

To my dear Parish Family,

Everyone should have received their electronic invitation to our “Evening of Appreciation” scheduled for Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. We will celebrate and acknowledge all that Dennis and Grace have brought to us in these past nine years. If you have not yet had an opportunity, please RSVP as soon as possible so that the appropriate planning can take place. This will be a very special evening filled with laughter, tenderness, commentary and gift-giving. Please come! We very much want everyone to be there for this wonderful and fun event.

While the following was published last week in The Chimes, it is my intent to share information as broadly as possible. My apology if this seems redundant, but I want to be sure that everyone feels informed and included.

I know that many of you are wondering where we are in this process and would like to understand what to expect and the timing of things. I will try to paint the picture with broad brushstrokes and provide a general overview. It is my hope that we will all move through this journey together as family. Please understand that the following is a very basic timeline and description of the work to be done:

## **2016**

### August

- Appreciation events for Dennis & Grace
- Canon to the Ordinary will be present and represent the Bishop on August 28<sup>th</sup>

### September

- Work with the consultant provided by the Diocese, Deacon Stephen Crippen, whose role is to guide and help us as needed
- Develop questions for the Parish Survey
- Gather demographics about the current Parish

### October

- Jan Heller begins serving as Interim Priest
- Work with Holy Cow Consultants (provided by the Diocese) for developing Parish Profile
- Conduct Parish Conversations and the Parish Survey
- Tally the results of the Parish Conversations and the Parish Survey

### November

- Write copy for the Parish Profile with input from consultant as needed
- Design the Parish Profile with input from Canon Marda and/or consultant

## December

- Complete the Parish Profile
- Present the Parish Profile to Vestry for approval
- Present the Parish Profile to the Bishop for approval

## **2017**

### January

- Present the final Parish Profile to the Parish at the Annual Meeting
- Present the Search Committee to the Parish
- Post the Parish Profile on the website

### February

- Search Committee begins their work

It is unknown how long the work of the Search/Call Committee will take, but it is expected to take at least three months. By the time we have identified and called our next Rector, it is expected to then take some time for that person to be able to find housing and move here. So it would not be unreasonable, I believe, to expect that it will be at least a year before St. Barnabas will have a new Rector in place. In fact, I would not be surprised if we are looking at a target date of September 2017, if all goes smoothly.

Please let me (or any member of Vestry) know if you have any questions or comments or suggestions.

As always, I send each of you my warmest regards,

Virginia