A Franciscan church dating from the 14th century

In 1350 the Franciscan church of St. John was built in Bremen. The church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist and is located on the main road of the city. The church was built on the site of an earlier church that was destroyed in a fire in 1349.

The church is an example of Gothic architecture and is known for its beautiful stained glass windows and its high altar. The church has a long history and has been used for many different purposes over the years. It was used as a hospital in the Middle Ages and was later used as a storehouse during the Thirty Years' War.

In 1805 the church was acquired by the Catholic church and has been in use as a cathedral ever since. It is now one of the few remaining examples of Gothic architecture in Bremen and is considered to be a national treasure.

The church is known for its beautiful stained glass windows, which depict scenes from the life of St. John the Baptist. The windows were created by the famous glass artist, Heinrich Schütte, and were completed in 1895.

The church is located on the corner of the main road and is easily accessible for people with disabilities. It is a popular tourist attraction and is well worth a visit.
The Catholic Provost Parish of St. John, Bremen

together with the Church of St. John and the Church of St. Elisabeth

St. John the Baptist
This patron saint of the parochial parish

St. Ansgar
Archbishop of the united dioceses Bremen and Hamburg

St. Petri
patron of the cathedral and the town Bremen

The Baptismal Font
The baptismal font is from 1945. It was made in new-Gothic style by the sculptor Georg Andreas Siewertshoff. The font tells a story Through baptism the child is transformed into a new person. It is almost covered with the figure of the mother of God. Four hands emerge from the base of the font. These hands are open. They are outstretched for the newborn. They are an expression of love and care. In the hand of the right hand the scepter is held. It is a sign for the flame of faith with which the baptized are equipped to go forth and return. Christ Jesus.

The Cross
Above the altar is the cross. It is the most important symbol of the Christian belief. It stands for the self-sacrifice of Christ and his victory over death through the resurrection. The crucifix of St. John is made of late-Gothic carvings of a thorned cross – Jesus as a conqueror of death – and a simple modern wooden cross of cord-wood.

The Altar
In the catholic church the altar is a central place for the Lord's Supper. It is the table where the congregation gathers around – as a sign of the Lord's oneness with Christ.

The Tabernacle and the Permanent Light
The world tabernacle means first and foremost the tabernacle as a symbol for the presence of God in the world. In the church services the bread and wine are transformed in the altar. The believer believes that the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Where Christ exists eternally. The transformed bread is kept in the tabernacle. The tabernacle is a two-tiered altar. St. John's is turned into a church house. Whereupon the door also serves as the presentative of the tabernacle. The bread is consecrated and then broken. The breaking of the bread is the last service. To allow the presence of God to shine eternally permanently is the tabernacle. It is a sign for the flame of faith with which God has equipped us all eternally.

The Stations of the Cross
The custom to follow the way of the cross began in the Middle Ages. The stations of the cross are not visited. Not all of the pilgrims could travel to the Holy Land. The stations of the cross were therefore created. The stations of the cross were created by Andreas Steinhäuser. The font tells a story: In a new-Gothic style by the sculptor Georg Andreas Siewertshoff. The font was made in 1845. It was made from the foundation pillars of the monastery from the 13th century.

The Undercroft (Crypt)
In 1860 a part of the cellar below the sanctuary was turned into a crypt. This place is used for funeral services for priests, students and families as well as prayer and meditation sessions. In the upper crypt St. Francis Hall, the foundation pillars of the monastery from the 13th century can still be seen.

The Amba
This altar is a roundish desk near the altar. It is the place for praying and interpreting God's will. The relief indicates this. The Amba

Our Lady of Pity
The mother of God is shown with Jesus and the townspeople. The figure is about 1600 in the region of Regensburg.

St. Francis Hall
Room of encounter and prayer hall with a statue of St. Francis

Visitors/Prayer Candles
The Church of St. John is a church of prayer. Many people come here daily to look for something. The lighted candle stands for our requests, our thanks and for all that is possible. St. Francis' pictures: Brockmeyer, Daul, Oelgemöller, design: www.machart-bremen.de