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## FAITHWAY – Pentecost 2022

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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,

Mother Lynn Finnegan's Ordination to the Priesthood at Holy Faith on June 14 was not only a milestone in her life and walk with Christ, but also a great milestone in the life of this great parish. It was a beautiful, moving liturgy attended by many parishioners, friends and family of Mother Lynn's, and clergy of the diocese. If you have not seen the service, you can view it at <https://youtu.be/m9xRlneVN5Q>.



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*"...thanks go to you, the good people of Holy Faith, for allowing me this sabbatical...."*

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Mother Lynn's ordination also was a continuation of ongoing efforts to prepare for a smooth transition as I leave on a three-month sabbatical. Knowing of Mother Lynn's many gifts for ministry and good fit for Holy Faith, we did not want to lose her after her assigned diaconal year with us. With the assent of the Vestry and permission of the Bishop, I called her to be Assistant Rector of Holy Faith, effective July 1. Now that Mother Lynn is a priest, she can celebrate the Eucharist and share the full range of liturgical

duties with Father Jim. While I am gone, Mother Lynn also will take the Evening and Women's Bible Studies and Spiritual Classics classes that I usually lead, while Father Jim will take Men's Bible Study. While I am away, the parish will be in good hands with Father Jim in charge of the spiritual needs of the parish, and Wardens Van Swift and Vann Bynum and the rest of the Vestry in charge of the temporal affairs of the parish.

My thanks go to you, the good people of Holy Faith, for allowing me this sabbatical, and to the wisdom of the diocese for requiring it in my Letter of Agreement with the parish. More than twenty years ago, dioceses across the Episcopal Church began requiring sabbaticals for rectors around their sixth year of service in the parish to discourage burnout and to provide for deepening an already prospering mutual ministry between rector and parishioners. The sabbatical is to be a time of renewal, rest, and refreshment.

I will begin my sabbatical on June 28. Thérèse, Forrest (Barrett), and I will be based at Thérèse’s mother’s house in Camden, Maine for the three months. In July, I will make a two-week retreat at Holy Cross Monastery, an Episcopal Benedictine community in West Park, New York. My August plans have changed. I will no longer be making a retreat with the Society of St. John the Evangelist in Cambridge, Massachusetts because the Cowley Fathers belatedly informed me that their guesthouse is closed in August. Instead, I will make a one-week retreat at the Community of Jesus, an ecumenical Christian community in the Benedictine monastic tradition in Orleans, Massachusetts. In September, I will make a ten-day retreat at St. John’s Abbey, a Roman Catholic Benedictine monastery in Collegeville, Minnesota. As a Benedictine oblate candidate, my purpose in making these retreats is to join in the daily monastic rhythm of these communities and bring back ideas for incorporating Benedictine practices into the life of Holy Faith that can deepen the spirituality of the parish and its parishioners.

I look forward to returning to you October 2, renewed, rested, and refreshed, for our patronal feast, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, and rejoining in ministry with Associate Rector Father Jim, Assistant Rector Mother Lynn, our Assisting Priest, Mother Madelynn Johnston, all the parish staff, and you. To make it a true sabbatical, I will not be responding to parish emails and my office telephone will not be monitored for messages. In the event of an emergency, please contact the parish office and my colleagues will know how to reach me.

I wish you a holy and spirit-filled summer. See you in October!

Yours faithfully in Christ,  
Fr. Robin+



Photograph by James Overton

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*"Oh, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace."  
St. Francis of Assisi*



For nearly a quarter century, a succession of ministries charted Lynn Finnegan's pathway to the priesthood.

Ordained to the Episcopal priesthood on June 14 at Holy Faith, Mother Lynn is now embarking on a new journey in faith on how to be a pastoral shepherd. Still processing the moment, Mother Lynn is quick to note her first impressions in all its awesome solemnity and spirituality: "The moment I bowed and stepped up to the altar after the deacon had set the table, I felt both peace and awe," she said afterwards. "I remember feeling incredibly blessed and privileged that I had been entrusted to take the host in my hand, lift the chalice and pray the Eucharistic prayers."

What kind of change does she anticipate in her new ministry? "There is an expression: Once a deacon, always a deacon. And it is true, the vows I took on June 19, 2021, as a deacon did not disappear once I took new vows as a priest," she said upon reflection. "Diaconal vows remind me I am always, first and foremost, a servant."

As Holy Faith's assistant rector, Mother Lynn plans to continue to listen, share experiences, and be there to listen to people and their stories. She sees her pastoral mission with similar conviction. "I want to help build a community of parishioners comfortable about sharing needs and concerns. It's building relationships and a community that's Christian-based," she said.

Mother Lynn has been working with Fr. Jim Gordon to reinvigorate a "Family First" ministry which focuses on connecting members of the congregation who may be in need with other parishioners who may be able to assist, putting Holy Faith in a better place to care for its own.

A native New Yorker, she was baptized Roman Catholic. Her husband, Thomas Burr, was raised Methodist. Moving from Florida to Los Alamos in 1992, the family landed at Trinity on the Hill when their two daughters enrolled at the Christian Montessori school at Trinity. After earning her law degree at Florida State University in 1986, she clerked on a Florida appeals court, served as a public defender, was a staff attorney in Florida's Department of Natural Resources and then became an instructor at Florida State's College of Law.

With her ordination she joins more than 2,000 women in the Episcopal Church who have become priests since 1977. Nearly 40 percent of Episcopal priests in America are now women. Her new position as assistant rector will include all the priestly duties — celebrating Mass, giving blessings, and administering absolution -- but her areas of focus will be pastoral care and outreach. "I love that God is pushing me outside my comfort zone!" she said.



POSTSCRIPT: WORDS OF GRATITUDE FROM MOTHER LYNN

Dear Holy Faith Family,

Thank you! A friend who attended my ordination commented she thought the service had more ceremony than Westminster Abbey. I took this as a compliment! One of my favorite antiphons from the service of Morning Prayer, and which Fr. Robin typically includes with Sunday announcements, comes from Psalm 96: "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." While there are many ways and places to worship in the beauty of holiness, the ordination service on June 14, 2022, the feast of St. Basil, will forever remain in my heart as an extraordinarily holy time of celebration, praise, and reverence. As the Bishop said to me afterwards, "The Holy Spirit was there, wasn't she?" I was so grateful for his words because they affirmed the emotions, I was having difficulty articulating, and am still processing to this day. Several priests had warned me beforehand of the powerful ordination experience and many of you, both present and watching via livestream, also felt it and expressed it to me. Praise God!



Two things made my ordination especially memorable: the exhaustive hours of preparation Mark Childers, Fr. Robin, Fr. Jim, and a host of choir members, acolytes, ushers, and altar guild members put in to create a space of glorious music and beautiful liturgy; and second, the warm welcome you, the congregation, extended to me, the visiting clergy, and to everyone who attended. You have welcomed me with open arms and open hearts since the day I arrived in August 2021 for my transitional diaconate. Thank you for the many, many words of encouragement. Thank you for responding loudly, "We will!" when Bishop Hunn asked at my ordination if you will uphold me in my ministry, because I will need it! Invariably, I will at times disappoint you. I pray we can walk together nevertheless, in love and forgiveness, proclaiming and living the gospel of Christ. I am so honored and excited to serve alongside you as your new priest. Let the joy felt so palpably on June 14th infuse us all with a desire to be open to the power of the Spirit, and to go forth to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!



OUT OF COVID, A MINISTRY OF INSPIRATION

STORY BY FR. JIM GORDON AND  
PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES OVERTON

During the dark days of the beginning of the COVID-19 shutdown, a small ray of light found its way to my computer — it was an inspirational message sent from parishioner Jacki Walker. It said, "People are so consumed by time they have forgotten eternity, which is their origin, their home, their destiny. Eternity is the living reality of who you are. — Eckhart Tolle"

Jacki sent it out to her compatriots in the Daughters of the King (I am the DOK chaplain) and the Holy Faith Guild. That was some 700 messages ago. Three years

and three months later, she continues to find and send such messages. “It was the beginning of COVID,” Jacki said, “and I was feeling uninspired, so I started for looking for inspiration. And I thought maybe I’m not the only one who needs to be lifted up today.” After starting with the DOK and the Guild, Jacki expanded her list to include friends and others who found out about the messages and requested them. At present she sends them out to 82 people.

Asked how she comes up with the quotes, Jacki said the key to them was hope. “I do a daily meditation anyway and often from that a thought or idea will be sparked by it, and I’ll go in search of an author or look for a quote on hopefulness or something like that. In the beginning, I was taking things from some of my devotional books; I haven’t done that so much lately but that’s always an option.

“I started in March 2020 when everybody had to go home. It was very early on in the COVID crisis. And a big part of that was that I didn’t know what to do. Then I remember thinking, ‘OK this isn’t the first time this happened in history,’ and I sort of looked at different situations where people had to be isolated.”

Jacki read from Elizabeth Kübler Ross that during World War II babies had to be tied in their cribs so mothers could go to work. “I thought, ‘This is similar and big, we need to think about it,’ so my response was to find all the positive things that I could and focus on that.”

But how does she make the choice daily? “I think the first thing is, I ask myself ‘Do I think it is true? Do I agree with this? Second, is it uplifting?’ I’m not going anywhere to criticize something.” “People sometimes give me feedback,” she continued, “but that’s not why I do it. If they don’t like it, they can delete it. I like it to be uplifting.”

Asked about the discipline it takes to find an appropriate quote and send it out each morning, she said, “Well, it’s a part of what I do every morning. Get up, make my coffee and hit my computer and look at my daily devotions online. From there I go to look for a quote that will be inspirational.”

Often, Jacki said, the choice is triggered by something she’s read in her daily devotions. Sometimes, it’s current events.

Following the Uvalde, Texas, school shooting, she sent this from Kübler Ross: “The reality is that you will grieve forever. You will not ‘get over’ the loss of a loved one; you will learn to live with it. You will heal and you will rebuild yourself around the loss you have suffered. You will be whole again, but you will never be the same. Nor should you be the same nor would you want to.” “For a week I wept every night at 5 when news of [the Uvalde shooting] was on TV. I sent out what I sent out. My thought was my gosh, find a quote that something hopeful will come out of something tragic.”

Asked what specifically she gets from this self-generated ministry, Jacki answered, “What it does for me is reinforces what I want to do every day, which is to have a positive outlook every day regardless of what the circumstances are. See the good even in the bad because I believe it is there.” The intentionality of the practice, Jacki said, has deepened her relationship with God, perhaps because “I’m not just reading my daily devotionals but responding to them in finding messages to share.”

#### POSTSCRIPT: JACKI’S FAVORITE QUOTES (AND ONE OF MINE) BY FR. JIM GORDON

*I asked Jacki to provide with me a few of her favorite quotes. She sent me seven:*

*“Love is what we are born with. Fear is what we learn. The spiritual journey is the unlearning of fear and prejudices and the acceptance of love back in our hearts. Love is the essential reality and our purpose on earth.” — Marianne Williamson*

*“To withhold forgiveness is to take poison and expect the unforgiven to die.” — Saint Augustine*

*“Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is. In the boredom and pain of it, no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.” — Frederick Buechner*

*"If the gospel isn't good news for everybody, then it isn't good news for anybody. And this is because the most powerful things happen when the church surrenders its desire to convert people and convince them to join. It is when the church gives itself away in radical acts of service and compassion, expecting nothing in return, that the way of Jesus is most vividly put on display." — Rob Bell*

*"If you didn't earn your salvation, how are you going to un-earn it?" — Timothy Keller*

*"May God in His mercy lead us through these times; but above all, may He lead us to Himself." — Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

*"Happiness is a quality of the soul...not a function of one's material circumstances." — Aristotle*

*The following Jacki calls an all-time favorite:*

*"For too long, we've called unbelievers to 'invite Jesus into your life.' Jesus doesn't want to be in your life. Your life is a wreck. Jesus calls you into his life. And his life isn't boring or purposeless or static. It's wild and exhilarating and unpredictable." — Russell D. Moore*

*The following is my favorite. My wife, Andi, calls it "the best Christian quote ever," and I wouldn't disagree:*

*"The birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus means that one day everything sad will come untrue." — J. R. R. Tolkien*

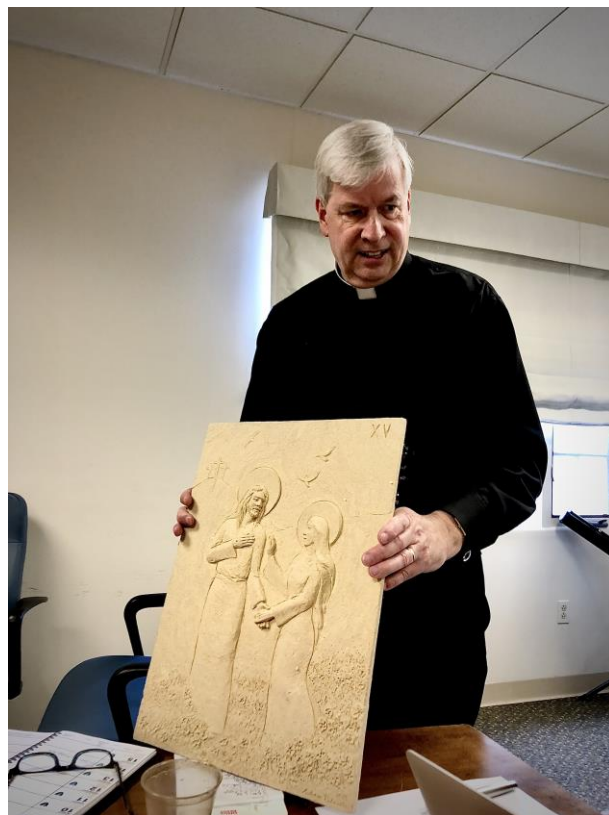
## THE FIFTEENTH STATION OF THE CROSS

STORY BY FR. ROBIN DODGE AND PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES OVERTON

With the assent of the Vestry, I am pleased to accept the Fifteenth Station of the Cross commissioned and given by former parishioner Janina Greene and created by parishioner Andrea Pichaida, who designed and executed the original fourteen Stations that line the walls of Holy Faith's nave. This sacred piece of art, depicting the Risen Christ meeting Mary Magdalene in the Garden, from its inception was designed and dedicated for The Church of the Holy Faith. It will soon be mounted on the east wall of the sanctuary, opposite the Good Shepherd window.

During his papacy, Pope John Paul II encouraged Roman Catholics to add to the fourteen Stations a fifteenth, depicting the Resurrection of Christ or a post-Resurrection appearance of Christ. The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi here in Santa Fe received its Fifteenth Station through the efforts of its former rector, Fr. Jerome. According to Wikipedia, "some modern liturgists say the traditional Stations of the Cross are incomplete without a final scene depicting the empty tomb and the resurrection of Jesus because Jesus' rising from the dead was an integral part of his salvific work on Earth. Advocates of the traditional form of the Stations ending with the body of Jesus being placed in the tomb say the Stations are intended as a meditation on the atoning death of Jesus, and not as a complete picture of his life, death, and resurrection."

Here at Holy Faith, we are taking a very Anglican *via media* approach. I was very clear that our Fifteenth Station of the Risen Christ greeting Mary Magdalene should not be placed immediately adjacent to the Fourteenth Station of Jesus' body being laid in the tomb. Especially during Lent, when on Wednesdays we make the Way of the Cross using the





Stations in the nave, we need to pause and contemplate Jesus' passion, crucifixion, and death, and not move too quickly to the hope of the Resurrection. At the conclusion of the Way of the Cross, we make our prayers before the altar and leave silently, never entering the Sanctuary. But what lies beyond the altar rail in the Sanctuary are signs of the Resurrection – the victorious Lamb of God embedded in the face of the altar, Christ in Majesty carved by Gustave Baumann in the reredos, and soon the Fifteenth Station depicting the Risen Christ greeting Mary Magdalene in the Garden.

According to St. John's Gospel, Mary Magdalene mistook the Risen Christ for the gardener, but recognized him when he said her name. Then Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father." (John 20:17 NEB) Janina Greene, the donor, explains why she chose this particular post-Resurrection appearance of Jesus for the Fifteenth Station: "I always felt that laying Jesus in the tomb was not the end but a beginning of something very new and revolutionary that happened...and it needed to be announced to the whole world, and contemplated through the [Fifteenth] Station of the Cross, a true beginning or continuation of Christ's teaching. I would want to name this Station 'Do not cling to me' [*noli me tangere*, or touch me no longer, in works of classic art] as you see me, but know I am with you always to the end of time and it is through our love that we are eternally connected."

Janina continues: "We are told that Magdalena was the first to recognize Jesus in the garden, but only after he called her by name...I do hope that the art piece itself will inspire the viewer and lead him or her toward that inner transformation which starts in our hearts where we hear being called by our name! I pray that this [Fifteenth] Station of the Cross will be an inspiration to all who gaze and ponder it deeply in their hearts."

So be it! Amen.

### REV. PENNI CHAMBERS' CALL TO PRIESTHOOD

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES OVERTON

*"I felt the call to serve..."*

One of Holy Faith's own is now an ordained parish priest at Holy Family Episcopal Church in Santa Fe. The Rev. Penni Chambers was ordained June 3 at Holy Family by Bishop Michael Hunn.

After moving from Odessa, Texas, in 2014, Penni and Charles Chambers became regular, active members of Holy Faith. Charles has served on the vestry. As a crucifer and acolyte at Holy Faith before being called to the diaconate, Mother Penni realized that was something missing from her personal journey in faith. "I felt the call to serve," she said. "I've always been good at listening to God's call, especially when he gets the 2x4 and hits me over the head." "The call started a long time ago when (husband) Charles and I were living in Odessa, Texas. He was trying to open me up to the fact that there might be a call. Then, God started opening so many doors," Mother Penni said during an interview in 2021.

Mother Penni's period of discernment began in 2017. The Episcopal Church affirms four holy orders of ministry (lay ministry, deacon, priest and bishop) that are mutually discerned based on interdependent work with church leaders before reception of ordination. At Holy Faith, Mother Penni spent her time working with parishioners Ann Wallace, Rhonda Black, Ruth D'Arcy, Dan Green, Grant McDonald and Tom Barker. "Those six very special people spent about nine months working me through the discernment process. Through them, my call became, 'yes, I'm being called,'" she said. "At the time I was not sure if it was the diaconate or the priesthood. Then, I felt called to be a priest."





It was during this period that Bishop Hunn sent her to St. Bede's Episcopal Church in Santa Fe. This opportunity led to greater engagement in altar service, serving in an all-Spanish liturgy, doing visitations and offering communion in homes, assisting in church administration, and participating in liturgy committees to plan Sunday services.

Some 40 percent of Episcopal priests in the United States are now women.

At Holy Family, mother Penni begins her new ministry with the full support of Charles and their extended family. Between the two of them, they have three daughters. One of Charles' daughters is an Episcopal priest married to an Episcopal priest. And Mother Penni's daughter in Dallas saw early on where her mother was headed. "Being a priest is all in the family," she said. "My daughter sensed my calling maybe before I did," she said. "I was trying to tell God I was too busy, but now she's her mom's biggest fan."

## SALLIE BINGHAM'S MOVING MEMOIR SUBJECT OF LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY LORA MORTON

Families deal with tragedy in a variety of ways, sometimes by making an effort to erase any memory of the person involved, but if you're accomplished author Sallie Bingham, you can write a memoir about that person — Jonathan, her younger brother, the fourth of five siblings and the youngest son. The family here is a prominent Southern one that made an effort to blot out Jonathan's life. There were a few gestures on a public level after his death but "the overall emphasis was on secrecy," Sallie told us. "It was important to preserve an image and this requires an attitude of detachment, denying humanity and honesty."

Those of us at the Library Open House for the June 7 presentation "Little Brother and My Long Career in Writing" were captivated by the excerpts Sallie read from this most recent book of hers and periodically were invited to ask questions. "This memoir, built on a few facts, a handful of Jonathan's papers [provided by the younger sister Eleanor], and my memory, is my version of his life and death," she read.

Chapter One includes a beautiful memory of riding in the family station wagon with her mother at the wheel and the siblings as passengers. Seeing the gilded dome of the state capitol, young Jonathan remarks, "If that isn't beautiful, nothing is," which prompts his protective older sister to later write "how tender my little brother has been from the very beginning." She continues her description of his school life which moves toward the expected enrollment at Harvard, because that's where the family went, but he was quite unhappy there.





Why unhappy? Jonathan's life at Harvard coincided with Timothy Leary's experiments with psychedelic drugs, in which graduate students originally were allowed to participate. Eventually undergrads could join the tests but no one knows if Jonathan became part of this. All anyone knew was that by the end of his junior year, when he left Harvard, something started to go wrong. He became the first Bingham to drop out of college, and one just didn't do that, not in this particular Kentucky family.

When Sallie went home for Christmas that year, she found her brother withdrawn. He told her he had a chem lab in the basement where he just created a cure for cancer. Sallie figured this was a delusion, as he had no training in science or medicine, and told him she didn't believe him. That was the last time she saw him.

At this point in the talk, someone asked if there was a history of schizophrenia in the Bingham family. Sallie replied probably, perhaps undiagnosed and/or disguised by alcoholism. No matter what, though, Jonathan's electrocution the following spring was horrifying, sudden and tragic.

Those familiar with Sallie's 1989 memoir *Passion and Prejudice* will remember her provocative chronicle of the Bingham family saga. And if you have attended Library events before, you may remember her Zoomed talk last year about Doris Duke. These gatherings are a way to highlight the artistic talents of parishioners and Sallie feels that participating in them is very important because they are a kind of offering back to Holy Faith which she calls "the home of my heart."

The library was gifted with a copy of *Little Brother*, and the book can be purchased at Garcia Street Books.

## 2022 COLLEGE BOOK SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

STORY BY JANET SANDERS

The cost of college textbooks has increased more than 170 percent in the last two decades. The College Board estimates that in 2020 the average cost of textbooks for one year of college topped \$1,240 and is higher now. Generous Holy Faith donors are making a big difference for two of our parish's college students.

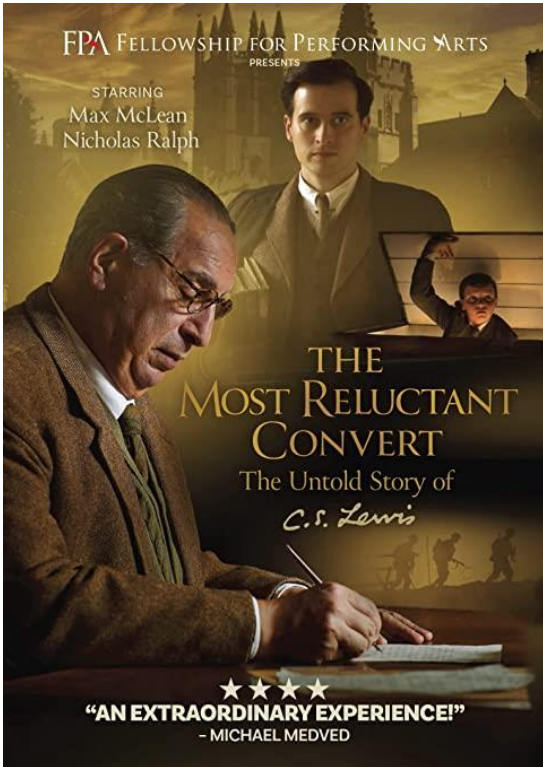
Hallie Weichsel is beginning her sophomore year at Texas Christian University and her second year as a Holy Faith Book Scholarship recipient. Her communications major and health and fitness minor give her a lot of future career options, and the Book Scholarship makes it easier for her to accept exploratory internships that pay more in valuable experience than in stipends. Hallie is grateful to the Holy Faith family not only for the Book Scholarship but for a strong foundation on which to continue her faith journey at school. She attends a "good church with good friends" and participates in the campus Young Life program of Christian fellowship and Bible study.

Roger Wilder is off to Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine as a freshman planning to study marine biology. He was enchanted by the animals in Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, where he lived until he was 8, and never lost that passion. Even after moving to the high desert of New Mexico Roger maintained his marine interest by caring for his own fresh and saltwater fish tanks and by doing volunteer work at the Albuquerque BioPark Aquarium. In his thank you note to Holy Faith, Roger wrote: "I am pleased to ... know that I was awarded the [College Book Scholarship] funds and I am very grateful for your support."



## UNTOLD STORY OF C.S. LEWIS' NEXT FOR MOVIE NIGHT

STORY BY FR. JIM GORDON



Holy Faith's Movie Night re-launched in April with the Easter film *Risen*. On July 1, our Movie Night will move to a first-Friday-of-the-month format with the wonderful film *The Most Reluctant Convert: The Untold Story of C.S. Lewis*.

*The Most Reluctant Convert*, a film adaptation of Max MacLean's stage play, details, in one reviewer's words, "Lewis' journey remarkable journey from hardboiled atheist to becoming the most renowned Christian writer of the past century." McLean stars as the maturing Lewis — he became a Christian in his early 30s. Both the play and the film are largely based on Lewis' memoir, *Surprised by Joy*.

Writes Richard Propes of [TheIndependentCritic.com](http://TheIndependentCritic.com):

"This relatively slight 73-minute film manages to capture the significant points in the life of the man many know primarily as the creator of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Filmed largely in and around Oxford, U.K., *The Most Reluctant Convert* quickly introduces us to McLean's Lewis as the narrator of the film and a constant presence in it even as we travel back-and-forth to experience the tragic death of Lewis's mother when he was nine-years-old, his subsequent strained relationship with his father, his

declaration of atheism at age 14, his nightmarish time in the trenches of war during World War I by age 19, and his journey to Oxford University where friend J.R.R. Tolkien would ultimately challenge his unbelief.

"*The Most Reluctant Convert* is grounded in intelligence and reason, an underlying emotional resonance immersing us in the fullness of Lewis as so wonderfully brought to life by McLean in Lewis's middle-aged years and by Nicholas Ralph (*All Creatures Great and Small*) at the time of Lewis's actual conversion to Christianity."

The film will begin at 6; popcorn and water will be provided. After the film, there will be time for a brief discussion of Lewis and the film.

## RETURN TO SANTUARIO DE CHIMAYÓ IN 2022

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
JAMES OVERTON

On Easter Sunday and during the 50 days of Eastertide, Episcopalians exclaim "Alleluia" and reflect on the mystery of faith.

That many Christians believe the seven miracles of Jesus were historical events and affirmed his divinity is also a thread common to the tri-ethnic religious and cultural history of Northern New Mexico.

After a COVID-19 induced hiatus of more than two years, Holy Faith





parishioners and other pilgrims renewed the annual pilgrimage to the Santuario de Chimayó during the 2022 Lenten season. The pilgrim journey dates back from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and traditionally peaks on Good Friday during Lent. It had waned by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century but was revived with some fanfare on April 9, 1946.

According to *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, Conrad Vigil had barely been free from a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp barely seven months set out on a 125-mile trek from his home in Belen to Chimayó. His destination was the adobe shrine that now draws tens of thousands of pilgrims during Holy Week. Vigil and other New Mexicans who survived the infamous Bataan Death March had vowed that if they survived World War II, they would make the memorable trek.

Chimayó, in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains has been a place of worship since before its construction in 1813. The Santuario is considered by some to be one of the most important pilgrimage sites in the United States, drawing some 300,000 visitors a year. During Holy Week, it draws pilgrims from all over New Mexico. Some walk more than 100 miles carrying wooden crosses — often left in spontaneous shrines on a chain-link fence — or treading on cactus needles in their shoes to demonstrate penitence or devotion.

“For years, (Holy Faith) pilgrims making the walk to Chimayó would start from Pojoaque. It was later moved to the parking lot at the church in Nambé. Back then, pilgrims from Holy Faith were fewer than half a dozen. By 2019, the number swelled to some 40 people of all ages, said Eleanor Ortiz, a member of the Altar Guild who’s been making the walk since coming to Santa Fe as a newly minted schoolteacher in 1966. From Nambé, the faithful walk eight miles to the Santuario.

For years, individual members of Holy Faith joined the devout from Santa Fe and elsewhere to do the walk, usually on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday. Many parishioners credit the late rector, Fr. Kenneth J. Semon, with making the walk an organized observance for the parish with enthusiastic support from many parishioners. Fr. Ken added the 14 stations of the cross as part of the pilgrimage, a practice now carried on by Fr. Robin Dodge.





## CLERGY

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

(505) 780-0801 or [mkpriest@msn.com](mailto:mkpriest@msn.com)

## STAFF

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## VESTRY

Fr. Robin Dodge – Presiding Officer

Van Swift – Sr. Warden

Mark Everett

Chris Frenk

Vann Bynum – Jr. Warden

Peter Lockyer

Ruth Rael

Steven Berkshire – Treasurer

Walter Sterling

Charles Rountree – Secretary

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Cathy Gronquist

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## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

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Mark Childers

Fr. Jim Gordon

Fr. Robin Dodge

Cathy Gronquist

Lora Morton

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Janet Sanders

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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.holylaithchurchsf.org](http://www.holylaithchurchsf.org).

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Faithway – Pentecost 2022