

Hope Rising for Another Go

Photo by Roya Ann Miller/Unsplash



For a long time, Emily Dickinson's image of hope spoke to me: "Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul, and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all." It's a delicate image, beautiful and comforting to me. For most of my life, I heard hope singing, persistent even in the face of great difficulties.

Then one day, as I experienced a deep and painful grief, the sweet singing stopped, silent for a long while. With healing work, hope rose again, scarred, but strong, courageous, resourceful and resilient, singing heartily and hiking toward the future with her sisters, faith and love at her side.

We hiked together; faith holding the past, love carrying the present, and hope always moving forward, clearing a path to the next ridge, even in blazing heat. When I laid down, ready to give up, the sisters got me through. Faith reminded me that others had gone before me and shared their wisdom. Love wiped my face, tended my wounds, and fed me cakes and honey. Hope stood me up, began to break trail and sang courage.

In the spring of 2022, Matthew (@crowsfault) posted on X (Twitter):

"People speak of hope as if it is this delicate, ephemeral thing made of whispers and spider's webs. It's not. Hope has dirt on her face, blood on her knuckles, the grit of the cobblestones in her hair, and just spat out a tooth as she rises for another go."

I knew her – scrappy, determined, relentless, just like her sisters, faith and love. In the wake of COVID, racial reckonings, increased gun violence and rising political tensions, the 2022 social media world seemed to embrace this tough and bloodied image of hope. In recent years, imagining a future of justice, equality and peace, she and her sisters have protested for racial and gender equality, marched against gun violence, and voted for a woman's right to reproductive healthcare.

The baptismal covenant calls us to faithfully believe in Jesus Christ as Savior, to seek and serve Christ in all persons, to strive for justice and peace and to respect the dignity of everyone.

We do not have the luxury of abandoning faith, losing hope, or allowing love to fall to fear, indifference or apathy. Like many through history, we are in the fight of our lives. We must hold fast to faith, love the world and one another with all that we have, and follow hope through the blood and dirt as she rises to have another go. Steadfast faith, relentless hope, fierce love. They are the only things that will save us. They are Jesus, living in a world on fire.

– Sr. Miriam Elizabeth, OSH

What is an image of hope that you hold? How are faith, hope and love walking with you in the world today?

GENERAL CONVENTION #81



The Rt. Rev. Carlye Hughes, bishop-visitor to The Order of Saint Helena, with Sr. Ellen Francis, OSH



Sr. Ann Prentice, OSH; The Rev. Canon Johnnie Ross, Society for Ordained Scientists; The Rev. Rhonda Rogers, OSH Associate and Rector, St. Francis of Assisi, Prairie View TX

SEMINARY OF THE SOUTHWEST ALUMNI



Sr. Miriam Elizabeth, OSH, with seminary friends:
The Rev. West Sedlacek, Chaplain Manager of Samaritan Health Services, Albany OR
The Rev. Kirk Woodliff, Rector St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Sparks NV
The Rev. Dr. Jason Haddox, Vicar, Trinity Episcopal Church, Lawrenceburg IN

CONVENT OF SAINT HELENA

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LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY - 2024



Elizabeth Sele Mulbah, OSH Associate from Liberia,
with Sr. Ann Prentice, OSH

Mother Hilary, Prioress, Order of Julian of Norwich
Sr. Hannah, Prioress, Community of St. Mary Southern
Province
Sr. Miriam Elizabeth, OSH



THIS IS MY DAY JOB

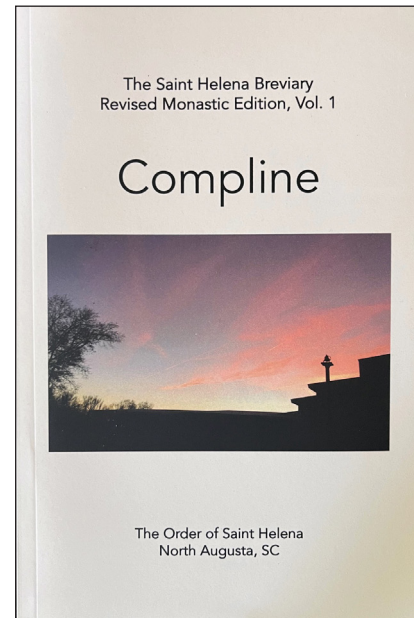
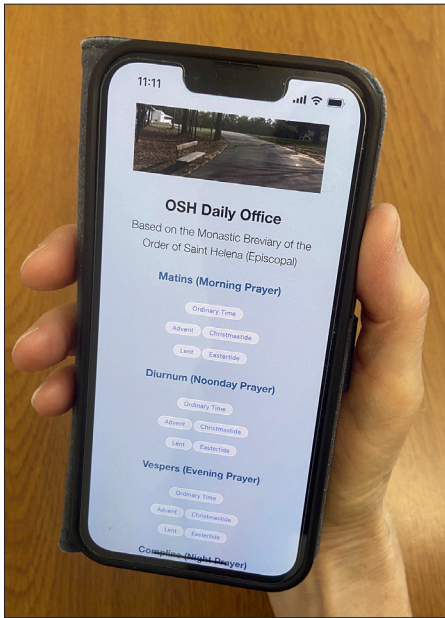
Episcopal Women Bishops with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean Rowe



The Rev. Julia Whitworth, bishop-elect of the Diocese of MA

Photo by Bishop Frank Logue

Revisions to The OSH Daily Office App and The OSH Monastic Breviary



OSH Daily Office Mobile App

The OSH Daily Office mobile app has been available for several years for iPhone and iPad. We are pleased to announce that it is also now available for free for Android devices (via Google Play).

The app includes the four Daily Offices from *The Saint Helena Breviary* as well as scripture readings and feast day collects. There are special propers for major feast days. We have also added Matins and Vespers for the Office for the Departed.

The *Saint Helena Psalter* readings are assigned for each day on a two-week cycle.

If you have any questions about the OSH Daily Office app, please contact us at sisters@osh.org. We would be delighted to receive your feedback!

OSH Monastic Breviary

After years of work on *The Saint Helena Psalter* and *The Saint Helena Breviary: Monastic Edition*, they were published in 2005, with inclusive/expansive language and music in Gregorian chant notation.

We have prayed with this breviary of Daily Offices for nearly 20 years, and in the process,

we have found mistakes and details we wish to change.

One example of updating has been the Feast of Holy Innocents. The propers – antiphons, canticles, hymns – handed down to us from previous breviary versions focused primarily on Herod and gave a sweetened interpretation of his slaughter of innocent children. We adjusted these texts so that the propers would reference the biblical story but also acknowledge the suffering of children during war and conflict.

The 1st edition of the breviary was privately published, and before long, we ran out of copies available to sell, so the idea of a 2nd edition has been on our minds for a while. This work is now in progress! This edition will be published in several volumes so that anyone can purchase the parts that are of interest. The physical books will be less unwieldy than the first edition, which is a ponderous 878 pages!

We are delighted to announce that the first volume, *The Saint Helena Breviary: Compline*, is currently available on Amazon for \$8.00.

The second volume, *The Ordinary of the Daily Office*, will hopefully be available by late 2024. Subsequent volumes will include feast days and saints' days.