

# The Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Rockies

Artwork in the Shrine



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Our Lady of the Rockies

# Overview

- The New Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Rockies in Canmore, Alberta was consecrated by Bishop William McGrattan on May 31, 2020
- The Shrine contains many wonderful works of art including:
  - A 25.6 ft. tall by 9.8 ft. wide stained glass window of Our Lady of the Rockies
  - Six marble statues over 100 years old
  - Four marble reliefs
  - Fourteen stations of the cross incorporating wood carvings from the stations of the former church in Canmore
  - A large mural of the life of Mary on the back wall of the nave
- To complement these works of art and inspire our visitors and guests, we incorporated a number of framed posters and printed canvases of iconic Catholic art
- The purchase of the prints, canvases and framing work for this project was covered by one of our parishioners. Certain other works have also been donated by parishioners subsequent to the Shrine's opening
- The framing of these works was undertaken by Kevin Kanashiro of the Framing Shop in Calgary. Kevin is the best framer in Calgary and we are very thankful for his work on this project
- We are also grateful for the assistance of Masters Gallery, Paul Kuhn Gallery, TrépanierBaer Gallery, Wynick/Tuck Gallery and the Art Gallery of Ontario for their assistance in arranging for many of the Canadian works that will be part of the Shrine's collection. The scanning and printing of many of the visual art works was expertly done by Resolve Photographic Services of Calgary



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# VISUAL ART



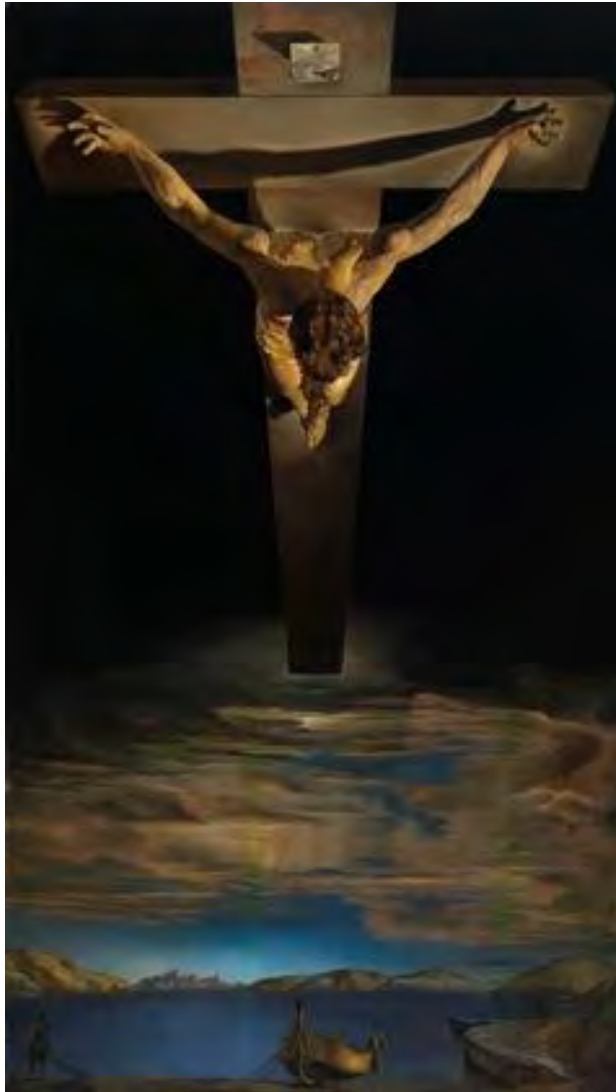
# The Annunciation by Henry Ossawa Tanner



Tanner painted *The Annunciation* soon after returning to Paris from a trip to Egypt and Palestine in 1897. The son of a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Tanner specialized in religious subjects, and wanted to experience the people, culture, architecture, and light of the Holy Land. Influenced by what he saw, Tanner created an unconventional image of the moment when the angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will bear the Son of God. Mary is shown as an adolescent dressed in rumpled Middle Eastern peasant clothing, without a halo or other holy attributes. Gabriel appears only as a shaft of light. Tanner entered this painting in the 1898 Paris Salon exhibition, after which it was bought for the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 1899, making it his first work to enter an American museum.



# Christ of Saint James of the Cross

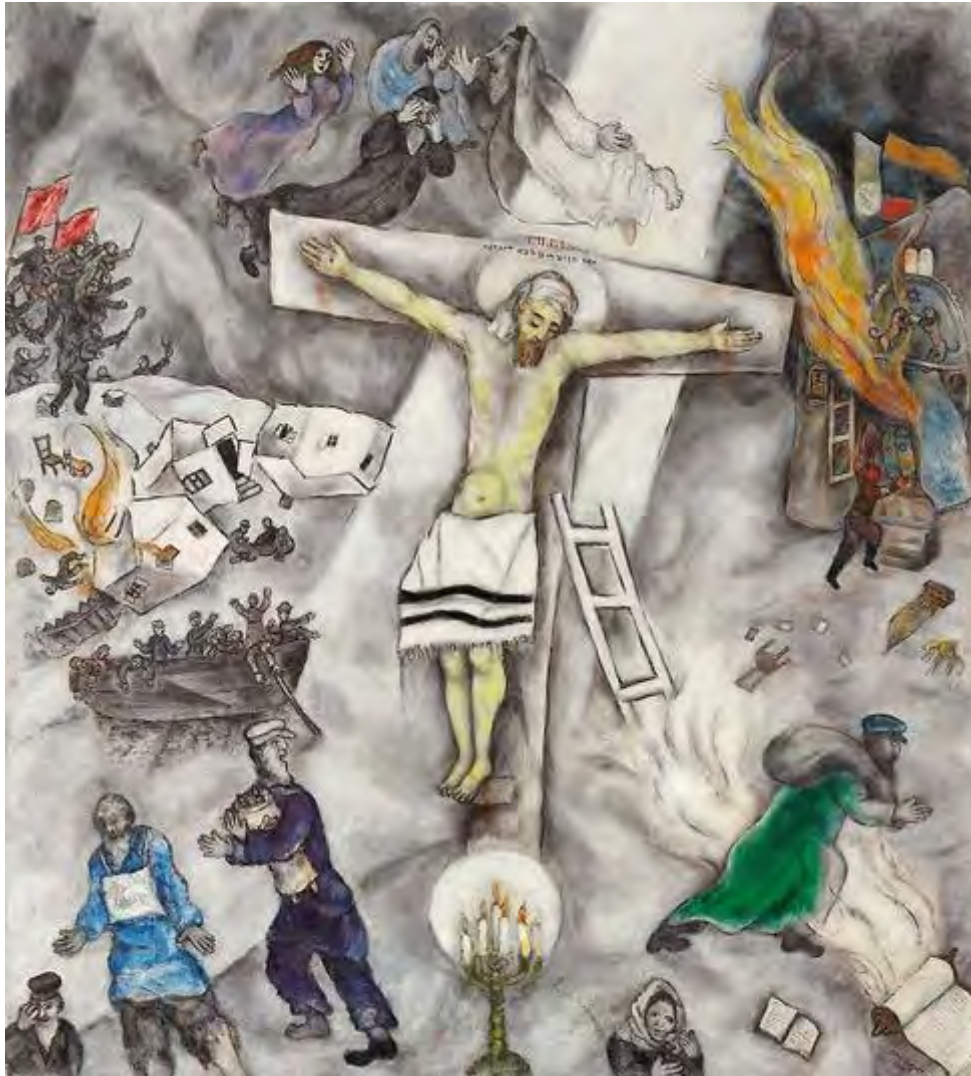


This is a copy of ***Christ of Saint John of the Cross*** is a painting by Salvador Dalí made in 1951 which is in the collection of the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, Glasgow. It depicts Jesus Christ on the cross in a darkened sky floating over a body of water complete with a boat and fishermen. Although it is a depiction of the crucifixion, it is devoid of nails, blood, and a crown of thorns, because, according to Dalí, he was convinced by a dream that these features would mar his depiction of Christ. Also in a dream, the importance of depicting Christ in the extreme angle evident in the painting was revealed to him.



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# White Crucifixion by Marc Chagal



The **White Crucifixion** is a painting by Marc Chagal depicting the the Crucifixion of Jesus. It was painted in 1938 after Chagall had visited Europe, and can be viewed at the Art Institute of Chicago. The painting emphasizes the suffering of Jesus and the Jewish People. At the sides violent acts against Jews occur such as the burning of a synagogue and invaders. And in the center, Jesus is shown crucified wearing a prayer shawl as a symbol that he is Jewish. The work is startling as the crucifixion, often seen by the Jewish people as a symbol of oppression, is instead being used to represent their suffering.

This is Pope Francis' favourite painting



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# The Adoration by Oscar Cahén



Oscar Cahén was born in Copenhagen in 1916. In 1939 as the Nazi regime encroached, he escaped Germany to England, was arrested as an enemy alien, detained, and subsequently sent to Canada where he was interned for two years. He was 22. Released in 1942, Oscar rose to become Canada's top illustrator, and a prominent visual artist as one of the principle members of the artists' collective Painters Eleven. He died tragically in an automobile accident in 1956 at the pinnacle of his career. *The Adoration* is considered to be one of his early masterpieces.

The Cahén Foundation and TrépanierBaer Gallery have graciously agreed to provide an authorized copy of this magnificent painting.



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# Series of Prints by Arnold Shives



*Imagine these four paintings being a story of salvation. The scene of the crucifix by the waterfall and the Mater Dolorosa show Jesus and Mary in the midst of the passion, then the next two paintings, of Jesus freeing souls from the underworld and the mystery of the Eucharist in the tabernacle show how Christ saved us from our sins and continues to be with us always in the gift of His Holy Body and Blood.*



*Regarding the third print, this is a take on the classic depiction of the Harrowing of Hell, when tradition says Jesus after his death went down into the underworld to free those holy souls who waited to be brought into heaven after Christ died on the cross and thereby opened the gates of heaven. Here he carries a banner of the cross as a sign of his victory over death and is greeting the souls of Adam and Eve and all the holy souls who died before the birth of Christ and awaited their salvation.*

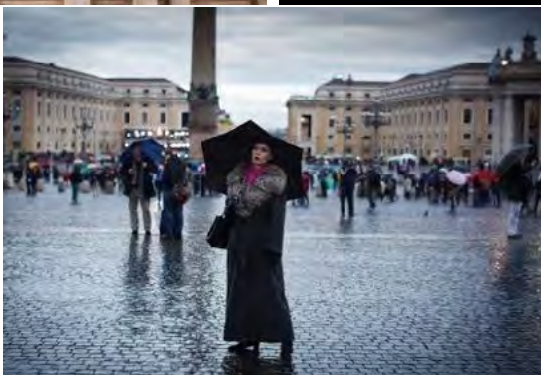
*This series of four prints provides powerful spiritual message.*

Arnold Shives is an internationally acclaimed artist and print-maker from Vancouver



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# Photographs by Todd Korol



Todd Korol has been a lifelong photographer documenting events in Canada and around the world. In 2013 he was sent to Vatican City on assignment to document the historic election for a new pope. On February 11, 2013, Benedict XVI announced his resignation from the papacy he was the first pope to resign in 600 years, since Gregory XII in 1415, and the first to do so on his own initiative since Celestine V in 1294.

For two weeks he documented life in St. Peter's Square as thousands of worshippers arrived in the square to witness this historic moment.

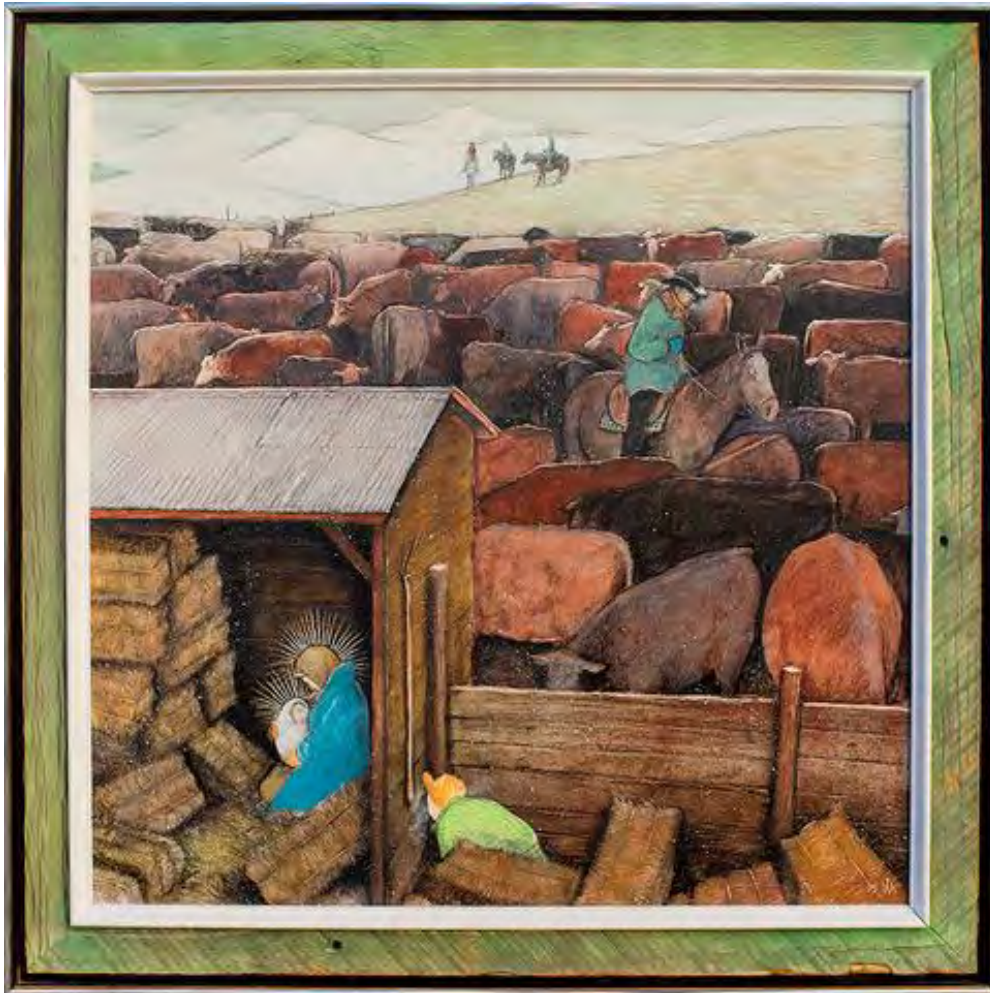
After the 115 participating cardinal-electors gathered, they set March 12, 2013 as the beginning of the conclave. On the fifth ballot, the conclave elected Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, Archbishop of Buenos Aires. He took the pontifical name of Francis.

Todd Korol has been on assignment for the leading newspapers and magazines of the world. He has published three books, and his fine art work is represented by the Paul Kuhn Gallery in Calgary.



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# No Manger in Cowboy Country by William Kurelek



**William Kurelek**, (1927 – 1977) was a renowned Canadian artist and author. His work was influenced by his childhood on the prairies, his Ukrainian-Canadian roots, his struggles with mental illness and his conversion to Roman Catholicism when he was 30 years old. He received the Order of Canada in 1976. Kurelek conceived much of his art as a vehicle for religious instruction. His paintings were overt proclamations of faith that brought the Christian story to modern audiences. This work is part of a series of 20 paintings depicting the Nativity as if Christ had been born in various Canadian settings: an igloo, a trapper's cabin a boxcar and an motel.

The owner of this painting has agreed for a copy of this painting to be made and copyright has graciously been granted by the Kurelek Foundation.



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# In the Autumn of Life by William Kurelek



In the Autumn of Life is one of Kurelek's most powerful paintings. The far off blast of the nuclear bomb in the top left of the painting is a reminder to the world of the dangers of war and our need for solitary and peace in fragile times. The somewhat hidden figure of the crucified man at the bottom left of the painting is a further reminder of presence of God in our lives, very often in those who are suffering but neglected as the crucified man is in this scene.

The Art Gallery of Ontario has graciously allowed us to make a copy of the painting



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# Toronto, Toronto by William Kurelek



This work shows Jesus in the midst of the busyness of Toronto and serves as a reminder to many that Christ is hidden in the busy world in which we live, inviting us to discover him in unexpected places and to pause for a moment to remember he is with us. We are working with Waddingtons in Toronto and the owner of this painting for a reproduction to be made. The Kurelek Foundation has graciously agreed to grant copyright.



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# St. Joseph's Dream by Francesco Solimena



Francesco Solimena (1657 – 1747) was an Italian painter based in Naples. He was one of the most accomplished painters of his era and served as the head of the Neopalitan school of painting in the early 1700s. In *St. Joseph's Dream*, the angel appears to St. Joseph in a dream after the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem and tells him to flee with the Holy Family to Egypt to escape the sword of Herod. This painting is housed in the Louvre in Paris.



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# The Coronation of the Virgin by Velázquez



In this painting by by Velázquez, Mary is placed in the center with Christ on the left, God the Father on the right, and the Holy Spirit between the two, forming the Holy Trinity. It measures nearly 70 x 52 inches and the original work is in Museo del Prado.

The composition forms an inverted triangle, but it also looks heart-shaped. The Virgin Mary is the focal figure, with an attitude of modesty, reverence, and emotion; her right hand placed upon her heart reinforces that idea. God the Father is painted as an old man, representing wisdom; both the Father and the Son are shown in the act of crowning the head of the Virgin with a garland of roses. The Holy Spirit is portrayed in the traditional form of a white dove. These three persons are presented at the same height, reminding us of the perfect equality within the Holy Trinity. Cherubs are visible at the base of the painting.

The use of blues and violets in their garments, instead of the traditional red, is another detail to catch our attention. Blue symbolizes heavenly grace. The Virgin Mary is often depicted wearing blue. Blue also represents hope, good health, and the state of servitude. Purple colors are always associated with royalty.



# Salvator Mundi by Leonardo da Vinci



*Salvator Mundi* is a painting by Leonardo da Vinci dated to c. 1500. Long thought to be a copy of a lost original veiled with overpainting, it was rediscovered, restored, and included in a major Leonardo exhibition at the National Gallery, London, in 2011–12. The painting depicts Jesus in Renaissance dress making the sign of the cross with his right hand, while holding a transparent, non-refracting crystal orb in his left, signaling his role as *Salvator Mundi* (Latin for 'Savior of the World') and representing the 'celestial sphere' of the heavens.



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# The Virgin and Child with Saint Anne by Leonardo da Vinci



***The Virgin and Child with Saint Anne*** is an oil painting by Leonardo da Vinci depicting Saint Anne, her daughter the Virgin Mary and the infant Jesus. Christ is shown grappling with a sacrificial lamb symbolizing his Passion as the Virgin tries to restrain him.



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# Flight into Egypt by Giotto



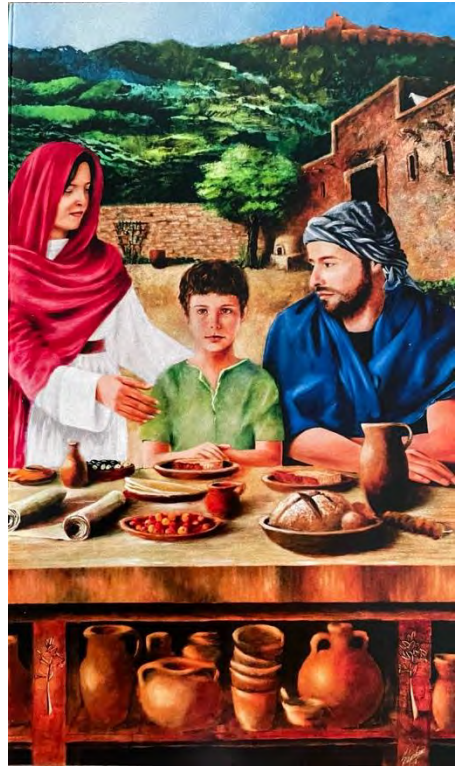
A series of frescoes by Giotto (1266–1337) in the Scrovegni Chapel in Padua follow the life of Christ. In this image, Mary is clearly the dominant figure. Her strength as she holds Jesus on her lap is immediately conveyed. Giotto uses monumental rock forms to direct the viewer's attention to the Madonna and Child. Joseph is deemphasized on the right side of the composition: he turns away in conversation with a member of the entourage while the guiding angel looks directly at Mary.

Giotto portrays Mary as protector of the Christ child and, by extension, of the church.



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# Our Mother Mary



This is a four-panel (tetratypch) in veneration of our Holy Mother Mary located on the back wall of the Nave depicting four scenes of Mary's life. It was painted by Calgary artist Stephen Strain over a period of two years.



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# Sacred Silence



This oil painting by Stephen Strain who also painted the four panel Our Mother of Mary work at the back of the Nave.



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# Behold! The Lamb of God



Located in the Narthex this large painting of the Nativity shares the intimate moment between Mary and Jesus immediately after His birth. It was painted by Simon Lavigne of Canmore, brother of Father Jerome Lavigne who is a priest in the Diocese of Calgary.



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# Madonna Icon From the Holy Land



This valuable and magnificent icon was purchased in the Holy Land and owned for many years by William ('Bill') Britton, a well known corporate lawyer from Calgary. His wife Linda donated this magnificent work to the Shrine following Mr. Britton's passing.

It has previously been on display on the altar of the Shrine during the holy month of May.



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# MARBLE STATUARY



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# Background on the Marble Statues

- Opportunity to purchase three containers of marble statues and other works presented to Our Lady of the Rockies in 2016
- Purchase price was \$75,000. Replacement cost of restored pieces is \$600,000+
- Initial glimpses inside the containers revealed many glorious works well suited to the new shrine church
- Items had been in storage for over forty years
- Mostly white marble quarried in Italy and the USA
- Sculpted in the USA in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Restoration began in the summer of 2018



# Jozef Reibesteijn: Ecclesiastical Artist

- Over 40 years of experience
- Based in Camden East, ON (near Kingston)
- Significant expertise sculpting and restoring marble works
- Scope of work for Our Lady of the Rockies:
  - Restoration of 10 marble statues
  - Construction of Main Altar and Ambo
  - Construction of two Side Altars (For Holy Mary and the Death of St. Joseph)
  - Construction of Tabernacle Altar
  - Construction of Rosary Chapel



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# Restoration Facility at Water Valley



*Pat Griffith and his team at Modco (our construction company) have been of tremendous assistance to Jozef at Water Valley*



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# Our Lord Greet's The Holy Souls in Purgatory



Located in the columbarium

6,000 pounds!

A stunning and unique sculpture

The columbarium contains 300 niches for burial of cremated remains. The niches are finished with white veined marble and the floor is hard wood.



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# The Death of Saint Joseph



Located at the Saint Joseph altar at the west transept

Life size figures including statues of Jesus, Mary & St. Joseph



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# Queenship of Mary and the Christ Child



Located on the Mary altar  
at the east transept

This statue honours The  
Virgin Mary as the Queen  
of Heaven and Earth



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# Rosary Chapel: Saint Catherine of Siena



Located in a chapel dedicated to praying the Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

St. Catherine is honoured as one of the Doctors of the Church and a great reformer



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# Rosary Chapel: Marble Reliefs



Marble Reliefs of the life of the Holy Family

Framed and incorporated into a chapel dedicated to praying the Holy Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy



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# The Main Altar



The top photograph was taken on April 25, 2020 on the Feast of Saint Mark. The relic stone from our two prior churches in Canmore was placed into the altar by Bishop McGrattan before the top (mensa) was installed on April 30. A second relic stone from the prior church in Bankhead was also placed in the altar. Bankhead was a former coal mining town near Banff.



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# The Ambo



The Ambo is the formal term for the lectern from which the Epistles, Gospel and Homily are proclaimed.



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# The Tabernacle Altar



The Tabernacle Altar incorporates several beautiful marble facades

Two magnificent angel statues will be on either side of the Tabernacle

The Altar is dedicated in honour of the Turcotte Family



# The Baptismal Font



May this font, which has already baptized many souls in its former home at Our Lady of Peace in Buffalo, NY, continue its saving mission of removing the stain of Original Sin, welcoming new children into the Church and transforming them into temples of the Most Holy Trinity.



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# THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW



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# Stained Glass Window of Our Lady of the Rockies



Dimensions are 25.6 ft. tall by 9.8 ft. wide. Designed and manufactured by King Richards in Atlanta

Installed on April 15, 2020

Incorporates the following:

- Mary our Queen and the Christ Child
- The iconic Three Sisters mountain
- Canmore's mining history
- Wildlife and Biblical Imagery
- Cloud formations that appeared in the sky at the site

Consecration Mass on June 25, 2017



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