

Clergy-in-Charge Report
July 26, 2022

June was a significant month, not just for Holy Cross but for me personally as I completed my journey of discernment and formation for ministry with my ordination to the priesthood on June 18th. It meant a great deal to me to see the outpouring of love and support from the members of Holy Cross who attended the service. I then began my ministry as priest-in-charge the following day with my first celebration of the Eucharist on the second Sunday after Pentecost. I was also quite privileged that Sunday to have the assistance of Fr. Steven, who was celebrating the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the transitional diaconate. Fr. Steven continues to serve as our supply priest on the 4th Sunday of each month when I am serving in my role as Curate at St. Bartholomew's in Poway.

Aside from my personal milestones, June saw a great deal of activity at Holy Cross, particularly in the steps toward our move to JCo at the beginning of August. Our lease agreement with JCo was reviewed and approved by each of the diocesan bodies (Finance Committee, Executive Council, and Standing Committee) which cleared us to begin making plans for the move. Related to the move, a relocation team and a planning team for our mid-year pledge campaign were assembled and convened. In addition to this, our Visioning Team met and completed outlining its recommendations on the goals and objectives of the strategic plan to be sent to the BC for the work of completing the plan. The BC finalized the draft strategic plan in a special meeting on June 30th.

Other significant events in our community life were the Light Up with Pride event which took place at the Open Table in Encinitas on June 2nd. Several of our members attended this event, and I represented the congregation as clergy in a special service. The following weekend we participated in Pride by the Beach in Oceanside with a booth where we shared information about the church. This led to many great conversations with people in our community. Finally, on June 19th our congregation participated in a Ministry Forum following our service where members shared and encouraged each other to discover their spiritual gifts, passions, and interests that might be used to help the work of the church.

Enthusiasm and energy remained high throughout the month as the congregation looked forward to returning to South Carlsbad. The renewed sense of purpose is very noticeable, and I am grateful to have the opportunity to lead the congregation during this exciting time.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Brian Petersen