

St. Barnabas on the Desert Episcopal Church

Paradise Valley, Arizona



A new music building and remodeled parish hall form a courtyard with colonnades and water to cool and enliven the space. The interior of the Music Building is designed for rehearsals, recitals and lectures. Scalloped ceiling and walls, and removable acoustic panels, modulate the sound characteristics according to the use. The space is day lit by a continuous band of stained glass by artist Sarah Hall. When illuminated at night, the 360 degree band of glass acts as a beacon. The corner of the site is anchored by a tower housing a full, 35 bell carillon by Royal Eijbouts. The courtyard unites the activities of the campus, creates an outdoor space appropriate to the desert, and celebrates the façade of the fifty-year old Episcopal Parish. 2008

"We stand among material elements—masonry, concrete and steel. Yet, they are brought together in a way that suggests holiness."—

Rev. John Thornton, Rector

