



For Immediate Release
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11 local artists to exhibit at Clare Gallery

Hartford — Downtown Hartford's Clare Gallery will feature the work of 11 diverse local artists in a group show entitled, "Artists in Our Midst" from December 1, 2005 until January 29, 2006.

Included in the show are contemporary works by Joseph Byrne, Yvonne Espinoza, Jeff Feldmann, Julia Fosson, Jim Gorman, Jim Keener, Martha Keener, Janice LaMotta, Antoni Martin, the late Fr. John Murphy, and Nancy Wynn.

"Artists in Our Midst" explores the theme of spirituality broadly interpreted in a variety of media, including painting, photography, watercolor, digital printing, encaustic and mixed media.

The artists will discuss their works at a panel discussion slated for 6 p.m., Tuesday, January 10, at the Gallery. Both the exhibition and the panel discussion and reception are free and open to the public.

Each of the artists featured in the exhibition are parishioners of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church, which hosts the Clare Gallery in its Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry, adjacent to the church.

"As we have hosted a wide variety of exhibitions at the Clare Gallery over the past two years, we've looked around and realized that we have several gifted professional artists right here in our own community," said Nancy Wynn, chair of the advisory panel for the Clare Gallery. "'Artists in our Midst' is a celebration of the rich talents that surround us and an exploration of the ways each of us express what's meaningful in our lives and what feeds our spirits. One of our artists said that her work is inspired by 'the spark of the Almighty.' Another that in art we have the privilege of serving as a creator and steward. This interplay between spirituality and creativity is what sets this exhibition apart."

The Clare Gallery primarily features exhibitions that emphasize world religions or interfaith themes, and social justice themes, either on a global or local level. It is housed in the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry at 285 Church Street. The Center is part of St. Patrick – St. Anthony Church, a vibrant and active downtown faith community.

The Clare Gallery's hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. The Gallery and all related events are free and open to the public. Free parking is available directly across from the church. The facility is handicapped accessible. More information may be found on the church's website at stpatrick-stanthony.org or by calling 860-756-4034.