



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

The Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas to receive an exact casting of Michelangelo's Pieta

Kansas City, KS (April 25, 2022) – The Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS and Arte Divine LLC, today announced that a life-size marble casting of Michelangelo's 'Pieta' will be unveiled, on Saturday May 7th, in a blessing ceremony at the Savior Pastoral Retreat and Conference Center, 12615 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, Kansas 66109. The Carrara marble, exact casting of Michelangelo's Pieta will be the 57th of only 100 authorized to be created and placed.

Five hundred years ago Michelangelo unveiled what would come to be regarded as one of the world's great masterpieces of inspired art and perhaps the most beautiful sculpture ever created. The Pieta was both the consummate expression of Michelangelo's artistic abilities and an embodiment of the divine inspiration that guided his work.

This famous work of art depicts the body of Jesus on the lap of his mother Mary after the crucifixion. The Pieta is the only piece of art Michelangelo ever signed. Arte Divine has recreated Michelangelo's masterpiece, Pieta in cast marble using a mold derived from the original Pieta c1498-99, St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City. This posthumous Pieta is a precise "1 to 1" casting that is faithful in every detail to Michelangelo's original. These exquisite castings are being acquired by generous corporate and private benefactors, and donating these legacy gifts to select Catholic locations, like the Savior Pastoral Retreat and Conference Center.

“The Archdiocese of Kansas City, our Catholic parish community and the Savior Pastoral Center is so very blessed to have this iconic image of our Christian faith placed here. For those who will visit our retreat, they can take pride knowing the Pieta will serve to focus the hearts and minds toward God and keeps Him ever present in their daily lives. For our sick and elderly who are in need of healing, the Pieta serves to inspire, hope, peace and compassion to each person and their loved ones” said Tim Chik, Director of the Savior Pastoral Center.

Mr. Chik also announced that the Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann, Archbishop of Kansas City will celebrate the official unveiling and blessing ceremony of St. Peter’s Pieta on Saturday afternoon, May 7th, from 2:30 ~ 3:30pm during the Liturgy of the Hours Midday prayer.”

“We are truly grateful to His Excellency, Archbishop Naumann and Tim Chik for the opportunity to place the limited edition exact casting of Michelangelo’s masterpiece, Pieta, here in this vibrant Catholic Community said Pat Kerivan of Arte Divine.

“It is Arte Divine’s mission to place Michelangelo’s Pietà in 100 sacred and secular settings around the world. In so doing we hope to elevate the hearts and minds of millions of the faithful who will never have the opportunity to travel to Saint Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City, Rome and personally experience the transcendent beauty of this divinely inspired work that is Michelangelo’s Pietà” Mr. Kerivan added.

About the Savior Pastoral Retreat and Conference Center:

On September 6, 2006, Archbishop Joseph Naumann blessed the newly remodeled Archbishop Strecker Suites and Archbishop Keleher Conference Center, saying that these improvements will support the ministry of the church for years into the future as “a center of catechetical formation and spiritual reflection.

Today, the Center’s services and hospitality extend beyond the people in the Archdiocese. We extend a warm welcome to the not-for-profit community and private businesses throughout the local area and Midwest, provided their purpose is consistent with our mission and environment.

About Arte Divine:

Arte Divine is a worldwide distributor of exact castings of Michelangelo’s sculptures like the Pietà, David, the Bruges Madonna with Child along with his many other religious and historical works of art. Arte Divine is a member of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums, and works closely with Casa Buonarroti and the Roman Catholic Church throughout the world in placement of these exquisite and spiritual sculptures. For information on how your church or academic setting can participate in this limited opportunity contact Arte Divine President, David Newren @ 855-326-4676 or Pat Kerivan @ 602-952-9210, patkerivan@artedivine.com or artedivine.com.