

**Corr Chapel  
Envisions Sister Thea Bowman  
in a New Light**

This summer specialists installed a new stained glass window in Villanova's Corr Chapel depicting Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman.

The Rev. Richard Cannuli, OSA, MFA, '73 CLAS, professor of Studio Art, designed the window highlighting the Franciscan nun, who is one of the six black Catholics who are being considered for canonization.

Sister Thea changed the fabric of the American Catholic Church in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, but her story is not well-known, says Shannen Dee Williams, PhD, assistant professor of History. The granddaughter of slaves and the only African American member of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in the Diocese of La Crosse in Wisconsin, Sister Thea was known for her powerful preaching and singing at Church gatherings across the country.

“Even if they never become saints, the fact that their causes have been formally opened means we’ll have an opportunity to tell their stories in a host of new ways,” Dr. Williams says.

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