



For Immediate Release
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Holy Saints and Timeless Mysteries: A Fresh Look at Some of our Best Loved Traditions

Hartford — The Clare Gallery is pleased to present *Holy Saints and Timeless Mysteries: A Fresh Look at Some of our Best Loved Traditions*. The exhibition is free and open to the public and extends from September 2 to October 28, 2010. A reception and artist lecture will be held on Saturday, October 2; 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; entitled “All That Is Seen and Unseen.” Brother Mickey O’Neill McGrath, Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, is an artist, writer and speaker who loves to explore the relationship between art and faith. His work and ministry have been featured in *St. Anthony Messenger*, *USA Today* and many Catholic newspaper articles around the country.

In addition to creating artwork, Brother Mickey is a presenter at retreats, schools and conferences nation-wide. He has been a teacher and director at the Grunewald Guild, an ecumenical art community in Leavenworth, Washington. He has been a speaker at various conferences and retreats for Catholic educators in New England and various cities in the United States. Brother Mickey’s studio is in South Camden, New Jersey near Sacred Heart Parish.

Brother Mickey’s message is always about the healing power of art and its ability to lead us to light and grace. In this exhibition, images of Mary and the saints will be selected from his *Mysteries of the Rosary* and *Patrons and Protectors* series. Brother Mickey’s artwork combines whimsical style, storytelling and prayerful spirituality creating paintings that are approachable, educational, fun, and inspirational.

The Clare Gallery primarily features exhibitions that emphasize world religions or interfaith themes, as well as social justice themes, on either a global or local level. The Gallery 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 a.m. The Gallery and all related events are free and open to the public. Free parking is available directly across from the church, and the facility is handicapped accessible. More information may be found at www.spsact.org, click “Community Life” and then “Clare Gallery”.