

<u>Jacqueline Jacobi</u>

Jacqueline Del Curto Jacobi was born and raised in Central California's San Joaquin Valley, a farming and ranching region known as the "breadbasket of the world." She and her nine siblings grew up in an energetic Portuguese and Italian family that enjoys everything from cooking and playing music together, to horse and motorcycle riding.

Jacqueline's artistic journey began at age four, after she decided that she wanted to become an artist when she grew up. In elementary school she took up the saxophone and violin, and participated in numerous orchestras, honor bands, and choirs, but was determined to pursue fine art in college. After searching in vain for a post-secondary program that satisfied both her desire for a liberal arts education and fine art technique training, she decided to make the world her campus.

Beginning at the <u>Thomas More College of Liberal Arts</u> in Merrimack NH, Jacqueline participated in its "Way of Beauty" program while simultaneously studying at the Ingbretson Studio in Lawrence, MA. She then attended the <u>Classical Arts Academy</u> in Florence, Italy, where she studied drawing and painting for a year, while finishing her bachelor's degree in theology with the Catholic Distance University. She finished her formal education apprenticing for six months in the studio of <u>James Gillick</u> in Lincolnshire, England.

After returning home to Central California, Jacqueline began teaching locally and selling her own original work. She developed a teaching philosophy which sought to expose students to the methods of the classical masters, while also encouraging artistic individuality informed by Truth. As Michelangelo said, "a man paints with his brains, not with his hands." Beautiful and meaningful art is created by souls who understand that the physical world points to something beyond itself. It is meant to give man a glimpse of the beauty that awaits!

Jacqueline began teaching art at Stella Maris Academy in San Francisco in 2021. She began a community jam session the following year, at which she met an impassioned, witty, and intelligent guitar player who she would marry a year later. She and her husband, Thomas, have a son, James, born on October 27, 2023.

She is delighted to join Nativity where she hopes to prime students for a life of true and faith-derived joy which she views as the best roadmap for creating inspired art.