





## ***Do we have a say in choosing our next Rector?***

As part of the process of discernment towards calling a new Rector for St. Mary's, your Discernment Committee is inviting and encouraging you to participate in **Congregational Conversations** scheduled for **Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**, in our Parish Hall, **after the 10:00 AM service.**

Rhonda Jackson, our Diocesan Consultant, will lead us in organized, small group discussions that will enable every voice in the congregation to be heard as we develop St. Mary's profile that will be used to attract potential candidates to our church. **THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT PROFILE.**

In an effort to keep all of you informed of our progress as we move through the tasks leading up to calling and welcoming a new Rector, we will be sending out periodic emails with updates as we move through each task (to the limit allowed by the Diocese).

First steps have already started:

- Vestry and Discernment Committee Orientation was completed on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Commissioning Discernment Committee – This will be held at the 10:00 AM service on October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Congregational Conversation – October 28<sup>th</sup> after the 10:00 AM service

Next Steps:

- Anti-racial training for Vestry and Committee – Date TBD
- Financial Audit and Building Inspections
- Update Parish Directory – perhaps with photos
- Information gathering to develop and upgrade our church Profile.
- Complete information for the Office of Transition Ministry, Episcopal Digital Network and Transition Ministry Network and post to St. Mary's Website.
- Based on potential candidate responses received, determine if further “advertising” is needed.
- Maintain Confidentiality

Time to Look at Candidates:

- Construct Applicant Screening Questions
- Communicate steps in the process to candidates and our congregation.
- Compile Interview Questions
- Screen and Interview Candidates
- Select two-three Candidates
- Maintain Confidentiality

Final Steps:

- Recommend Candidates to the Vestry
- Vestry will notify the Bishop of the selected candidate
- Bishop will make the call

A New Beginning:

- Prepare for arrival of our new Rector – celebration, hospitality, rectory, etc.

As Chairman of the Discernment Committee, I ask that each of you support your committee by sharing your concerns and ideas, and, most importantly, with your prayers that the Holy Spirit is with us during this process so that we call a Rector “meant to be” for St. Mary's. And remember . . . “don't fear change”. We can adapt to it!!

Janet Proulx, Chairman  
for the Discernment Committee