

From the Rector's Warden:

January 1, 2022

Dear parishioners of St. Mary's,

We are officially in a time of transition. With Father Todd's retirement, we begin the process of a search for a new rector. As I stated in my last letter, the vestry is charged with certain diocesan requirements for how the search will be conducted.

Father Christian will be leading us through this transition. Back in October, we had announced that his title would be Interim Rector. According to the diocese, that title would require that he leave St. Mary's when a new rector is called. The diocese recommended the title of "Senior Associate Rector" which allows him not only to be the clergy in charge during this interim period but also to stay at St. Mary's when the search is complete. We are so fortunate to have Father Christian as our leader during this time.

The vestry has elected the members of the Rector Search Committee and the following parishioners have accepted the call: Bob Brown, Maureen Cotter (chair), Kasia D'Auria, Cindy Eaton, Sally Hastings, Tami Larkan, John Norris, Karlette Peck and Mary Shaw. This committee will work closely with both the diocese and the vestry to complete the necessary steps to call a new rector. The committee will be commissioned on Sunday January 9.

In February, you will be asked to participate in a parish survey called the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT). This survey will provide a clear picture of who we are as a church and help us discern the direction for our future. This confidential information, in turn, will help the Search Committee create a parish profile and job description that will be seen by potential new rector candidates. Your participation in the CAT is very important to our search process. Please look for a letter in mid-January with more information about the CAT and how you can participate in its completion.

Please keep the clergy, the vestry and the search committee in your prayers as we work through the steps required for this search process. We will continue to keep you posted. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.



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ST. MARY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with Love

December 6, 2021

Dear parishioners of St. Mary's,

In December we will be saying goodbye to Father Todd. His last service will be on Sunday December 26 at 10:00 am. We will all miss his vision and spiritual leadership and are so appreciative of all he has done to ensure that we are a healthy, vibrant community of faith.

In January 2022, we will begin the search process for a new rector. We are fortunate to have Father Christian who is willing to lead us during this transition.

There are diocesan requirements for how this search will be conducted. Canon Jason Roberson and Canon Licia Affer met with the Vestry in October to give an overview of the search process. Since that meeting, the Vestry has been identifying the steps required to call our next rector. The first steps will take place early in 2022. In January, the Vestry will announce the members of a Search Committee who will work closely with the vestry and the diocese to begin the search for our new rector. The parish will be asked to participate in a survey called the Congregational Assessment Tool or CAT. You will receive a letter with more details about the CAT in mid-January, and your completion of the CAT will be a vital first step in the search process. It will also be an opportunity to express your opinion on many aspects of life at St. Mary's. The Search Committee will use the results of the CAT to then develop a parish profile. All of these steps will take time and will be required prior to the posting of the rector position.

We ask for your prayers and patience as the vestry continues to work through the steps required for this diocesan search process. We will continue to keep you posted as the search proceeds. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

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