

# FAITHWAY - Pentecost 2024

### The Church of the Holy Faith

welcomes all people into an everdeepening 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,

People have remarked lately that Holy Faith is experiencing a lot of change. Now, I know few people like change. Most people prefer to stick with the familiar and the tried and true. Most people want to stay in their comfort zone with the known rather than the unknown.



"...look upon this time of change at Holy Faith as one of excitement and growth ...."

Remember, however, the vision of St. John: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...And [God] who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:1, 5) And St. Paul reminds us: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) God makes all things new through change. And, if we really think about it, we do not want things to stay the same. In fact, if an organism is not changing, it means it is

dying. Change signifies growth. New experiences can bring excitement and stimulate growth.

So, look upon this time of change at Holy Faith as one of excitement and growth. Pay attention to where God is calling you to respond in new ways. Embrace those changes that awaken within you feelings of curiosity, surprise, and joy. With all excitement and growth, take time for rest and relaxation. During these longer days of daylight, enjoy the wonders of God's good creation. But do not neglect your time with God. Be intentional about your prayer life. Make time each day to wait upon the Lord. Be still and know that God is with you. Such a reliance on God will help you embrace all the new things God is doing in your life.

During this time of change, I find strength in the words of President George H.W. Bush from his inaugural address, which I share with you now: "I take as my guide the hope of a saint: In crucial things, unity; in important things, diversity; in all things, generosity." May God grant you a generosity of spirit.

Yours faithfully in Christ,

Fr. Robin+



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# "...God's way is always better than my way."

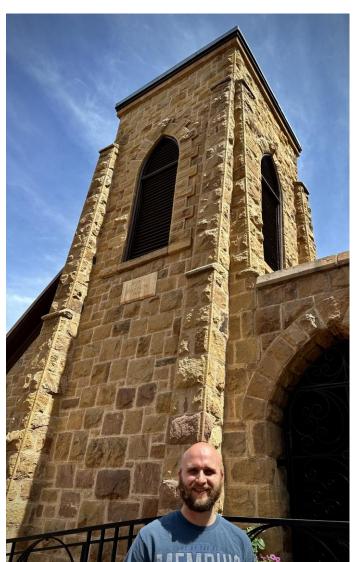
Seminarian Tom Wilcox is no stranger to picturesque stone churches like the one anchoring the fictional English village of "Grantchester" on Masterpiece Theater – or the ones of his Anglican adolescence.

That he had to travel nearly 5,000 miles from Bristol, England, to spend his summer at our very real Church of the Holy Faith has become yet another chapter in his spiritual journey to the priesthood.

"I'm a vicar's kid, first of all," Tom Wilcox says matter of factly.

Tom came to Holy Faith as a summer intern from Trinity College in Bristol under the auspices of the Anglican Diocese of Liverpool, England.

"Tom had to do a summer field education placement required by his theological college in Bristol UK. His wife is from Santa Fe, so he reached out to me about the possibility of being placed at Holy Faith. We had a conversation via Zoom, and I agreed," Fr. Robin Dodge said of Tom's arrival earlier this summer.



"It's sort of two birds, one stone, really. My wife is from Santa Fe. She grew up here and has a lot of family here, so we kind of wanted to have an opportunity to see them. But at the same time, I am training in the Church of England, and my seminary requires me to have a church placement somewhere, anywhere. It could be in England; obviously it can be in America. But it could be anywhere in the world."

Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous.

He's a cradle Anglican, a priest's son. Religion was core to his life but not always foremost in his mind – especially as a teenager growing up outside Birmingham in the English Midlands. That would change on a nondenominational mission to Japan that started in 2015.

Tom and his wife, Rosa, have a three-year-old daughter, Poema. Tom and Rosa met while serving as nondenominational missionaries in Japan – he as an Anglican, she, a Pentecostal. Their six-year mission included teaching English and working with youth – something that Tom now does in his seminary training.

Not your typical "summer intern," Tom comes to Holy Faith with 10 years of ministry experience, serving as a missionary in Japan and as a ministry assistant in the Church of England. He currently is a second-year ordinand serving at Concord Church in North Bristol. He holds a bachelor's degree in theology, ministry and missions from Trinity College Bristol.

It was in Japan that their shared mission journey and romance blossomed and his discernment to ministry truly began. This, after stumbling onto an Anglican Christmas Eve service at a western all-purpose chapel in Tokyo in 2018.

"I can say, without any doubt, I was absolutely not wanting to be called to ordained ministry. I did have a developed Christian faith, and I knew that I wanted to do some sort of Christian ministry. But in Japan, God gave me a burden for ordained ministry out there," Tom recalled. "So that's one of the starting things that felt like God was sort of wooing me into a discernment process for the ministry."

Tom's internship at Holy Faith has been much smoother than his first trip to Santa Fe to meet Rosa's parents.

"I remember my first time in Santa Fe. I was jet lagged, had altitude sickness, and I also knew I was going to have that conversation with Rosa's father – one-man-to-man -- if I could marry her! So extremely, no pressure, like yeah! That was a lot going on in my first time."

"Rosa has a huge family – one of seven kids – so we've got 13 nieces and nephews over here. I always said I was an introvert, but my introversion came here to die, because there's a party every single day with Rosa's family!"

He also learned that when he could not decide on red or green chile to always go for "Christmas," the two condiments served on one plate.

As Tom moves along the priestly pathway, he seems content with keeping an open mind about what comes next. "I will go with God," he says. "God may have a different plan."

There have been no serious "fish out of water" adjustments for Tom, as he's been taken under Fr. Robin's wing along with Holy Faith's clergy. But there are differences between Anglican and Episcopalian liturgy, Rite One and Rite Two, High and Low Church, and other word anomalies of two cultures separated by a common language.

"He's been really great. He's been showing me the ropes, so to speak. And I think because he also knows England, he knows Bristol, and he knows where I'm coming from, he's been able to explain what different acronyms mean. For example, when you guys say the church's vestry, I imagine the place where you robe up, because we'd say PCC (Parochial Church Council) instead."

Tom will soon enter his third year of seminary under the auspices of the Liverpool diocese. What comes next remains an open question. Both Tom and Rosa view the unknown with a sense of adventure.

"My wife comes from a Pentecostal charismatic tradition, so she's relatively new to Anglicanism. She obviously must navigate a completely different denomination, let alone where God might be calling us to. But she was also a missionary in Japan, so she's very open to moving in an international capacity.

So, there's no five-year-plan; it's what comes next in his journey:

"If I was still in England after five years, I'd be surprised. I don't know when, where, necessarily, God will have taken us. I know where I'd like to be. I'd like to be back in Japan doing Anglican ministry. But I don't know that for sure, and I don't want to hold too tightly into that vision, because what I've discovered in the discernment process is that God's way is always better than my way."

#### FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES UPDATE

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPS BY MOTHER LYNN FINNEGAN

You may be familiar with Holy Faith's children's chapel ministry: every Sunday, our children have a special program in the chapel and then join us during the announcements as we all sing, "Jesus Loves Me." Our Family and Children's Ministries, though, are not limited to church time on Sundays. One of the exciting new additions is our newly formed Youth Group that began meeting March 17th. Youth Ministers Pam Jones and Thérèse Saint-André meet with youth ages eight (8) and older once or twice a month after the 11:00 a.m. service. Pam explains, "The formula is simple: we check in with each other, and we play active run-around games that have a connection to our theme of the day." And pizza! What would Youth Group be without pizza? After blowing off some steam, the kids talk about their faith. One week it was the Trinity, another it was discussing different types of prayer, another it was about carrying one another's burdens. During the summer, the youth will focus on serviceoriented activities. They hope to bring small plants to a nursing home, plan a backpack give-away for the Fall, and help out somewhere on the church grounds.



By creating a community now, the hope is that the ministry will shepherd the kids into a Jr. and Sr. High program in the future. An important goal of the ministry is to build community. Our kids face many challenges in today's fast-paced world and developing a strong and safe peer group is key. Bonds are already being formed! When one youth group member was having a bad day, another immediately piped up, "I am still praying for you." When a new acolyte had her first day "on the job," a youth group member went out of his way to find her and tell her, "I just want you to know how good you did today."

Bonds are being formed among families and church families as well. The FCM recently enjoyed a picnic at Los Pinos Ranch in the Pecos (hosted by parishioner Alice McSweeney) and will be partnering with St. Bede's Episcopal Church in July for Vacation Bible Camp. Be on the lookout in our weekly newsletter for ways you can support this ministry, and please keep our youth and families in your prayers. They are the future of our church!





# AND FROM LOS PINOS RANCH:











# EVENSONG & RECEPTION CELEBRATING FR. ROBIN'S 25TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY MAY 22, 2024 PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES VAUGHAN















# **PARISHIONER RUSTY BRUNSON CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!** PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES VAUGHAN











#### **HOLY WEEK 2024**

#### Palm Sunday

Holy Faith, Cathedral Basilica, and First Presbyterian congregations process to the Plaza for blessing of the palms. We continue with Solemn High Eucharist with incense.







Bishop Michael Buerkel Hunn and Acolyte Alex Bynun

#### Tenebrae on Wednesday

Candles are extinguished as psalms are read. The final candle, symbolic of Christ, is carried away signifying the apparent victory of evil. Its return represents Christ's eventual triumph.





#### **Maundy Thursday**

The Liturgy for Maundy Thursday provides for celebration of the Eucharist, Washing of Feet, and Stripping of the Altar, followed by All-Night Viail in the Garden of Repose.







#### Good Friday

Mass of the Pre-Sanctified at 7am; The Seven Last Words from the Cross from 12 noon to 3pm; and Good Friday Liturgy and Veneration of the Cross at 7pm.





#### The Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday

The highest and most glorious service of the year is the Great Vigil of Easter which consists of four parts: The Service of Light; The Service of Lessons; Christian Baptism; and the Eucharist.







#### The Sunday of the Resurrection

Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Reception followed by the Solemn High Eucharist with incense celebrating Christ's resurrection. Christ is risen indeed.





Also during Holy Week: Holy Eucharist on Monday at 6pm; Mass of Collegiality on Tuesday at 12noon; Taizé Eucharist on Tuesday at 6pm; and Pilgrimage to Chimayó on Wednesday at 9am

#### **CLERGY**

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Charles Rountree – Treasurer

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,

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For more information, please visit our new website at www.holyfaithchurchsf.org.

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