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Architectural art glass installed at Holy Rosary by Kansas City artist



Father Bob Turner (right) and artist Kathy Barnard admire the new glass panels she designed for Holy Rosary Church in Pomeroy. (IR photo courtesy of the East Washingtonian)

This article and photo originally appeared in the East Washingtonian newspaper and are reprinted here through the courtesy of Mike Tom, publisher. (From the April 19, 2012 edition of the Inland Register) “Architectural Art Glass Installed at Holy Rosary by Kansas City Artist” 2 July 2012. < http://www.dioceseofspokane.org/communications/ir_2012/ir041912/pomeroy-glass.htm>

A two-year project at Holy Rosary Catholic Church culminated recently with the installation of five glass panels representing the Catholic Church's Five Luminous Mysteries on a wall of the reconciliation room.

Kathy Barnard, an artist who has studios in Kansas City, Mo., and Golden, Colo., met Father Bob Turner, pastor at Holy Rosary, 22 years ago, when he saw some of her work at St. Lawrence Catholic Center at Kansas University in Lawrence, Kan. Barnard's architectural art glass so impressed Father Turner that he contacted her in Kansas City regarding five panels for St. Paul Church in Eltopia, Wash., when he was pastor there. That glass artwork was installed in 1992-93 after a three-year process of raising funds and finalizing the design. Over the years, Barnard has had work in this region contracted through referral by Father Turner.

The artist's process entails hand-drawing the artwork, and creating a hand-cut stencil from the drawing to mask the glass. From there, Barnard carves and peels the stencil, using sandblasting to create the images on the glass. The final step is removing the remaining stencil over the clear, untouched glass.

"It's fabulous to work with Father Bob as a 'client'," Barnard said. "He has such a vision, and creative ideas." The priest challenges her and makes the process "so magical," she said.

Father Turner chose passages from the Book of John to illustrate the Five Luminous Mysteries, the artist said. The Mysteries are the Baptism of the Lord, the Wedding at Cana, the Proclamation of the Kingdom, the Transfiguration, and the Institution of the Eucharist.

Drawing from the area's landscape and resources, the depiction of the Mysteries includes agricultural and farming and ranching themes.

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