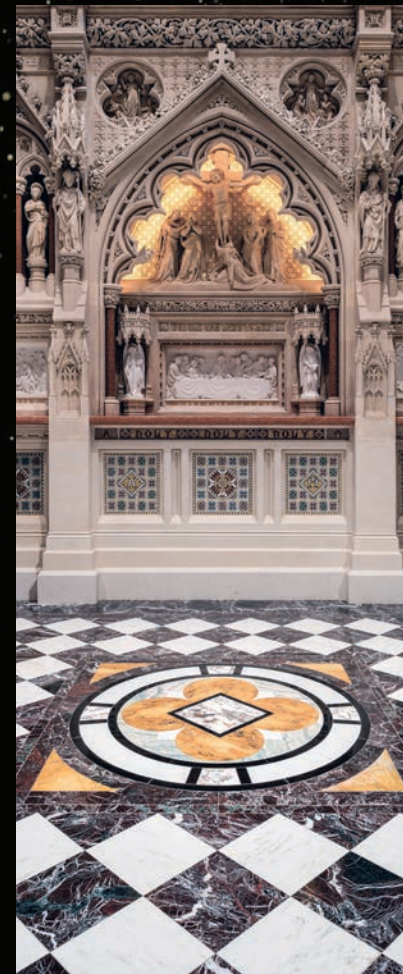




# Grande Pinnacle Award

## Trinity Church Wall Street Altar & Chancel Restoration New York, New York



◀ BEFORE

AFTER ▶



### Winning Company

**Rugo Stone**   
Lorton, Virginia  
Stone Supplier/Fabricator/  
Installer

### Other Project Team Members

**Murphy Burnham &  
Buttrick Architects**  
Architect

### Stone

Olympian White Danby marble  
Rosso Levanto marble  
Bianco P Statuario marble  
Caen limestone  
Indiana limestone

Located at the crossing of Wall Street and Broadway, Trinity Church is an historical structure that for 174 years has served New Yorkers as a place of worship. During 9/11 the church served as a shelter from the debris caused by the collapse of the first World Trade Center tower.

Trinity Church needed a variety of upgrades including complete conservation and restoration of the Gothic Revival chancel, and the historic Astor memorial altar.

Rugo Stone was selected to dismantle and conserve the Astor memorial altar based on extensive experience in stone and mosaic conservation and restoration.

Their task was to carefully dismantle the marble and the mosaic which formed the altar. The mosaic panels, believed to have been created in the 1870s by acclaimed Italian mosaic artist Antonio Salviati, are considered priceless, as is the Vermont statuary marble altar.

Rugo Stone carefully cataloged the altar by 3D scanning it in place, and then dismantled and transported it to their carving studio. Over the next 6 months, artisans carefully cleaned and restored the damaged pieces, as well as produced new columns, hand-carved capitals, performed dutchman patches, and new gilding, all to create a new configuration for an ADA accessible altar mounted to a new steel frame.

The team also sourced new Caen French limestone to recreate rear wall missing pilasters and base, which was particularly challenging as the original Caen limestone was quarried in the 1860s.

The chancel floor was completely re-done using Olympian White Danby and Rosso Levanto marble pavers with 1/32" joints, patterned to create a bold checkerboard appearance. Rugo Stone's team worked tirelessly to complete all the work for the dedication services scheduled on Christmas 2019. The project turned out beautifully and the effort has been very well received.

### Judges Comments:

We appreciated all the detail and the difficulty in the historic restoration of this church altar – literally dismantling, restoring and then putting it all back together. Really impressed with the detail and craftsmanship. This is a restoration project that you write home about. The amount, type, source and representation of the stone is all worthy of an award.