

Clergy-in-Charge Report
June 16, 2022

We began the month of May with a special congregational forum highlighting the work of the Location subcommittee on our Visioning Team, followed by my presentation on the proposed space-sharing arrangements at Jewish Collaborative of San Diego (JCo). This forum provided an opportunity for the congregation to learn about the space and the arrangement, and to share their thoughts and questions about the potential move to JCo. There were many thoughtful questions and observations raised, and we continued to gather feedback from the congregation in the weeks following. The forum and the responses, along with subsequent discussion by the VT, made it clear to me and to the BC that entering into a lease with JCo was the direction that God was leading us for the next phase of Holy Cross' journey. This set the tone for the rest of the month, much of which was occupied by preparations for negotiating the lease and then presenting it to the various diocesan authorities for review and approval.

The step of finally coming to a decision on location has been a major milestone in my time at Holy Cross, and there has been a palpable shift in momentum from the congregation now that the decision has been made. The work of the VT has also shifted its focus from answering the "who" and "where" questions, and moving onto the "what" and "how".

The focus of my work during May was on maintaining that momentum as we wait for the administrative processes around the move to unfold, and preparing the congregation for the days ahead which will certainly be quite busy with many changes. Our Sunday services continued to run smoothly with attendance remaining mostly stable, with Fr. Steven providing his help and presence as presider. This has allowed me to devote time to pastoral issues within the congregation. On a personal level, May was also the month that I began my half-time curacy at St. Bart's in Poway, and finished up my CPE unit at Loma Linda University Medical Center. Now that CPE has been completed, I look forward to establishing a more stable schedule between Holy Cross and St. Bart's, with set office hours at both parishes.

It is a privilege to continue to serve the people of Holy Cross, and as I am ordained to the priesthood in June, I am grateful for the mutual ministry of support that this congregation has and continues to provide for me. I look forward to continuing to help lead Holy Cross into the exciting days ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Brian Petersen, Deacon