

PARISH PROFILE COMMITTEE

Expression of Interest to Join the Parish Profile Committee

The vestry is looking for 5-6 volunteers who are interested in fully participating in the Parish Profile Committee. This process will take about 3-4 months starting the beginning of September and will be completed by the end of this year with the completion of the Parish Profile by the Profile Committee and acceptance by the Vestry. The completed Parish Profile will be a critical component of the Rector Selection Process which will start early in 2020.

If you are interested in joining the Committee and willing and able to commit to this critical work, **please submit your Expression of Interest for consideration by September 5th**. As we will be looking for members who represent the cross section of the Congregation, it is expected that not everyone who submits a written Expression of Interest will be appointed to the Committee.

Parish Profile Committee

The first step in the process to select a new Rector for our parish will be for the Parish to prepare a detailed profile of itself to ensure that Rector Selection Committee has the tools to ensure that the talents of the future rector best matches the needs of the Parish. The Profile will include Parish Descriptive Information and Congregation Aspirational Information compiled by the Profile Committee from Parish Records and by canvassing the Congregation through surveys and focus groups to receive their input on the current and future needs of the Parish and its Congregation.

Criteria and work for the members of the Profile Committee

- Active participation in the life of the parish (worship, stewardship, and other areas (a plus) in the parish.
- Willingness and availability to meet regularly and take full participation in the activity of this committee.
- Enjoy facilitating discussion and learning from others' ideas.
- Eager to ensure that the congregants of the parish have significant input.
- Open to new ideas and perspectives about the church and its future.
- Helpful to have writing/editing skills on the committee.
- Important to have someone serve as secretary of the committee
- A positive and open engagement of members of the committee and the parish.
- Willingness and capacity to learn from other parishes' profiles.

Contents of the Parish Profile

- A. Introduction to the profile, how it was created, and what we intend to share within it.
- B. Congregation Aspiration Information gathered through Canvassing the Congregation
 - a) Stories-comments from parishioners about the parish, its future direction including challenges, opportunities, and hopes.

- b) Values and treasured perspectives that are important to us in our common life.
- c) What do we wish for the parish in the years ahead?
- d) Specific information about our programs and activities including how we like to interact and socialize with one another (including worship, music, choir, pastoral care, outreach, fellowship, youth and adult education, community life, stewardship, property, grounds, and financial management, and other expressions of our work).
- e) Skills, attributes, character, and leadership that we wish in a new rector.

C. Parish Descriptive Information compiled by Parish Profile Committee from Parish Records

- a) Our commitment to work with a new rector, the gifts we have to bring, and our wish to work collaboratively with the new rector.
- b) Description of the history of the parish, the community, and the Diocese including a description of the parish and its leadership in the last 25 or so years.
- c) Description of the work of our clergy, staff, and parish leaders.
- d) List of the vestry members along with very short bios.
- e) Financial and other pertinent statistical information about the parish.
- f) Description of the buildings and grounds and how they are used by the parish and others in the wider community.
- g) Description of the rectory.
- h) Photographs—Gather photos that illustrate and highlight the life of the parish.

D. Other sections/information that the committee believes is important to include

What is a Parish Profile?

A parish profile is a document prepared by the Congregation that contains the Congregation's description of the past, present, and desired future of the Parish. It helps a congregation articulate again important memories of their past, share the vitality of the parish in the present, and paint a picture of life and work to which they aspire in their future. The past, present, and emerging future are all fertile grounds to describe a congregation and its values, speak about the need for good leadership, and restate their commitment to be about the mission of God. To complete a profile takes one on an internal journey of discovery and re-discovery and an external journey of sharing that story with the wider church and with candidates who might wish to be considered to become rector. Ideally the profile is a descriptive document rather than a prescriptive one. It describes the vibrancy of a congregation in such a way that invites the reader to enter into the narrative and become part of the unfolding story of the community.