

Few things gave her more satisfaction than seeing her students develop their talents.

Sister Mary Charles worked in a variety of media. Many priests from the Duluth Diocese were her friends, and she designed chalices and created banners and processional crosses for churches. She molded and inscribed clay tiles and inlaid them in large round tabletops. She is especially remembered for her woodcuts whose subjects were children, saints, and persons of local and national significance. She did other woodcuts, and those prints served as magazine covers or illustrations in books or brochures. In addition there were large, clay figures as well as sculptures in wood. An artist friend lettered the text of *The Rule of St. Benedict* and Sister Mary Charles illuminated the manuscript. She also designed work in wood, glass, stone, and metal.

As the years passed, Sister Mary Charles, already familiar and loved as an artist and teacher in Northern Minnesota, gained wider attention and admiration. In the last eighteen years of her life she focused principally on writing icons and offered iconography workshops, speaking of the power of art “to teach, to heal, to comfort, to challenge, to entertain, and to help people pray.” She considered her art an invitation to the viewer to focus attention on the wonder of God’s creation, whether in a print of children dancing, a large stone sculpture, or an icon of Mother Teresa of Calcutta—“so that in all things God may be glorified.”



Ceramic tile tabletop ca. 1969, 60" diameter  
Collection of Joe and Susie Rosenzweig