

Hi everyone!

Our last update regarding the Rector search was early May so I am a little overdue and I apologize.

As you already know we are in the middle of the summer months and like every summer our attendance tends to decline as people go on vacation, camps, mission trips, etc..... With the decline in attendance, there is always a decline in the income both in plate and in pledges. With that knowledge we are confident that as the summer begins to wind down and the school season begins, everyone will begin to catch up on pledges and the plate income will once again increase. We are presently reflecting a small surplus but only because we have drastically cut back on operating expenses, are not currently paying for a rector and everyone has been very generous with their stewarding.

On July 10<sup>th</sup> I called a special meeting of the Vestry. A few days prior to that meeting we had submitted our desire to be considered for a Diocesan Curate to the Bishop. The reason for this was mainly to ease the load of Fr. Moseley with his day to day service as the Priest in Charge. After praying and considering our request the Bishop let us know that at this time, we were not eligible to receive a Curate. Mainly because we do not presently have a Rector and Curates are assigned to a Rector for oversight, management, training in administrative issues of the church, as well as the spiritual needs.

With that decision being made, we met to discuss moving forward with a search for a Rector. Numerous questions were asked, discussed and submitted to Bishop Iker. He answered them promptly and from the results of those questions we have decided unanimously that we will begin moving forward with the search.

The first phase will be to create and submit a Parish wide survey to be completed by as many parishioners as possible. I know that we as a parish have already done this, but that was done approximately 4 years ago. We have experienced much since then and it warrants another one. This will be done in the fall.

Each year 4 vestry members go off of their 3 year term and 4 new vestry members come on. This is finalized in January of every year at the annual meeting. Because the Vestry is the official search committee as set forth in the

rules of the Diocese, we have decided that we want the new members to be on board before an official search begins.

For those who are wondering if Fr. Moseley can be a candidate, unfortunately he cannot. When he accepted the role of Priest in Charge, the Bishop was very clear that he could not be considered for the Rector position. **(See explanation that follows)** I ask that you respect the authority of the Bishop regarding this.

It is possible that Fr. Moseley might be our Assistant Priest at the new Rector's discretion, if our finances allow, and with the advice of the Vestry. Fr. Moseley has done and continues to do an amazing job to keep the spiritual life of the Parish going strong and I personally desire that he is able to remain. You as Parishioners have the ability to make sure that we have the funds necessary to support both Rector and Assistant Priest when we hold our stewardship drive this fall.

We will be posting any special meetings that are held on the website for all to see but must omit anything that is sensitive or confidential. Once the names for potential candidates have been determined, we cannot divulge those individuals.

I ask you to begin praying now for nominees for the 4 new vestry members and for the vestry as a whole. A search requires a great deal of time on behalf of the vestry. They met over 30 times during the last search.

I am excited and feel that we are in a good place to begin this search. I plan on giving monthly updates and we will post all vestry meeting minutes on the website. You will find the ones from the July 10th meeting posted now.

Please take a moment to give Fr. Moseley your sincere gratitude for the spiritual guidance he has and is giving us and the work he does and continues to do to keep us focused on what is important, our Lord.

May God richly continue to bless St. Peter and Paul. Thank you.