

# St. Michael's Sells Art Prints to Fund Annual Compassion, Justice Award

A fund-raising effort was kicked off in Trenton yesterday for an annual "St. Michael's Compassion and Justice Award."

"We want to acknowledge works of compassion and efforts for justice in Trenton," said the Rev. Robert A. Gallagher, one of the pastors at St. Michael's Episcopal Church on North Warren Street.

"This city has a good many problems, but it also has a remarkable number of individuals and groups giving of themselves to make life in the city more just and humane. We want to acknowledge those people, and we want to encourage others to undertake similar efforts," he said.

Once the fund-raising effort is complete, an award of at least \$1,000 will be made annually by St. Michael's to a person or group that has served Trenton through outstanding works of compassion or justice in the previous year, he said.

The primary source of funds for this award will be through the sale of special art prints by artist Allan Rohan Crite, hand colored and hand signed by the artist, for a minimum donation of \$150. The print shows Jesus standing in the middle of Trenton in a gesture of offering.

"Crite's work conveys a sense of the city as a holy place," said Mother Alice B. Mann. "It is exciting to see the familiar symbols of the city — the bridge, the capitol, the Battle Monument — linked with God's action. It is important to celebrate moments when the compassion and the justice of that Kingdom break through."

The first print in the series was blessed yesterday in St. Monica's Chapel in the parish house.

A New Jersey native, Crite has spent many of his 78 years creating religious images related to urban life. His work is included in several major collections, including those at the Museum of Modern Art, the Chicago Art Institute and the Na-



Trentonian Photo by BILL RYAN

**RAISING FUNDS FOR AWARD** — The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher (third from left) holds a print by artist Allan Rohan Crite, which is part of a series of works that will be sold to raise money for an annual Compassion and Justice Award given by St. Michael's. Also shown are (from left): Beverly Wedderburn, Douglas Perkins, Fred Vereen Jr., Jocelyn White and Alice Mann.

tional Gallery of American Art at the Smithsonian.

His work is also found in parish churches across the country.

"We have to be realistic about the role we can play," the Rev.

Gallagher said in explaining why the church created the award.

Information about the award or making a contribution may be obtained by writing to St. Michael's, P.O. Box 1414, Trenton 08607, or by calling 599-1542.