LIFE OF ST. PETER TOLD IN GLASS—Illustrative of the Old World Art of portraying biblical scenes in stained glass are the windows of St. Peter's church in Carencro, commissioned in France by the Rev. A. M. Wassler. The stained glass windows portray a series of events in the life of the patron saint of the community, St. Pierre-Carencro. The work is that of the famous Colmar artist, Robert Gall, and the master stained glass craftsman, Leon Kempf.

St. Peter's Church In Carencro Has Beauty That Brings Many Travelers

By MARIO MAMALAKIS

The beauty of an Old World art that glass craftsmen, Leon Kempf, known as the rising sun or the set, brings to this exquisite art medium Joseph Muller whose son, Michaeling, helps decorate the windows of St. Peter's Church. Their pastor, in commissioning and spiritual uplift in their own church building firm of France by the famed artist, Robert Gall, and the master stained glass windows was placed with the design of the stained glass windows were that they depict the life of the Patron Saint of the Community, St. Pierre-Carencro.

The stained glass windows with their biblical scenes, each crowned with emblematic symbolical motives taken from the life of St. Peter, are powerful in their execution, lyrical in their beauty and vivid and vibrant in their color harmonies. Because of the long narrow window space, the artist had to limit the number of persons he could use in each scene; but he knew how to convey his meaning in the significant expression of the few he used. The resulting effect was good, and he achieved a sense of grandeur in the simplicity and beauty of his design.

The color arrangement, running the entire scale of basic colors from the bright reds, deep blues and vivid greens to the more subdued purples and browns, coupled with the brilliance of the glass, adds much to the beauty of the windows.

As the stained glass windows are many-colored so is the meaning of their spiritual symbolism many dimensioned. The scenes in the life of St. Peter included in the stained glass windows of the Carencro church are:

1. The vocation of St. Peter
2. The washing of the feet
3. The denial of St. Peter
4. The Resurrection
5. St. Peter and St. John cure a blind man at the temple gates
6. St. Peter delivered from prison

Four other stained glass windows in the church depict the Crucifixion, the Assumption, the Sacred Heart, and St. Anne. The form and in color the stained glass windows of the Carencro church are much like the stained glass windows of centuries ago but with the added benefit of newer French methods, which bring out contrasts more vividly. Another technique of the Colmar glassmaker was the use of bubbled glass panes, which contributes greatly to the brilliance and diffusion of light coming through them.

Those who would see with their own eyes something of the artistic beauty and craftsmanship of the stained glass windows of the church, need only to journey to Carencro, where the story of the patron saint of the community is told in glass with a beauty and a simplicity that all may understand and take to heart.