

Epiphany Episcopal Church
PO Box 110
1419 Odenton Road
Odenton, Maryland 21113
epiphany-md.org
410-482-5500

April 25, 2024

Epiphany Episcopal Church Members and Friends,

With great joy and excitement, the Vestry announces the calling of Reverend Joshua Rodriguez-Hobbs as the next Rector of Epiphany Episcopal Church!

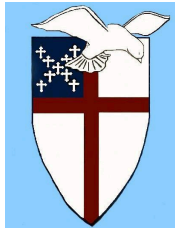
The discernment process to call the Rev. Rodriguez-Hobbs was carefully fulfilled. It started with the involvement of the congregation, through surveys meant to define “who” Epiphany is as a community of people, and the conversations members shared with the Vestry. All of this important information was passed off to a Search Committee, who developed an Office of Transition Ministry profile of Epiphany, and held in-depth interviews. With the unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee, the Vestry met with the Rev. Rodriguez-Hobbs, and it was very clear to every member that he would be an outstanding Rector. The vote was unanimously in favor of calling the Rev. Rodriguez-Hobbs.

The Rev. Rodriguez-Hobbs’s first Sunday with us will be August 4th. He is currently serving as interim Rector at St. Martin’s-in-the-Field in Severna Park and will honor his commitment to them before he joins us.

When discussing the hypotheticals of our next Rector, many people wondered about whether the next Rector would be full-time or part-time. The Rev. Rodriguez-Hobbs will be part-time, with a schedule similar to our current interim Rector, Reverend Anne Weatherholt. He will lead us for every Sunday worship except for typical time off. An important fact to share is that the Rev. Rodriguez-Hobbs would not have been an available candidate if this was not a part-time position, as that is the level of employment he was seeking. Another important fact is that right now Epiphany is not in a place financially to be able to support a full-time Rector. The hope and intention is that the Rev. Rodriguez-Hobbs’s position will grow along with our church and ministry.

The calling of a new Rector means that the time with our interim Rector is coming to an end. Anne will continue to serve us until her last service on June 30th. The month of July will be an intentional break period and is typical in the transition process. Reverend Mark Winward will serve as supply for three of the Sundays. However, the Rev. Winward is retiring and Mark, KC, and their family are leaving the area. We will spend our remaining time with Anne and Mark celebrating and thanking them for their service to Epiphany.

If you feel the need to speak with members of the Vestry, our names and e-mail addresses are listed at the end of this letter. Vestry members will also be present at both services this Sunday as well.



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Let us end by giving thanks to our interim Rector, the Rev. Anne Weatherholt, for guiding us through this transition, the Search Committee for their valuable participation in the discernment process, and the congregation for their patience and support.

“...speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” Ephesians 4:15-16

Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,

The Vestry of Epiphany Episcopal Church

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