

By now you have probably noticed our beautiful paschal candle, located by the baptismal font. The candle is entitled “Laudato,” and was designed, hand carved, and painted by Marklin Candle Design in New Hampshire.

The candle design was inspired by Pope Francis’ Encyclical “Laudato Si,” which gets its name from St. Francis of Assisi’s Canticle of Creation.

Many of you know that our own stained glass rose windows on the north and south walls of the church were inspired by this same canticle. Like our “Brother Sun” and “Sister Moon” windows, this candle bears these two images as an integral part of the creation story. The candles in the sanctuary and by the Blessed Sacrament chapel also have images of creation.

Shortly after this candle was lit and blessed at the Easter Vigil, the story of the creation of the world was proclaimed in the first reading. Sun and stars, sea and fish dance around this flame, proclaiming the life of Easter.

To learn more about Marklin Candle Company, visit [www.marklincandle.com](http://www.marklincandle.com)

