproofing and crack-isolation membrane was applied over the **Mapeguard UM** underlayment seams, to provide extra protection to the original structure from water seepage.

Next, the large-format tile was installed with **Ultraflex LFT White** premium, large-and-heavy-tile mortar with polymer, specially formulated to deliver the best results for large-format tile for floors. **Ultracolor Plus FA** rapid-setting grout was selected for its stain resistance properties, to ease the maintenance of the large area.

The innovation behind MAPEI's Waterproofing Systems – and Tile and Stone Installation Systems – helped restore this beautiful Gothic-style building, so that St. Augustine's Church might extend its legacy for decades to come.



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