

February 4, 2010

From: The Reverend Laura M. Deaderick

To: The Right Reverend Bishop James Mathes, Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, CA  
The Reverend Canon Suzie Holding, Canon to the Ordinary  
The Reverend Ted Atwood, Vicar of Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Carlsbad, CA  
Mr. Tom Mauro and members of the Call Committee  
(Mr. Jerry Kirtley, Mrs. Betty Olson, Mr. Larry Kucera, Mrs. Elizabeth Burr,  
Mrs. Sue Sebastian, Mrs. Mary Lou Vanderpool)  
Mr. Michael Collier, Senior Warden and members of the Vestry  
(Mr. Jerry Kirtley, Mr. Tom Mauro, Mrs. Sue Bass,  
Mrs. Jean Gillette, Mrs. Judy Cater)

I don't wish to take up a lot of your time this evening, but in preparation for this telephone call, I have prepared a brief response that I hope you might allow me to share now.

I first learned about Holy Cross's search for a Vicar through happenstance. A member of St. Augustine's, Oakland, where I currently attend, let me know in late December of another congregation in your diocese (in Borrego Springs) seeking a new Rector. Later that day, I logged onto the Church Deployment Office website to check out what looks to be a fine congregation, but one whose profile did not particularly speak to me. In reviewing other open positions in the Diocese of San Diego, however, I happened across Holy Cross Episcopal Church. Your statement of mission and purpose engaged me immediately -- in its transparency, authenticity and emphasis on outreach and justice. It drew me in, and led me to explore your church website, where I found not only superb photographs, and excellent descriptions of your history, your mission and values, and your desired qualifications in a vicar, but much evidence of clear, concerted effort to do effective ministry amidst formidable challenges as one community in Christ.

I appreciate Mr. Mauro for fielding my phone call on December 21<sup>st</sup>, and for welcoming me to enter your search. Since that time, I, like all of you, have been in prayerful discernment, knowing that a call involves a delicate balance of intention, work, and discernment, guided by the Holy Spirit. I am grateful for the chance to have listened to several of Fr. Atwood's sermons, for they gave great indication of the strong theology that undergirds your ministry. Fr. Atwood, you really pack a punch! I appreciate the Call Committee's efforts during my interview January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> to introduce me to the life and history of Holy Cross, to offer tours of Carlsbad, and to introduce me to Bishop Mathes and the Diocese of San Diego. I appreciate the time that Bishop Mathes took to meet with me, and to make clear his high expectations for the person who would receive this call. Every hope of mine was exceeded in that two-day visit to your lovely part of the country. Since returning, my future spouse, Jerry Campbell and I have been in prayerful discernment, as we have awaited the outcome of your search.

I feel honored to have even been part of this search, and humbled by the recommendation of Mr. Mauro and the Call Committee, as well as the affirmation of Mr. Collier and the Vestry. With gratitude, I accept your invitation to join you as partner and leader in a ministry already flourishing. As a shared ministry unfolds

beginning in July, I will work to my utmost to live up to Bishop Mathes' aforementioned high standards, to the Call Committee's vote of confidence, and to the Vestry's Call. You have my commitment to no fewer than five years as your Vicar, and hopefully, for more years, provided that you and Bishop Mathes desire for my ministry to continue. Jerry shares my enthusiasm for this new chapter of life and ministry. In the event that he retains his position as Vice President for Advancement at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, after a new Dean and President is called this Spring, I want you to know that we will at least for the first year share responsibility for commuting between Berkeley and Carlsbad. As time unfolds, we will devote our energies increasingly to new relationships in Carlsbad, and to supporting the ministry of Holy Cross.

In these intervening months, when there will be much for us all to accomplish, please remember us in prayer. Be assured of my daily prayers for each and every one of you, and to intentional preparation, so that, come July 1<sup>st</sup>, when Mr. Collier hands me marching orders, we can begin this ministry on solid ground. Thank you for inviting me to serve among you, and for granting me the privilege of serving among the bishop and many fine people in the Diocese of San Diego.

Please feel free to contact me at any time:

535 Pierce Street, #3101

Albany, CA 94706

510/501-3822 [lheaderick64@att.net](mailto:lheaderick64@att.net)