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'Monk Praying in a Church'

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The University of Dayton Marian Library's next exhibit — The Art of Illustration — features the work of a woman Divine Mercy TV describes as a blessed and accomplished Catholic iconographer and artist.

Anne Simoneau's exhibit opens July 1 and runs through Sept. 5. It is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The Marian Library is on the top floor of the Roesch Library.

Simoneau's method is to present the same subject in different ways. For example, the exhibit's signature piece, "Monk Praying in Church," appears, at first glance, like a depiction of the angel Gabriel announcing to Mary that she will give birth to Jesus. However, the illustration is of a monk reading a book in the presence of the Holy Spirit, according to the Rev. Johann G. Roten, S.M., director of the Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute.

"Simoneau inspires the viewer, just as the Holy Spirit inspires the monk and inspires us," Roten said.

The Marian Library will arrange the exhibit as a series of clusters, including Mary; the brown scapular, or the brown cloth made famous by Our Lady of Mount Carmel; the Eucharist; Jesus and the saints; and children and families at prayer.

Simoneau, who studied at the Columbus College of Art and Design, uses pastels, ink on paper and computer-generated images in her work.

The University of Dayton Marian Library is recognized as having the world's largest collection of printed materials on Mary, the mother of Jesus. The Marian Library strives to further study, research and devotion to Mary.

the Marian Library at 937-229-4214