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## FAITHWAY – Advent 2023

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### *The Church of the Holy Faith*

*welcomes all people into an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*We believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Sacraments, and the Authority of Scripture.*

*We honor our Anglican heritage and praise God with Solemn liturgy, traditional Prayer Book worship, and music to exalt the spirit.*

*We strive to live as a community with compassion for one another and the world around us.*

*We worship together in peace to praise and thank God, to transcend division, and to celebrate the mystery of faith.*

### A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Faithful and Friends of Holy Faith,

The theme for this year's stewardship campaign is "Christ in you, the hope of glory." This theme comes from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians where he describes God's commission that was given him "to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has been revealed to [you] his saints. To [you] God chose to make known how great among the [nations] are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." (Colossians 1.25-27) This mystery, which is Christ in you, refers to Christ's presence in the church, among you his followers. Christ's real presence at Holy Faith is the basis for our hope of glory in the future.



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*" Christ in you, the hope of glory."*

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The cover of this year's stewardship brochure depicts one of the stained-glass windows on the east aisle of the church nave showing not a saint, but the cross with a crown of glory above it. The stained-glass window is dedicated in memory of the Rev'd Sanderson Henry Stefanos Ilderton.

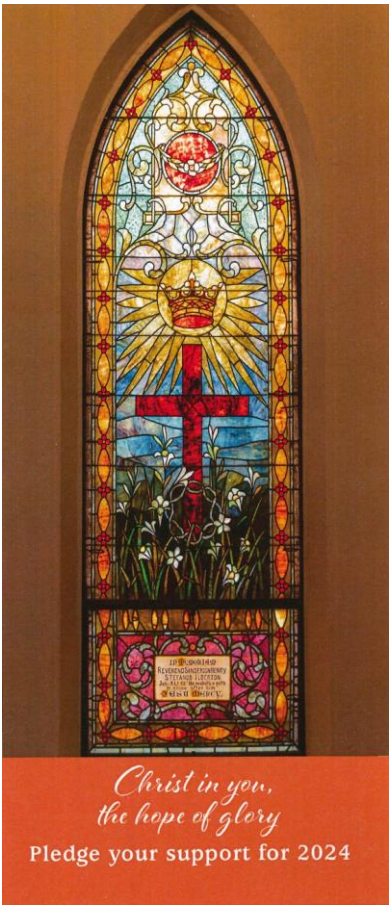
According to Stanford Lehmborg's history of Holy Faith, the Rev'd Deacon Ilderton was appointed minister in charge of Holy Faith in November of 1891, but died of consumption within a few months. The window memorializes his brief ministry, and describes Deacon Ilderton with the words from the 32<sup>nd</sup> verse of the 41<sup>st</sup> chapter of Job: "He maketh a path to shine after him." May the same be said of us. May a path of the light of Christ shine through us, to reflect the hope of glory.

Pledge forms are available at the church and have been mailed to those for whom we have addresses. This year, you may make an online pledge of support for the mission and ministry of Holy Faith for 2024 by going to <https://holyfaithchurchsf.org/stewardship/>. Thank you to all who have made or will make a pledge.

As we live into “Christ in you, the hope of glory,” we will not only see Holy Faith thrive in new and exciting ways, but I hope your commitment as a follower of Jesus Christ will strengthen. St. Paul exhorts us, “Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.” (Ephesians 3:20-21) God has provided for the ministries of Holy Faith to continue through the time, talent, and treasures that you offer. I am sure you join me in desiring Holy Faith to continue glorifying God for succeeding generations.

My special thanks go to Chris and Vann Bynum, the co-chairs of this year’s stewardship campaign. As they were seeking stewardship speakers for the Sunday morning services, they suggested the speakers reflect on what first attracted them to Holy Faith and what keeps them at Holy Faith. You may recognize these questions from this fall’s parish survey. Thank you to all 127 of you who responded! Your Vestry is reviewing the parish survey responses and is excited to share its findings with you in the near future. The results will help ensure Holy Faith gives glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

Yours faithfully in Christ,  
Fr. Robin+



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## CHILDREN'S CHAPEL: GROWING IN A HOLY SPACE

STORY BY JAMES OVERTON, PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES OVERTON AND CATHY GRONQUIST

*"It's always about discovery..."*

Emerging from pandemic isolation parishioner Lisa Anne Emory found a resonating mission and new vision in her stewardship of Children's Chapel at Holy Faith. Luckily, her daughter, five-year-old Rosie, took it in stride and helped her mom refine her approach for dealing with a congregation of some two dozen kids ranging from babies to teens.



A cradle Episcopalian who grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Lisa was steeped in liturgy and music, as her father was director of music in her hometown church, even baptized as a Lutheran. "I grew up in the Episcopal Church, so this was like coming home to me. But it looked like fun to get involved with these children," she said in a recent interview. "I wanted to make sure Rosie had a connection with a community her age for her sake as well as to learn her prayers. We talked about her being my assistant and to make sure that I know she's my only daughter."

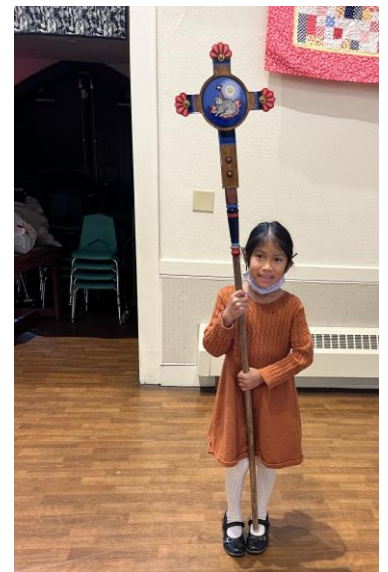
During the pandemic Lisa played an active role in virtual kids' church broadcast online for Holy Faith parishioners unable to attend live service on Sunday. "There was a need for new birth and resurrection of our community life here. And we needed to focus on people and be happy with where we were," she said. This was especially important for children whose normal

playground routines were disrupted by Covid-19. "For children, their learning was in their congregation and their relationships. In Children's Chapel, it's nice to develop a new vision. (Referring to those who preceded her,) "and it's fun to stand on the shoulders of giants."

Of her experience in taking over children's church with the lifting of pandemic restrictions, Lisa says the dynamic of engaging youngsters confirms the adage "out of the mouths of babes..." "They are so in that place of awe. It's super cool to watch kids grow up together in a holy space. They are so sensory oriented because they are still building language. Just like their personalities. It's fun to watch what God is to them. We talk about the wonder and the question. Their explanations are sometime right on as to what they ask. It's all very relational. It's cool to watch them work out their relationships. And they all want to carry the cross into the early service!"

Lisa has seen much of this in her own development and journey in faith. "My love of music and the arts all began at church," she said. "I've had transcending moments being surrounded by theater and the arts. It's the same thing with the blessing of liturgy."

Lisa came to Santa Fe during recovery from a spinal cord injury in 2010. Turning toward self, she sought the healing elements of Santa Fe, wrote and published poetry, and became involved in the meditative and therapeutic aspects of various schools of yoga which she has practiced for more than 20 years. "I had known Santa Fe as a place of introspection and healing. My vision evolved. When one door closed another one opened." Her discovery pathway continued with writing. "That's why I love working with children. Sharing our raw words is important and stimulating. Off the cuff. Always immediate. It's always about discovery," she said.





She sees the program at Holy Faith from babies to teens in a good place, having the potential for a wider reach. “The beauty of Holy Faith, especially having a small pool of children, is that it has art and culture. Our programming is determined by who is here at the time in a place where multiple people are playing different roles.” Children’s Chapel now has some two dozen participants.

Lisa has talked to Mark Childers, parish administrator, about getting some kids more involved liturgically. Young Rosie often sits with her mom, a soprano, during choir practice—the beginnings of ear training at age five. Not to mention, bonding! “It makes them feel comfortable about being engaged even going into something like public speaking. There is so much life-skill training that can be done here. We each get individualized time. It can be so inspiring.”

As to the future: “I would like to see us grow a bit but also to remain humble. Here, it’s about connection and being face-to-face. Sharing our raw words is where it happens. It’s all discovery and that’s important to art. And it’s so perfect for a community of God.”

### **LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE BRINGS BACK LESLIE DILLEN!**

STORY BY LORA MORTON AND PHOTOGRAPH BY CATHY GRONQUIST

Can a play be just as good the second time around? Yes, it can, or it might be better, or it might simply be different. But if it’s been brought back by popular demand, it’s pretty certain that it’s special.

So, the Holy Faith Library Committee was confident that when they invited actor/playwright and parishioner Leslie Dillen to present her solo show “Action Jesus” again for their Open House on October 24<sup>th</sup>, the full house in the library would enjoy themselves.

As he did in March with her first presentation, Father Robin introduced Leslie but this time mentioned that she was fresh off her performance in Edward Albee’s “Seascape”, presented recently at the New Mexico Actors Lab. Leslie began by saying, “Every performance is unique. Let’s plunge right in.”



Once again, her energetic reading was accompanied by much laughing out loud from the audience who appreciated the honesty and humor in Leslie’s description of her spiritual journey. And once again, “Action Jesus”, the plastic eponymous figure, was missing in action. This was on purpose, Leslie explained, because she didn’t want people to be distracted by a figurine when their imaginations could be active.

For those who had seen the play before, different details might have stood out this time. For example, did they hear that Father Bob was “straight out of the Hobbit”? That he wore a “purposeful cardigan and corduroy pants”? Were they moved to hear that when you’re on the right path, you feel energy flowing through you and know that you and God are connecting? Maybe they were simply more in tune with Leslie’s experiences, hearing God’s message in coincidences.

Said Leslie of this latest reading, “Each time I share it, I learn something new from the audience which enriches my understanding of the material. This is the mystery of theater. It’s never the same twice.” She appreciated the reception afterward and called it a wonderful way to meet and talk further with people about their own spiritual journeys.

## **LAS OFRENDAS: IN COMMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES VAUGHAN

Throughout Mexico, altars called, *las ofrendas*, (offerings) are set up in homes to welcome the souls of the dead. Again, this year, Holy Faith set up an Ofrenda in Palen Hall for church members to honor and remember family members and friends with symbols and objects which represent those who have passed on. Following the All Souls service on Oct. 31, parishioners processed into Palen Hall where they were invited to tell about a photo or memento placed on the *Ofrenda* as a reminder of a departed loved one. Among those who spoke were Sally Ritch, who paid tribute to her husband, Andy, who died a week earlier on Oct. 25; and Patty Vaughan who shared a memory of her sister, Sharon, who died in 2020.



## **THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE PRESENTS: A MEMOIR BY POLLY BARTON**

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY LORA MORTON

If an elephant, a camel, a lamb and a pig turned up at a church for the Blessing of the Animals, would you call that place a circus? "Better a circus than a dusty tomb," said the subject of the Holy Faith Library Committee's latest Open House on November 14<sup>th</sup>. The subject, James Parks Morton, was the father of parishioner Polly Barton who spoke about the memoir he began, *With Companions for the Journey*, which she finished with her mother, Pamela. In fact, Polly's mother made a guest appearance via Zoom and supplied half the stories and details about her husband who was dean of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in Upper Manhattan for 25 years.





Polly's husband, John, supplied even more information about the Cathedral, located at 110<sup>th</sup> and Amsterdam, and known as "St. John the Unfinished." The building is worth a story in itself—it's as long as two football fields and so tall that the Statue of Liberty could stand under its dome. It's the largest Gothic Revival cathedral in the world.

Even the history of the memoir is a tale. Polly's father had started working on it in 2005 when his memory was still good and his writing was clear. But as his Alzheimer's progressed, his notes about the Cathedral became muddled and he died in 2020. Enter the pandemic when all of us had time on our hands with quarantines. Polly and her mother realized that they needed to act to finish the job, so they spent their time screenshotting texts and organizing material into the memoir.

Polly began her presentation by reading the opening chapter describing her father at age seven, when his father, a professor of drama at the University of Iowa, had an office in the basement of the university theater. Down the hall was the "magic model room...with scores of exquisite miniature models of theater stage sets." Among the sets were models of medieval cathedrals where Christian mystery plays had been performed. Years passed and James Morton took architecture classes at Harvard, in each of which he built models of religious structures. "Could it be that these models were preparing me for the ultimate architectural love of my life: my twenty-five years as dean of the world's largest unfinished cathedral, St. John the Divine, in New York, and my passion to continue its construction?" he wrote.

So, how did her father go from architecture to the church? He happened to hear a speaker during his junior year in college, a young priest who spoke of spiritual poverty as the center of Christian life. The priest, Paul Moore, was persuasive, and eventually it was Moore, then a bishop, who called Morton, then an Episcopal priest, to be dean of the cathedral in 1972. "This place has been sleeping and I think you're the one to wake it up," he told Morton.

The new dean wanted the cathedral to be a center of the city the way medieval cathedrals were, where music and art were important parts of religious experience, and in its own way, that's what it became, guided by such beliefs of his as "The Beatitudes are my job description" and "Any form of exclusion, I would say, is my definition of heresy." The words of Thomas Merton, "My brothers and sisters, we are already one. What we have to become is what we already are," became the theological rock of the dean's life. He respected other religious traditions, and founded the Interfaith Center of New York which allows religious leaders and lay people to collaborate on issues of justice and peace.

The list of famous people who have been associated with the Cathedral is very long and very impressive. It includes Archbishop Desmond Tutu, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the tightrope walker Philippe Petit, and the Secretary-General of the U.N., as well as any number of singers, musicians and performers.

"My passion for making the Cathedral a center of both spiritual inspiration and challenging social and environmental issues was matched by nitty-gritty community programs addressing the field of urban poverty," he wrote. At his death, the New York Times headlined him as the "Dean Who Brought a Cathedral to Life." The following year, Polly and Pamela completed the memoir, with annotations and photos.

Sitting in the audience, Fr. Robin realized that his path had crossed the Cathedral's in 2000 when he supervised a youth group's trip to NYC for the program there called Nightwatch. This consisted of spending a Friday night in the basement of the church, venturing upstairs at midnight for a candlelight communion and a surprise 'blowout' improvisation played on the magnificent pipe organ.

As always, the Library Committee hosted a reception afterward, and they want the parish to know that a copy of the book is available in our library and online as a downloadable PDF.



**ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AT BISHOP'S RIDGE**  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MOTHER LYNN FINNEGAN AND CATHY GRONQUIST





## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: C. S. LEWIS AND THE IMMORTALITY OF OUR ANIMALS

STORY BY JAMES L. OVERTON AND PICTURES BY JAMES L OVERTON



It's been said that until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened.

Often quoted, the British writer, literary scholar and Anglican lay theologian, C.S. Lewis, held academic positions in English literature at the universities of Cambridge and Oxford. While most famous for his "Chronicles of Narnia," a seven portal fantasy representing Christianity using symbolism and allegory, Lewis could have walked hand-in-hand with the patron saint of Santa Fe and The Church of the Holy Faith on the first Sunday in October.

A perennial tradition at Holy Faith for many years, we observe on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi – the Blessing of the Animals. So, it was at Holy Faith on October 1, 2023, as the parish celebrated The Feast of St. Francis – first with the liturgy and, then later in the day, with the blessing of the animals. Even with the anxiety of the pandemic, Covid-19, Holy Faith managed to keep the tradition alive:

Donna Lukacs, our intrepid manager of the parish office for most all things factual keeping clergy and administrators in line, she reported the following: "We had approximately, 38 animals, including 2 guinea pigs and 3 cats, and 60 people at the Animal Blessing."

Some were on their last legs; some, wished to remove themselves from the venue. ALL: received a blessing from Holy Faith's clergy along with a certificate for same as well as a pro bono examination or consultation from a local veterinarian.



Frequently mentioned are some of the writings of Lewis about animals: They "may have an immortality, not in themselves, but in the immortality of their masters". He imagines a household including master, mistress and pets representing together a single body, and says, "how much of that 'body' may be raised along with the [master and mistress], who can predict?" He does go on to say, "I think Christians may justly hesitate to suppose any beasts immortal," but I'm already imagining our cats clinging on to my dad as they ascend to heaven."





CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES OPEN HOUSE



TRUNK OR TREAT  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MOTHER LYNN FINNEGAN







**BISHOP'S VISITATION**  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES VAUGHAN





## MINISTRIES FAIR ENCOURAGES INVOLVEMENT

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES VAUGHAN



Holy Faith's Annual Ministries Fair, held Nov. 5, in Palen Hall, introduced members to the many ministries and activities that serve our parish, the Santa Fe community, and the world. Representatives of more than a dozen ministries were on hand to answer questions and sign up members to become a part of the wider Holy Faith family. Amongst ministries represented were: Faith Family Ministry Disciples by Kathleen Orozco; Holy Faith Docents by Ann Caldwell and Kay Swindell; Holy Faith Library by Bonnie Hardwick; Mission and Outreach by Charles Rountree; Women's Spirituality Group by Mtr. Madelynn Johnston and many others.



**IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR!**  
**CHRISTMAS 2023 SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 24, Advent IV**

10:00 a.m. Advent Lessons and Carols

**Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve**

4:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant and Eucharist

7:30 p.m. Festive Eucharist

10:30 p.m. Solemn High Mass with Incense

**Monday, December 25, Christmas Day**

10:00 a.m. Festive Eucharist

**Tuesday, December 26, Feast of St. Stephen**

6:00 p.m. Healing Eucharist with Taizé Chant

**Wednesday, December 27, Feast of St. John**

12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist

**Thursday, December 28, Feast of the Holy Innocents**

12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, December 31, First Sunday after Christmas Day**

7:30 a.m. Spoken Eucharist

8:30 a.m. Eucharist with Hymns and Anthem

11:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist

**Monday, January 1, Feast of the Holy Name**

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Tuesday, January 2**

6:00 p.m. Healing Eucharist with Taizé Chant

**Wednesday, January 3**

12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist

**Friday, January 5, Eve of the Epiphany**

6:00 p.m. Solemn Evensong with Incense





## CLERGY

**The Rev. Canon Robin D. Dodge** – Rector

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**The Rev. Madelynn Kirkpatrick Johnston** – Assisting Priest

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**Rocío Salazar** – Housekeeping

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## VESTRY

Fr. Robin Dodge – Presiding Officer

Mike Morrissey – Sr. Warden

Kaki Grubbs

Mark Everett

Vann Bynum – Jr. Warden

Chris Frenk

Peter Lockyer

Steven Berkshire – Treasurer

Ruth Rael

Charles Rountree – Secretary

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Cathy Gronquist

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## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Marty Buchsbaum

Mark Childers

Fr. Robin Dodge

Mtr. Lynn Finnegan

Cathy Gronquist

Lora Morton

Jim Overton

Janet Sanders

Jim Vaughan

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## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday

9:00 am – 4:30 pm

311 E. Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501

Phone (505) 982-4447

For more information, please visit our new website at [www.holyfaithchurchsf.org](http://www.holyfaithchurchsf.org).

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Faithway – Advent 2023