

# Sacred Heart Church



Throughout the ages artists have created beautiful art forms of images of God, as well as saints and key moments in religious history. Not only did these artists capture that person or event, but they offer to us who follow, a focal point for prayer and meditation. Our Sacred Heart Church is a wonderful example of this.

*O Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on me, a sinner.*

# The Annunciation



Reflect on these art treasures in quiet prayer and meditation. During the time of reflection, remember the saints and stories of our faith, the artists, as well as the parishioners responsible for this gift.

***Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee; blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.***

# Saint Joseph



St. Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus is shown holding lilies as a symbol of purity.

*Pure spouse of Mary, I come before you imploring your divine Son for all the graces necessary for my spiritual and temporal welfare and the grace of a happy death. Help me to labor with thankfulness and joy. I deem it an honor to work and to develop by my labors the gifts that I have received from Almighty God. Amen.*



# Saint Patrick



At the age of sixteen , Patrick was carried off from Britain by pirates to be a slave in heathen Ireland. After six years he escaped and years later returned as a priest. In less than thirty years he converted the whole of Ireland to Christianity.

*Christ be beside me, Christ be before me, Christ be behind me, king of my heart.*

*Christ be within me, Christ be below me, Christ be above me, never to part.*

# Saint Catherine of Alexandria

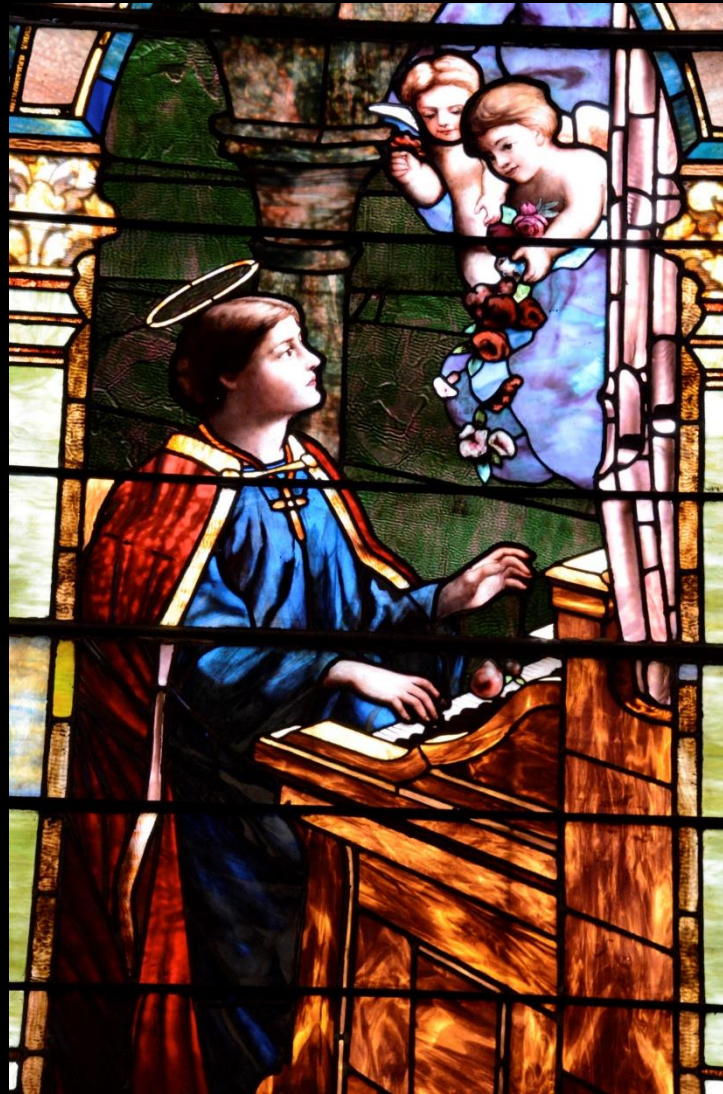


Catherine had been converted by a vision. When she argued against false gods, refuting the Emperor's philosophers, she was sent to death on a spiked wheel. When that failed to kill her, she was beheaded.

***Saint Catherine, patroness of all maidens, women, students, philosophers and teachers, fill me with wisdom and courage as I face today's challenges. Amen.***



# Saint Cecelia



According to legend, Cecelia, virgin and martyr, was betrothed against her will to a man whose conversion she influenced. They were then martyred for their faith. She is often portrayed with a viola or small organ and is named the patroness of music because she “sang to God in her heart.”

***St. Cecelia, patroness of music, help me to praise God with my life. Let my words and actions be like a song to God that says, “I love you.”***

# Coronation of Our Lady



Out of all the women in history God chose Mary to be the mother of His only Son, Jesus. “A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.” (Rev. 12:1)

***Hail Mary, Queen of all Saints and Mother of Jesus, let me come to you to share all my joys and sorrows.***

# Saint Helena



Helena became the Empress of Rome through marriage. Helena, at about age 80, journeyed to Jerusalem, confident that she would discover the Savior's Tomb and His Cross.

***St. Helena, help me to find strength in the cross of Jesus. Amen.***



# Saint Michael the Archangel



The Scriptures portray Michael as defending and interceding for the human race, protecting us from all evil.

***Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.***

# Saint John the Evangelist

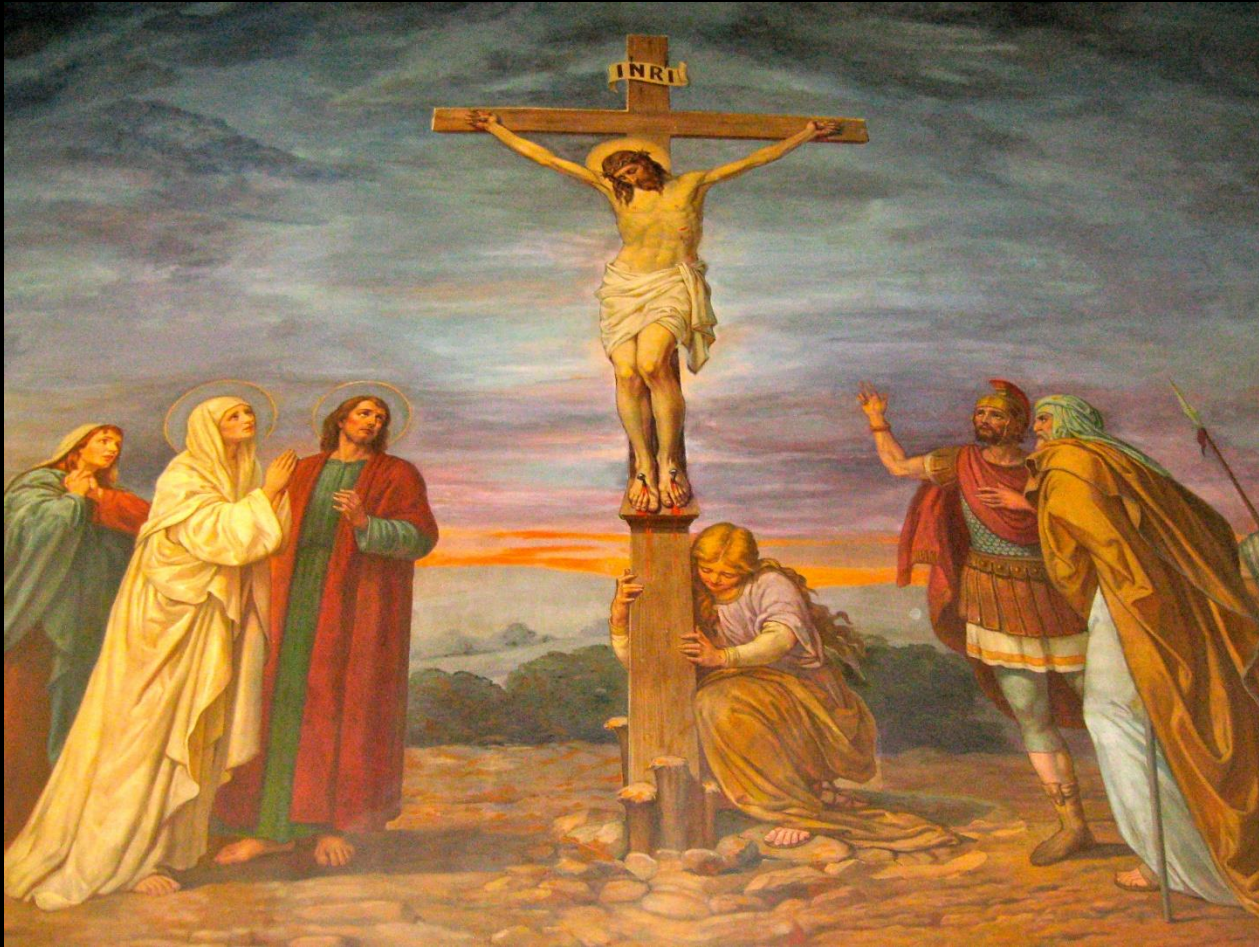


The Evangelist, “the disciple whom Jesus loved,” was the youngest of all the apostles. He is the only one who died a natural death. At the crucifixion of Jesus he stood at the cross with Mary.

*God our Father, You have revealed the mysteries of Your Word through John the apostle. By prayer and reflection help me to understand the wisdom he taught. I ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*



# Crucifixion of Our Lord

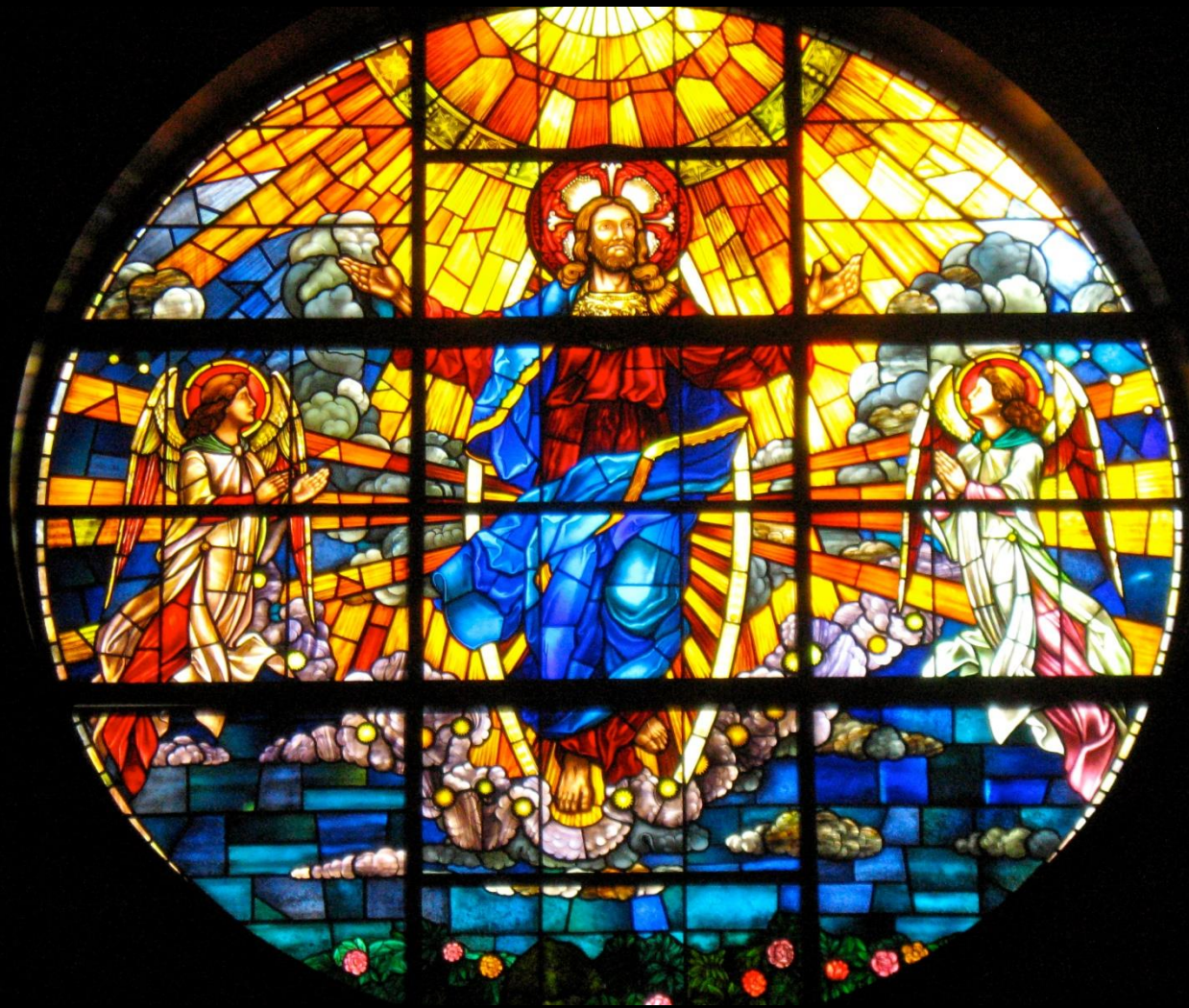


The Crucifixion scene behind the altar was painted by the artist, Hans Hansen.

*Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus, while before your face I humbly kneel; and with burning soul pray and beseech you to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope and charity; true contrition for my sins and a firm purpose of amendment; while I contemplate with great love and tender pity your five wounds, pondering upon them within me; while I call to mind the words which David your prophet said to you my Jesus, "They have pierced my hands and my feet, they have numbered all my bones." Amen*



# The Resurrection of Jesus



After being put to death, Jesus rose from the dead. This is the central tenet of Christian theology and part of the Nicene Creed: "On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures." Death opens the way to eternal life. Jesus gives witness to God's faithfulness even in death. ***We need not be afraid of death since it is not the end, but the beginning of eternal life. Jesus' Resurrection gives meaning to suffering and death as a way to salvation. Our faith in the Resurrection assures us that everything of beauty and love and creativity lasts forever.***