

# Inspired by faith



Babette G. Augustin/Photo editor



This work by Dapier shows Jesus and God discussing the world's terrible state.

## Senior artist hopes to aid Catholic schools

IRONDEQUOIT — When Edmund L. Dapier retired back in 1972, he took up watercolor painting to occupy all the free time he suddenly found on his hands.

Now the 74-year-old parishioner of St. Cecilia's Church, 2732 Culver Road, Rochester, hopes he can lend a hand to Catholic education by donating proceeds from sales of his paintings' reproductions to diocesan schools.

"I think that every child should have at least a grammar school upbringing in the Catholic school system, so they will be able to cope in life," Dapier said.

The senior artist generally divides his themes between religious scenes based on his reading of Scripture and landscapes inspired by his pictures of local sites. Pope John Paul II and the Shroud of Turin are also among the religious subjects he has tackled, and his secular paintings include renditions of Sommerville Pier and Keuka Lake.

He sometimes likes to paint biblical scenes in a manner evoking what he feels actually took place. For example, the starkness of his portrayal of the Nativity reflects what he thinks the Blessed Mother felt at the time of Christ's birth.

"She was not having a picnic," he said of Mary.

Dapier enjoys painting in the kitchen of his apartment, which is decorated with many of his works. He estimated that he has completed more than 50 watercolors to date.

He told the *Catholic Courier* that readers interested in learning about his work, or using his paintings to benefit Catholic schools may write: Edmund L. Dapier, 90 Woodridge Court, Apt. 4, Rochester, N.Y. 14622.



Father Jerzy Popieluszko was murdered by Polish security police in 1984.



This painting deals with issues of greed (hands on the left) and charity.

## Water-color paintings by Edmund L. Dapier

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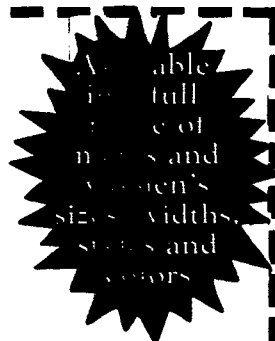
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