

GUTHRIE, PIERCE & BLAKENEY

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW

JOHNSTON BUILDING

CHARLOTTE 2, N.C.

THOMAS C. GUTHRIE (1865-1942)

F. GRAINGER PIERCE

WHITEFORD S. BLAKENEY

April 13, 1948.

Miss Louise Pitassi,  
c/o A. L. Pitassi Studios,  
5345 Penn Avenue,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Miss Pitassi:

I thank you very much for your letter of April 7. I am glad that you wrote me again about the lower inscription. I agree with you that it gives the window a balance. I have inserted for the lower inscription the words: - I Am The Light Of The World. If you and the artists at the studio agree with me about this, please go ahead using this additional inscription.

I realize that the little sketch that you sent to me was only a rough sketch of the central panel. I also want to say at the outset that what I shall say will simply be a suggestion, not to be used unless it is in harmony with the ideas of your father and the other artists. However, in our original agreement of May 14, 1945, there are only two factors that I want to call to your attention. First, we said, "If possible, we should like for the face of Jesus to be such that as we leave the church and look up at this window from the inside of the church, the eyes of Jesus will be upon each and all who look up at it." Please bear this in mind.

Then in the second place, in our agreement of May 14, 1945, we said to your father, "Please do not let the figure of Jesus suggest that He was anything but strong of body and of heart." In other words, we don't want any emaciated-looking portrayal of Jesus. In the rough sketch of this section which you sent, it seemed to me that the shoulders were terrifically narrow, and if possible I would like to see them broadened out a bit to suggest a stronger physical appearance. It seems to me that physical strength can be suggested without in any way taking away any of the great spiritual strength. On the enclosed rough sketch, I undertook to broaden the shoulders a bit and to move the little emblems on either side a little farther away so as to give more room for the shoulders.

Now I am no artist and I don't want my expression to weigh too heavily with the artists, but please, to the extent that it is possible, let the Figure be alive and strong.

I hope you get something of all I am trying to say. Incidentally, when we get our large window in and the time comes to dedicate it, I do hope that you and your mother can come down and be our guests in our home for the dedication of this and all of the other of your father's windows in our church. My wife and I will be so happy to have you. We remember so pleasantly the time when your father was a guest in our home.

Thanking you for keeping me posted and for all of your help, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin Pierce

FGP:ho