



A LIVING HISTORY IN GLASS

The Church
of the
Visitation

OUR STORY

The People of the Parish of Our Lady of the Visitacion wish to tell you the story of their history in sixty-nine stained glass windows and panels. You will see the themes of the Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ and His Mother, the Virgin Mary. The background portion of some windows will tell the history of Visitacion Valley from the Day of Creation of San Francisco Bay to the Modernistic Future of Tomorrow. Nave windows feature the Symbols of the Twelve Apostles, Mary, John the Baptist, Teresa of Lisieux and the co-patrons of the Archdiocese, St. Francis of Assisi and St. Patrick. Panels on the doors represent the Eucharist, the Initiating Sacrament of Baptism and finally, the rear doors of the Church represent the Church as the people of God.

A SHORT HISTORY

"Hacienda de la Visitacion" was the name of the land grant recorded for the entire stretch of land north-east of San Bruno Mountain. To this day, that same land, including Brisbane, part of Daly City, the entire south-east corner of the City and County of San Francisco, is still named the Parish of the Visitacion, with the featuring of the Spanish spelling of Visitacion.

There is a story that the land grant got its name when a maverick group of De Anza's soldiers encamped during a foggy night in the cradle of San Bruno Mountain and

thought they were atop Twin Peaks overlooking San Francisco and the Mission Dolores. They awakened to a clear morning and laughed at their mistake. The accompanying Padre SAID THE MASS OF FEBRUARY 3, Our Lady of the Visitacion, and the place was named after Mary's Visitation to Elizabeth. This method of naming a place after the Liturgical Feast Day upon which it was sighted was quite familiar with the Franciscan Padres and their Spanish and Mexican Caballeros.

ABOUT THE WINDOWS

All windows in this portfolio were constructed using a method known as faceted glass, a modern technique that differs radically in design and style from conventional leaded glass. The details of faceted glass construction can be found on the Nave Arcade pages. The windows were designed by Marilyn Hanson and executed by Hogan Stained Glass Studios of Santa Cruz, California. At Hogan Studios a tradition in creative glass work dating back to the fifteenth century is being carried on. The artistic vision of the company's founder John Hogan, a glass

master for nearly half a century, is being continued today under the expert guidance of his son, Roger Hogan, and a staff of gifted artists and craftsmen. Hogan Studios enjoys an international reputation of excellence and their windows may be seen at locations throughout the world.

Mr. and Mrs. Jan Janigian

CLERESTORY WINDOWS

THE ANNUNCIATION

St. Luke's Infancy Narrative (front cover) tells us that the Angel came to Mary to announce to her that she was to become the Mother of Jesus, the Saviour. The young Virgin, espoused to Joseph, is confused to hear that God will overshadow her and she will conceive Jesus in her womb. In blind Faith she accepts the role of the Mother of God.

The upper portion of the Panel paints the picture of the quiet, powerful creation—in embryo—of the Future Gem of the Pacific Ocean, San Francisco Bay. God's Peaceful Power is symbolized by the flying doves.

THE VISITATION OF MARY TO ELIZABETH

The Visitacion Panel (front cover) honors the Patroness of the Parish, Our Lady of the Visitation. Mary, pregnant with Jesus by the Holy Spirit, hears that her elderly cousin, Elizabeth,

is with child. Elizabeth's son will be John the Baptizer. Mary shows the love and warmth of a woman by walking many miles to visit and comfort her cousin, Elizabeth.

The upper portion of the panel celebrates the human warmth and ancient culture brought to San Francisco by the Spanish Caballeros and their famous Missionaries, the Franciscan Friars from Mexico. Under a Cypress Tree is seen the famous Mass Stone upon which a Franciscan Padre celebrated the First Mass in Visitacion Valley in 1777.

DONORS:

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION BRANCH #59
SETTIMO & PAULINE CARRARA

THE LA POINTE FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF GIOVANNI S. LEONETTI



118" X 22"

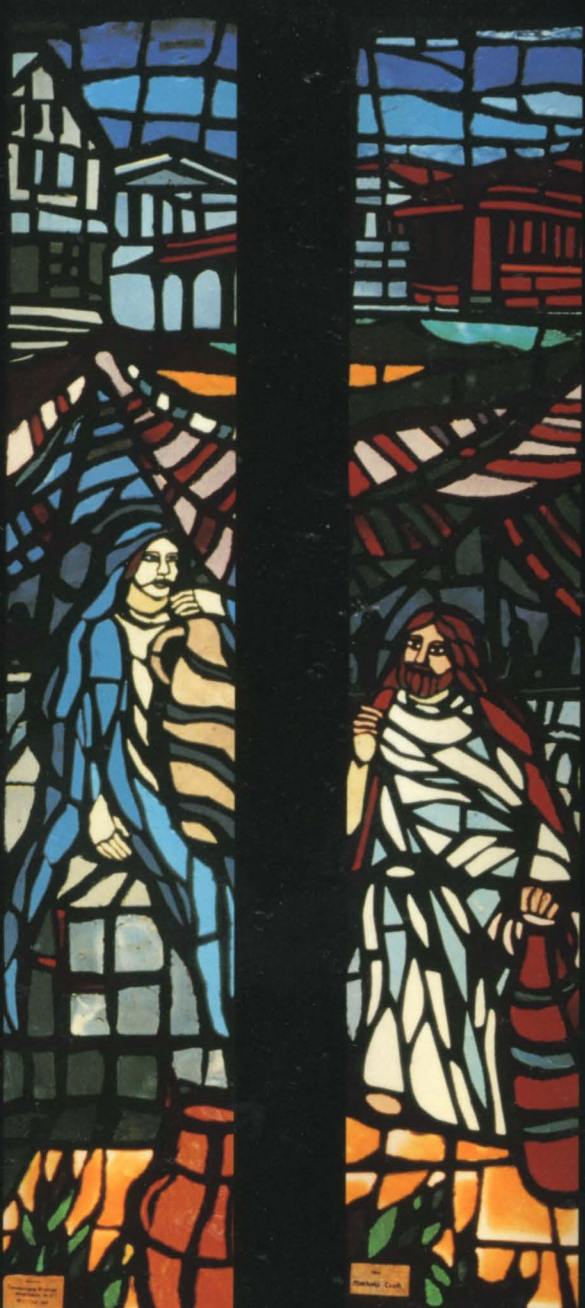
THE BIRTH OF CHRIST IN THE STABLE

This striking mural speaks for itself in depicting the simple, clear elegance of the Birth of Jesus Christ in the Stable.

The upper portion of the mural shows the Star of Bethlehem shining over Christ's Birthplace and illuminating the early agriculture of Visitacion Valley as well. The use of epoxy to create silhouettes enabled the artist to depict the Wise Men coming to Bethlehem on camels and to feature the "Sailboat Bonnets" of the Daughters of Charity who taught Religion to the earliest of settlers in Visitacion Valley, a task they continue today in the Parish School.

DONORS:

JOSEPH & ANITA DE FELICE
THE ASSALINO FAMILY



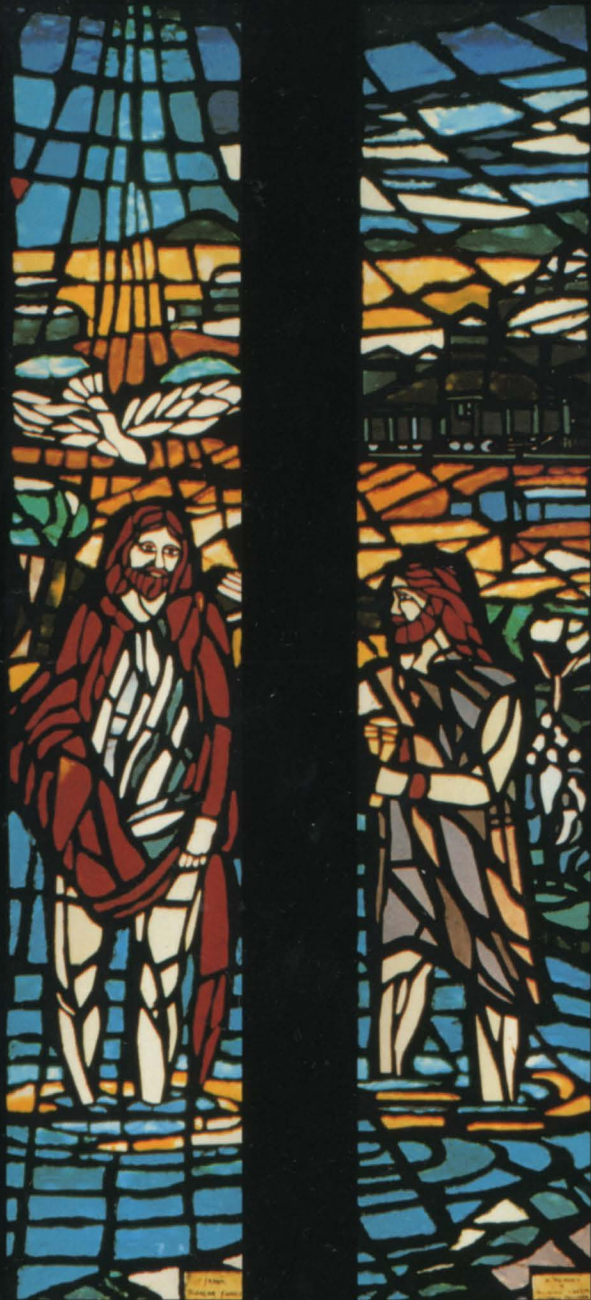
THE MARRIAGE AT CANA

Jesus and His Mother, Mary, were invited to a Marriage in Cana of Galilee. Several of the Disciples were there. At this threshold of His Public Ministry the Youthful Man, Jesus, was coaxed by His Mother to perform prematurely His First Miracle of changing water into wine in order to prevent the embarrassment of the young couple being married.

The upper portion of the mural celebrates some of the early "miracles" of construction which have become "Trade Marks" of San Francisco, such as the facade of Mission Dolores, the Cable Cars and the first clapboard houses built in Visitacion Valley.

DONORS:

THE MOTHERS CLUB
COHISPA—
COMMUNIDAD HISPANA DE LA VISITACION

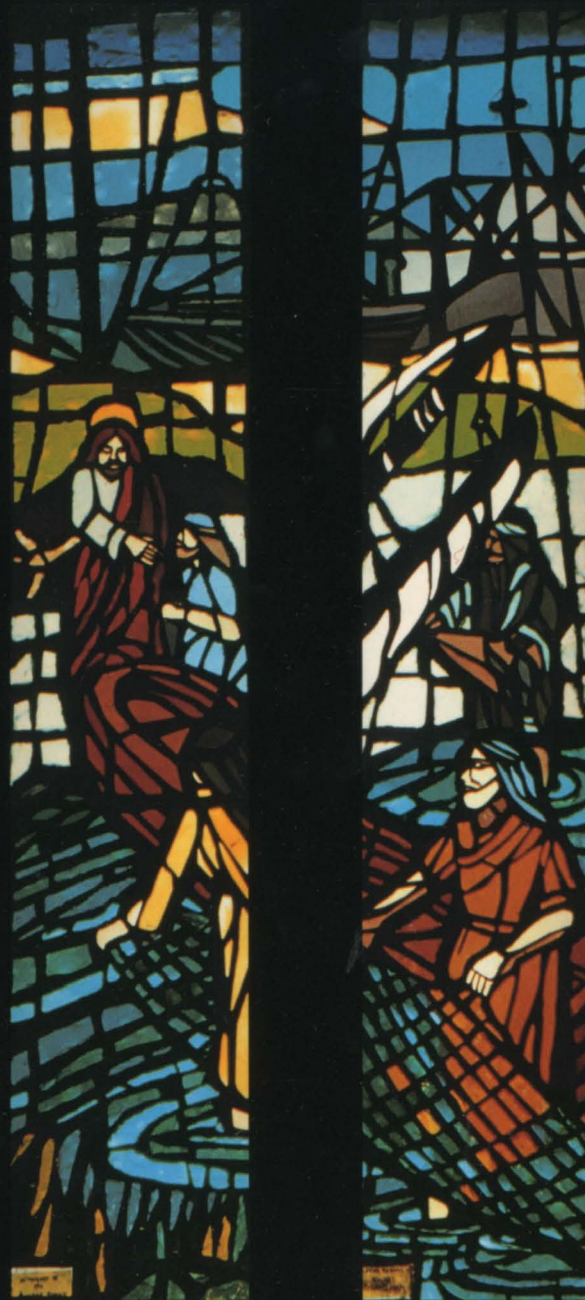


THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST BY JOHN THE BAPTIST

Jesus, the Saviour, humbled Himself to be baptized by St. John the Baptist in the Jordan. The Voice of God, the Father, symbolized by the large Dove, spoke out: "This is My Beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased. Hear Him." Traditionally this event marks the official beginning of the Public Ministry of Jesus.

The upper portion summarizes the founding of the Railroad Yards along the eastern shoreline of Visitacion Valley represented by the old fashioned steam engine. The Railroads provided the jobs which allowed the Valley to prosper in the World War I era and also linked the San Francisco Water Front with the Overland U.S.A.

DONORS:
IN MEMORY OF DOMINIC CRESSA &
ANTONIA PALLOTTA
FRANK BUHAGIAR AND FAMILY



SIMPLE FISHERMEN ARE CALLED TO BECOME DISCIPLES

Peter and Andrew were brothers and fishermen; so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They left their homes and boats and nets and followed Jesus to become "Fishers of Men."

This mural is so realistic that you can almost feel the coolness of the water dripping from the fishing nets alongside the boat. The upper portion of the mural celebrates the rugged, nautical flavor of San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf and the bustling Shipyards of Hunters Point, the center of Industry during World War II.

DONORS:
IN MEMORY OF THE DUNBAR FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF AUGUST TIESSELINCK



JESUS HEALS THE SICK—BRIDGE-BUILDER FROM GOD TO MAN

This striking mural shows Jesus curing the sick and dying as He brought to the suffering the Bounty of God the Father. The Ministry of Jesus was to bring God's blessings to men.

The upper portion of the panel highlights the Golden Gate Bridge which joins San Francisco to the gorgeous Pacific Northwest and has become the most famous of all of its architectural marvels.

DONOR:
FILIPINO ADULT AND YOUTH
CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION—FAYCO.



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

This brilliant mural is complex in its symbolism, yet unified and simple in its organic symmetry. We see Jesus preaching from the mount; the symbols of wheat and bread remind us that He fed the mob.

Artistic license places a World War I Daughter of Charity among the crowd listening to Jesus. The Parish is again reminded that the Daughters of Charity have taught Religion here continually from 1906 until the present day.

The top portion of the mural depicts the lace network of Freeways which grace our beautiful City from Visitacion Valley to the Coit Tower on the skyline of Telegraph Hill.

DONORS:
THE GIOARDO FAMILY
REVEREND THOMAS E. LACEY, PASTOR



ASCENT TO CALVARY AND THE CRUCIFIXION

We see the stalwart figure of Simon of Cyrene helping Jesus to carry His Cross. Simon symbolizes the faithful People of the Church, who commit themselves to help the High Priest, Jesus, as He prepares Himself for the offering of Himself in Death on the Cross.

At the top of the mural one sees the promise of Resurrection above the sorrow of the Passion and Death of Jesus as a Silver Jet Plane curves gracefully skyward after take-off from San Francisco's Main Runway on its way to a landing in any of the great airports of our modern world. The Bay Bridge, San Mateo Bridge and Dumbarton Bridge are abstractly symbolized in the middle foreground of the mural.

DONORS:
THE RESCALVO FAMILY
THE VASQUEZ FAMILY



THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN

"He is alive. He is risen. He lives." This is the message of Christianity.

The right side of the mural pictures the Angel standing over the Empty Tomb telling the Apostles that Christ is risen. Above him stands the ancient symbol of Resurrection, the Butterfly, whose delicate, fluttering body biologically converts from a crawling caterpillar.

The left side of the mural pictures the Risen Jesus Ascending into heaven at the top of the mural. In His Ascension He seems to grant His Blessing to the midnight splendour of San Francisco's modern day skyline. The Trans-America Pyramid is seen behind a replica of the new St. Mary's Cathedral, which has been given the nickname of "La Paloma de la Paz—The Dove of Peace."

DONORS:
MARY L. ELSBREE
THE EDNA CASTRO FAMILY

NAVE DOORS

The east panel (below) weaves an elegant composition using various symbols of baptism. The center, eye-level panels depict the sea shell used to pour baptismal water on the head. Also seen is the symbol of water flowing from the Earth. By the pouring of water, or immersion in water, the human being is initiated into the Life of the Church's Grace. This life is portrayed graphically in the Power of the Spirit (The Dove), the symbol of the Father and Son (The Cross Over the World), and in the Greek symbols for the beginning and the end, the Alpha-Omega.

The more loosely symbolic west panel (right) deals with the Eucharist. The Dove and the Cross Over the World are laced in with the more literal depictions of wheat and grapes and the golden chalice.

DONORS:

1. Mrs. Regina Tobleman
2. Mrs. Regina Tobleman
3. In Memory of Juan Damasco
4. Remedios and Anecia Damasco
5. Joseph Asaro Family
6. Mrs. Jeremiah Buckley



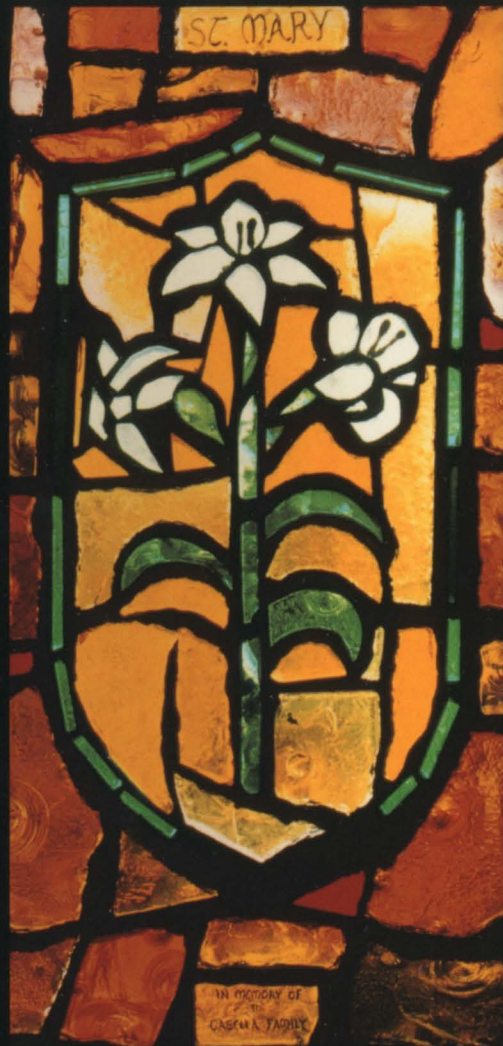
12" X 12"

7. Angelo and Louise Ghiorso
8. Kopke and Mancebo Families
9. The Fabbri Family
10. Jack Voelker Family
11. Mrs. Blanka
12. The Arsenault Family



NAVE ARCADE
 These windows primarily depict various saints through the symbols associated with them in the liturgy. Lining the nave, or walkway, along the outside of the pew rows, these windows transform the interior of the church with a shower of warm yellow light and serve as a perfect counterpoint to the overwhelming power of the Clerestory windows which rise above them.

1. St. Mary, In memory of the Casella Family
2. Resurrection, In memory of Paul Pettingill
3. St. Matthew, Fern and Harry Coturri and Sons
4. St. John the Evangelist, The Plattner Family
5. St. Andrew, Ray Kappenman and Family
6. St. Philip, The Murillo Family
7. St. Simon, In Memory of the Fisher Family
8. St. Matthias, The Gonzalez Family
9. St. Francis of Assisi, Rose Stagnaro
10. St. Patrick, In Memory of William and Harold Pritchard
11. St. Thomas, The Mary Lawrence Family
12. St. Jude, R. Stagnaro, Mr. & Mrs. G. Stagnaro, Mr. & Mrs. Costella
13. St. James the Elder, The Barone Family
14. Holy Spirit, In Memory of Clotilda Petrucci
15. St. Peter, The Cvetovac and Andreoli Family
16. St. James the lesser, In Memory of James Petrucci
17. Infant of Prague, In Memory of Paul Pettingill
18. St. John the Baptist, Rusca and Cuccaro Families
19. St. Bartholomew, In Memory of Jerome Spilsbury
20. St. Teresa, The Freeland Family



25" X 13"

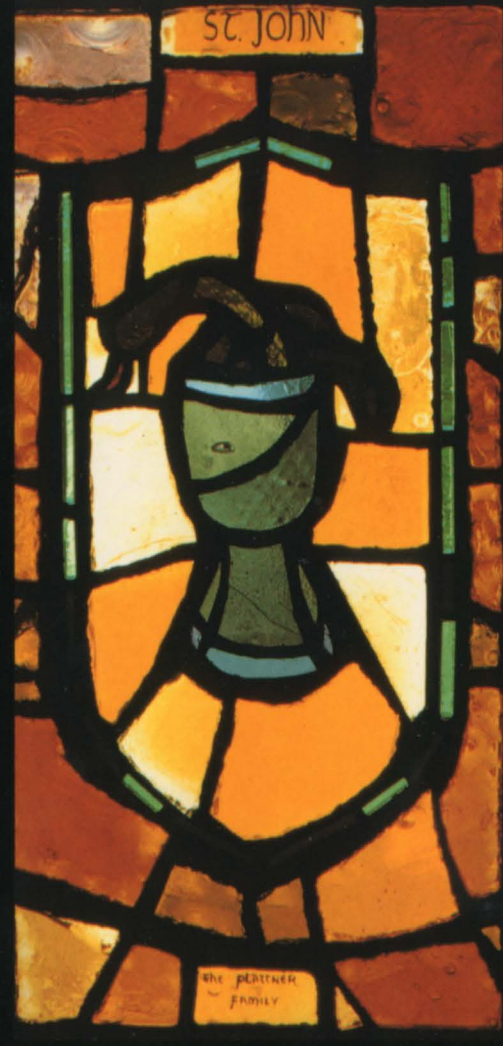
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FACETED GLASS

... is a rather recent art form in which thick slabs of glass are cut and their edges chipped or faceted to give them sparkle and brilliance. These pieces of glass are then set in epoxy to form a single panel which combines the beauty of the glass with the dark areas of epoxy. Even the simplest designs assume dramatic outlines when this technique is used.



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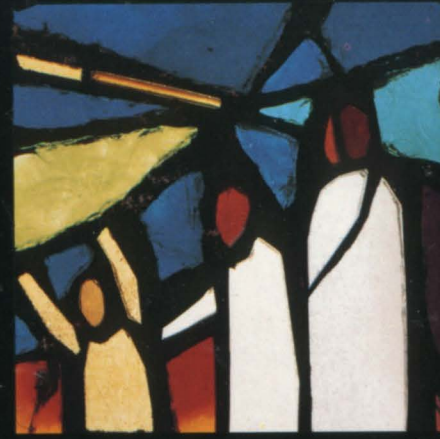
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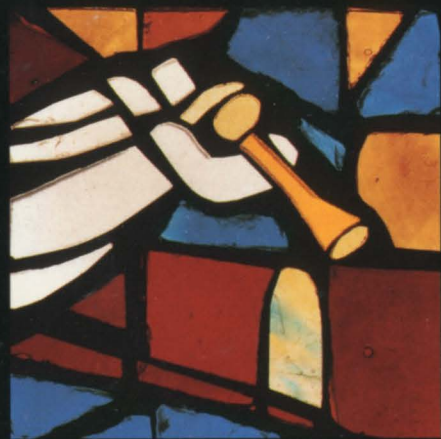
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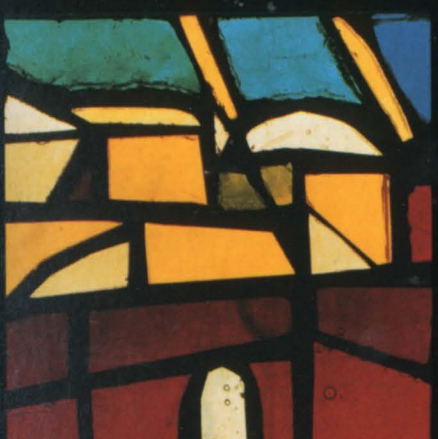
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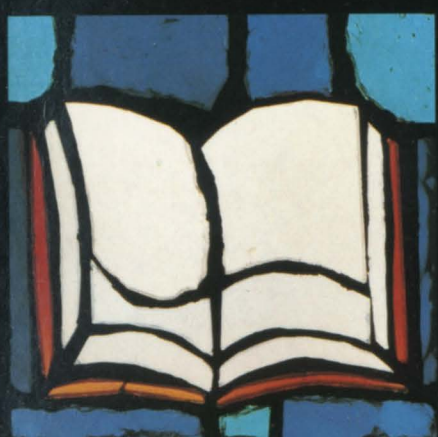
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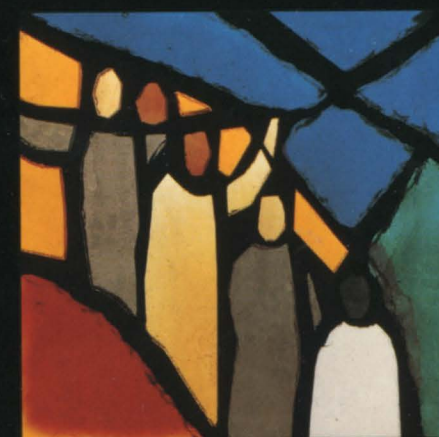
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MAIN DOORS OF THE CHURCH

Eighteen luminous panels of faceted glass combine to form a quiet, symbolic masterpiece centering on the theme of "Church."

The word Church means "People," portrayed in the fringe panels. The triangles, one with the All Seeing Eye of God, show God's power to inspire His People. Angels bring messages to men on their journey toward Eternity and Kingly inspiration is reflected in the Open Bible and the Crown of Majesty. Two of the central panels depict the New Jerusalem, the heaven awaiting all believers at the Second Coming of Christ.

The words "My Lord and My God" erupted from the lips of St. Thomas the Doubter. The resurrected Christ invited doubting Thomas to prove the fact of the Resurrection by touching Jesus' wounds with his own hands. Thomas simply knelt in love and new belief and cried out, "My Lord and My God."

DONORS:

1. Ignacio Vigil Family
2. Mr. and Mrs. Agpoon
3. The Jerry Kosloski Family
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5. Erwin and Shirley Gaines
6. Angelo and Louise Ghiorso
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10. The Alcairo Family
11. Joseph and Kathleen Mancebo
12. The Girnat Family
13. The Tassio Family
14. The Jimenez Family
15. Mrs. Jean Teisselinck
16. Mrs. Jean Teisselinck
17. Teofilio O. Zabala and Family
18. Joe and Josie Bonnici



In Memory of Jerome Barone.



This stunning seven foot Rose Blossom floods the entire church from morning till night with color that varies from oxblood to cardinal red. The Rose Window evolved, as did the entire artistic production, from a melting pot of dreams, ideas, proposals and just plain chatter of the many parishioners. Someone finally said "Why don't we make a real rose out of it; each parishioner can become a petal on the massive, gorgeous Rose." That is exactly what happened. Each of the many petals has been bought by a donor, and each name is to be placed on a special plaque on the north wall of the Church.

Patrons of the Rose

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Berlo
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stagnaro
John and Joseph Costella
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Michelotti and Family
Pauline Carrara
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In Memory of the Angelo Miglierini Family
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In Memory of Charles Colabufo

You are welcome to visit:

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Father Michael J. Burns
Father Antonio Orta-Colomo O.S.B.
Father Joseph J. Farragher S.J.*

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