

Parish of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral:
Shrine Church of the Most Precious Blood
113 Baxter Street, New York, NY 10013
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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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The Art of Immigration: Paintings by Donatus Buongiorno

An exhibit of art by an immigrant, about immigration, circa 1900. A skilled artist and artisan, Donatus Buongiorno had a successful career in two countries.

New York, New York, February 26, 2019 His works are a window into the mind of a man who migrated to America in the late 1800s. His images express appreciation for the opportunity to make the U.S. his home, while also recalling memories of the people and landscapes of his native southern Italy.

The Shrine Church of the Most Precious Blood, built in the early 1900s on Baxter Street when Italian families settled Lower Manhattan, contains 38 Buongiorno murals telling the stories of both spiritual salvation and of immigrants seeking a better life.

This exhibit displays samples of Buongiorno's secular work, easel paintings from private collections—images that capture the same passion for human life seen in his inspirational murals at the church.

“We gaze upon these pictures from a distance, measured by the passage of time, and find ourselves mystically connected to the people of this disappeared world.”

“These fine paintings remind us of who we are and inspire us to see the world around ourselves as a beautiful place to live and work.”

—Msgr. Donald Sakano, Pastor

Donations welcome. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities also available.



April 11–May 11, 2019

Mon-Fri 9-5 pm,
Sat ^{except} April 20 1-4 pm, Sun closed

**Rectory Gallery,
St. Patrick's Old Cathedral**
263 Mulberry Street,
New York, New York 10012
+1 212 226-8075
oldcathedral.org/shrine-church-of-
the-most-precious-blood

Opening Reception:

Thursday, April 11, 6–8 p.m.

**Related events celebrating
art and immigration:**

Mon, April 22, 6-8 pm: **Lou del Bianco**—Luigi del Bianco, Italian-trained, immigrant carver of Mt. Rushmore

Weds, April 24, 6-8 pm: **Paul Moses**—“From Herod to Pilate”: How the Italian Community Built Most Precious Blood Church

Mon, April 29, 6-8 pm: **Mary Brown**—Art in Churches, Most Precious Blood and Transfiguration

Thurs, May 2, 6-8 pm: **Olga Nikolic-Litwin**, Why Paintings Need Conservators

Sats, April 13, 27, May 4 & 11, 3-5 pm: **Exhibit plus Tour** of Shrine Church of Most Precious Blood, meet at the Rectory Gallery.

All events are free and open to the public.



Donatus Buongiorno

1865: Born Solofra, Avellino, Campania, Italy.

1892–1931: Active in the U.S.

1898: Naturalized U.S. citizen.

1914–1917: Painted murals and decorated interior, Shrine Church of the Most Precious Blood, 113 Baxter Street, NY.
1935: Died Casalnuovo di Napoli, Campania, Italy.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ARTIST:
donatusbuongiorno.com