

Parish Survey Summary

What St. Barnabas Is Seeking in a Rector

The people of St. Barnabas are prayerfully seeking a rector who is above all a faithful servant of Christ—someone rooted in prayer, Scripture, and the historic Anglican tradition, and who can shepherd us into the next season of our common life. Our parish has spoken clearly: while administrative competence has its place, our deepest need is for a spiritual leader who can guide us in prayer, preach the Word with clarity and conviction, and walk alongside us as a pastor and friend.

Spiritual Leadership and Preaching

Our highest priority is a rector whose personal walk with God is evident in all they do. We seek someone with a deep and disciplined prayer life, open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and grounded in the authority of Scripture. Preaching and teaching are central to our parish identity. Sermons should be biblically faithful, clearly communicated, and applicable to daily life—bringing God’s Word to bear on the joys and struggles of modern discipleship without unnecessary length or abstraction. Parishioners want teaching that is both scholarly and accessible, inspiring both heart and mind.

Pastoral Presence and Relational Gifts

Equally important is a rector who is approachable, compassionate, and humble. We long for a pastor who knows and loves their people, who will walk with families in times of celebration and in times of grief, and who is accessible to parishioners of all ages. Listening, empathy, and genuine care are qualities we value highly. Many noted the importance of a rector who can connect across generations, build community, and model Christ’s love in practical, everyday ways.

Commitment to Tradition and Anglican Identity

St. Barnabas treasures the Anglican heritage we have received and desires a rector who will uphold historic, orthodox faith while engaging our community with authenticity. Our congregation appreciates traditional liturgy and continuity in worship, though some welcome fresh expressions in music and engagement with younger generations. A rector who respects this balance, while keeping Christ central, will help us grow while remaining faithful to our identity.

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Vision for Growth and Outreach

Looking forward, our parish desires a rector with vision—someone who can guide us in reaching families, strengthening youth and children’s ministries, and fostering a healthy, multi-generational congregation. We seek a leader who has a heart for evangelism and outreach, especially within our local community, who can help us welcome newcomers and serve the poor, the hungry, and the marginalized. This vision does not need to be carried alone; we value a rector who can delegate well, empowering lay leaders and staff to share in ministry.

Leadership and Balance

While spiritual depth is our greatest need, we recognize the importance of organizational skills, vestry leadership, and wise management. A rector who can provide guidance without micromanaging, who knows how to delegate and equip others, will be well-suited for St. Barnabas. We also hope for someone who leads with humility, honesty, and authenticity—willing to admit mistakes, set healthy boundaries, and model a sustainable rhythm of ministry.

Personal Qualities

When our parishioners describe the qualities they hope for they speak of kindness, humility, authenticity, and warmth. A sense of humor and the ability to connect socially are welcomed, but above all we want someone who will be present with us, who can embody the hands and feet of Christ in our parish and in our community. We also value a rector who is unifying and apolitical, able to rise above partisanship to keep our focus on the Kingdom of God.