

# Introduction to the Virtues in Art Part II

## A Guide for Further Exploration (Primary/Junior Students)

By Stephanie Korczynski



**Title:** Allegory of Faith

**Artist:** Johannes Vermeer

**Date:** c.1671-74

**Technique/Medium:** oil on canvas

**Location:** The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (painted in the Netherlands)

### Did you notice....

The chalice; an open Bible; a crucifix; a bitten apple (representing sin); the twisted serpent on the floor (has been crushed by a stone and blood spurts from its mouth, which symbolizes victory of good over evil); the painting of the Crucifixion on the back wall, her foot on a globe, the glass ball hanging from the ceiling.

For additional information see

[http://www.essentialvermeer.com/catalogue/allegory\\_of\\_faith.html](http://www.essentialvermeer.com/catalogue/allegory_of_faith.html)



**Title:** Hope (SPES)

**Artist:** Andrea Pisano

**Date:** 1330-36

**Technique/Medium:** gilded bronze relief

**Location:** Florence Baptistery, South Door (Italy).

**Did you notice....**

The inscription with the Latin word for hope, SPES; the wings; the halo; the gesture of reaching towards heaven; the crown being passed down.

To view the entire doors see

<http://www.bluffton.edu/~sullivanm/italy/florence/pisanosouth/pisanosouthdoors.html>



**Title:** Charity

**Artist:** Bartolomeo Schedoni

**Date:** 1611

**Technique/Medium:** oil on panel

**Location:** Naples, Italy (today in the Museo di Capodimonte)

**Did you notice....**

What is in the woman's hand (bread); she is handing it to a beggar who is leading a blind man; the young child; the piece of paper with a painted message (what might the message say?).



**Title:** Justice

**Artist:** Antonio del Pollaiuolo

**Date:** 1470

**Technique/Medium:** tempera on panel

**Location:** Florence, Italy (The Uffizi)

**Did you notice....**

Her gleaming sword; the celestial orb/globe she is holding; the way she fills the space; her facial expression.

To view the entire series see <http://www.insecula.com/salle/MS03299.html>



**Title:** Prudence

**Artist:** GIOTTO di Bondone (c. 1267 to 1337)

**Date:** c.1303-05

**Technique/Medium:** monochrome (grisaille) fresco (wall painting)

**Location:** Cappella Scrovegni (Arena Chapel), Padua

**Did you notice....**

That she is looking into a mirror; seated at a desk; holding a pen; the book on the desk; the inscription at the top of the frame; her throne like chair.

For additional information and more images of the entire cycle you can follow the link <http://www.polomuseale.firenze.it/musei/chiostriscalzo/>



**Title:** Temperance

**Artist:** Giovanni Di Balduccio

**Date:** 1339

**Technique/Medium:** marble

**Location:** Detail from the tomb of Peter of Verona in the Portinari chapel in the Church of Sant'Eustorgio in Milan (Italy).

**Did you notice....**

She is supporting/holding up something (all seven virtues appear as part of a tomb); she is pouring something from one jug to another; she has a crown; the word for temperance is written above her head.



**Title:** Courage/Fortitude

**Artist:** Print made by Crispijn de Passe the Elder, After Marten de Vos

**Date:** 1590-1637

**Technique/Medium:** etching/engraving (print)

**Location:** Many copies survive as it was a print. It was made in the Netherlands.

**Did you notice....**

She is holding a pillar; in the background left is the scene depicted where the Pharaoh perished in the Red Sea; in the background right is the Devil kneeling before Christ; the name of the virtue appears in text below the image.