

*News from Bob Koeck, President*

# **The Keck Group, Inc.**

## ***Cathedral Basilica of Old St. Patrick's, New York, NY: 1400 feet of pews***

*The original thought by all concerned was to replace the existing 1850's pews with new.*

*I took a close look at the pews and realized that they could be modified to be comfortable, the divider wall could be removed and replaced with new joiners, and the multiple layers of paint graining could be removed and replaced with natural finishes.*



*After having discussions with the historically adept Mick Doyle (Atcheson Doyle Partners), we proceeded to create a sample pew for review. This was completely on us, with no compensation or guarantee of results.*

*When the team saw the beautifully restored pew, it was a no brainer. The Keck Group was chosen over three other competitors to undertake the complicated project.*

*When September 2015 came, one year after we removed the pews, it was time for installation. Unfortunately, the dedication date was only two weeks away, and many of the other trades weren't ready for us. The floor under the pews was just being finished, the heavy marble altar was yet to appear and had to come down the main aisle, and the painter's booms were right in the middle of everything.*



*Working around all of these complications, we installed the pews in one week, to the delight of Msgr. Donald Sakano. The nail biting was over and the dedication went on without incident. No one could believe these were the same pews.*