

Hello, my name is Marcia Dursi. I'd like to share a piece of art that I worked on over the past few weeks.

After the arrival of Covid 19 pandemic, as I listened to the news about the virus, the many people who were sick or dying, the challenges posed to health care and other front-line workers by the lack of testing and Personal Protection Equipment, and the response of the administration, I found myself feeling overwhelmed and anxious at times. I had to keep praying and trusting that God was and is with me in this time.

As I settled into this other life because it's not normal, my heart was so heavy and so I felt compelled to capture these emotions in my crafting. I call this piece "Covid Tears"

### **Creative Process:**

I purchased the top square of silk long before the pandemic started. From the first time I saw the piece it reminded me of a waterfall knew eventually I would find a use for it in my art.

I uncovered the rectangle piece of burgundy fabric as I searched for material to make face masks at the start of the stay-at-home, face-masks-when-you-go-out-order.

I do quite a bit of fabric art work with silk sari ribbons and silk flowers and have a variety of colors in my craft room.

### **Linkage and symbolism**

Many of you know of my devotion to the Holy Spirit. I was truly led by the Holy Spirit to create this work. Isaiah 43:2 says "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you." That Bible verse has given me such strength through this time. We are passing through rough waters right now but our faith prevents us from being swept away from our spiritual center. This piece reveals to me that water will bring new life and new hope.

Each piece has a meaning for me:

- Top Square represents waterfalls which always invoke joy and happiness for me
- Dark long silk pieces represent flowing water like tears running down my cheeks
- Flowers represent light and hope at the end of a dark period

As I worked through this piece, I found such a sense of calm, and peace. I hope this has given you another way of connecting with God during this difficult time.