

The Carpenter's Helper

This Week...

Windows to Heaven

Dorothy Thayne:
teacher and
iconographer

Weekly Parish Schedule

Add your group's event to
the calendar: email
stthomassooffice
@googlegroups.com

Advent Message from Bishop Brown

Icons are often called a "window to heaven". Dorothy Thayne has been producing icons and helping others understand their beauty and meaning for 25 years.

On Sunday the 15th, she will be our Coffee Hour Guest Speaker.

Just in time for Christmas, she will guide us on a tour of the artistic process, focusing on the symbolism of icons of the Blessed Virgin Mary and infant Jesus.

When did your interest in art first develop?

Being an artist has always been a strong part of my identity. From my first scribbles, my delight in the colors in the crayon box, to selling drawings of horses in the third grade to every member in the class, to being identified by my peers as an artist in high school, to finding endless joy in the process. I always wanted to be an apprentice in a Renaissance art studio but found the next best thing. During my four years at the Rhode Island School of Design, I was surrounded by art and artists and creativity.

Are there specific artists or artistic movements that particularly influence or inspire you?

I am inspired by Monet, Matisse, Cezanne, John Singer Sargent, Rembrandt, Titian, the Quattrocento Italian painters. When I visit the National Gallery of Art, I always spend time with da Vinci's Ginevra de Benci and Monet's "Cathedral" series. At the Metropolitan Museum in NYC, I look at Duccio's small Madonna and the French Impressionists. At MOMA, I sit with Monet's Water Lilies. The Philadelphia Museum of Art has some Vuillards, to name just a few.

You allude to this when describing your continuous presence within your work: would you say the strong presence of life within your work stems not only from the spirit of the subject but from your spirit as the artist?

If that is the case I would be glad. Good art has something in it that is hard to define but is often interpreted as life force. It's as if the invisible, though still invisible, has somehow attached itself to the work of art and can be felt by the viewer. That invisible "something" is the imprint of the artist. If I am in the painting then what part of me is evident?

This is an excerpt from an interview done by Rebecca Worhach, a junior art & art history major at Lebanon Valley College. For the full article, visit readmedia.com.

To hear more from Dorothy Thayne, please join us on the 15th at noon.



Hello, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Blessings to you this Advent season. A few years ago when I was a parish priest, a parishioner came to me and said that she was confused — confused specifically by Advent. She had been an Episcopalian for a few years now and said, “Each Advent I listen to the sermons and read the scriptures, and I understand the call to wait, to be patient, and to not be anxious in this moment.” And then she said, “But at the same time, I’ve also heard the sermons and read the scriptures that call on us to prepare, to keep watch, and to be vigilant for what is to come. So, I’m not sure exactly what I’m supposed to do in this time before Christmas. Am I supposed to wait patiently and quietly or am I supposed to be doing something?” So in that moment, she and I talked a little bit about that tension between waiting and acting, the kind of Mary and Martha moment that is prevalent throughout the life of a faithful Christian.

You see, she came to understand in our conversations and through subsequent prayer of her own, that the season of Advent really does reflect in this tension, a great and powerful truth that we as the people of God are meant, not just in Advent but all season long, to savor this present moment. The waiting — to say in this moment in which we live, that we inhabit, that we breathe, that there is something good and rich and right here, and to not let this precious moment slip away from us. But at the same time as Advent calls us to keep watching and to prepare, our eyes should also be looking towards a hopeful future, towards the promises of God that are coming to redeem this world and make it the place that God dreams it can be.

So yes, there is a tension in Advent she came to understand, just as I’ve come to understand and I imagine so many of you have — a tension that is Holy and blessed. A deep appreciation for the gift of the present, and a deep appreciation for the gift in the hope of what is to come. My prayer for you this Advent, my sisters and brothers, is a blessed season, a blessed one and one that looks forward to good things to come.

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

*This message is available in video form at
<https://delaware.church/advent-message-2019/>*

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 8

- 8:00am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite I
- 9:00am (U) Youth Confirmation
- 9:15am (P) Adult Education
- 9:15am (C) Novel Theology
- 9:15am (U) Nursery
- 9:30am (U) Children's Worship
- 10:30am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 11:45am (GH) Coffee, Fellowship
- 2:00pm (C) Girl Scout Troop 513
- 6:00pm (N) Advent Evening Prayers
- 7:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance

Monday, December 9

- 6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
- 7:30pm (GH) Scottish Dance

Tuesday, December 10

- 6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
- 4:30pm (U) Girl Scout Troop 719
- 5:00pm (CO) AIDS Delaware
- 6:00pm (U) Girl Scout Troop 513
- 6:30pm (P) Finance Meeting
- 7:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance
- 8:00pm (U) KIS AA meeting

Wednesday, December 11

- 6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
- 10:30am (C) Bible Study
- 4:00pm (C) Blue Hen Bounty
- 5:00pm (C, N) ECM
- 5:45pm (P) Centering Prayer
- 8:30pm (GH) South College Speakers AA

Thursday, December 12

- 6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
- 10:00am (U) Newark Music Makers
- 7:30pm (MR) St Gregory's Choir
- 7:30pm (U) Bluegrass Jam

Friday, December 13

- 6:30am (C) Sunrise Serenity AA
- 12:00pm (P) Al-Anon
- 5:00pm (U) Girl Scouts 513
parents' night out
- 6:30pm (P) Women's AA

Saturday, December 14

-available-

Sunday, December 15

- 8:00am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite I
- 9:00am (U) Youth Confirmation
- 9:15am (P) Adult Education
- 9:15am (U) Nursery
- 9:30am (C, U) Children's Worship
- 10:30am (N) Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 12:00pm (GH) Coffee Hour Speaker
Dorothy Thayne- windows to heaven
- 12:00pm (C) CREW Youth Group
- 2:00pm (C) Girl Scout Troop 513
- 6:00pm (N) Advent Evening Prayers
- 7:00pm (GH) UD Ballroom Dance

location key:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| (C) Classroom | (MR) Music Room |
| (GH) Great Hall | (U) Undercroft |
| (N) Nave | (BO) Business Office |
| (P) Parlor | (RO) Rector's Office |