

The Parish of the Epiphany, in Winchester, Massachusetts, is a community of faithful people who gather to worship God, remembering and proclaiming the story of God's love for all people and Christ's salvation of the world. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit, we:

- Grow in faith and vision as a Christian community;
- Care for each other in a loving and joyful way;
- Reach out to others beyond our parish as Christ reaches out to us; and
- Help people of all ages to develop as responsible stewards of God's creation

Through these means especially, we try to find our ways to Christ.

Services and Attendance

We currently offer three Eucharistic services on Sundays: 8:00 am Rite I, 10:00 am Rite II and 5:00 pm contemplative Eucharist in the Celtic tradition. Attendance for these services is comprised of a core group of 20 – 30 parishioners for 8:00 am, an average gathering of 250 for the 10:00 am service, and between 15 and 20 worshippers for the recently added contemplative service. We average 60 children weekly in our children's education program, ages pre-K through high school. Our weekly Sunday adult education program (held after the ten o'clock service) is strong throughout the program year, with an average attendance of 60 to 70. Our weekly newsletter, *Three Crowns*, is mailed to about 450 homes, in addition to being published online at www.3crowns.org. Our schedule of services and other information appears weekly in local newspapers.



Who We Are and What We Value

Epiphany is a vibrant, engaging community drawing parishioners from all ages and stages of life, from Winchester and surrounding communities. We have recently suffered a sense of loss from the unexpected departure of our rector after only 3 ½ years. We have taken advantage of this time of transition to evaluate and reflect upon what we value as a parish.

“I think it is important for parishioners to feel a part of our community of faith. I love the friendships I have through this place.”

- A parishioner

Community. We value our community, the sense of being drawn into a vital, dedicated, and spiritual family.

We strive to welcome and embrace the gifts of all people, although we sense a need for more fellowship to appreciate one another more fully. Epiphany is blessed with strong lay leadership and active involvement from a large group of folks who are raising or have raised their families in the parish. We also have a significant population of senior parishioners who deeply value pastoral visits by our clergy.

Education. Epiphany has strong education programs for all ages, and we recognize that children’s ministry is central to the formation and growth of the parish. We pride ourselves on offering the youth of the parish an active role within parish life, including vestry positions, and we look forward to further invigorating our middle school and high school youth groups’ leadership. We value our extraordinary adult education program that challenges us intellectually and spiritually.

“I would like a rector who challenges us to apply Christian principles outside the church.”

- A parishioner

Spirituality. We wish to warmly welcome individuals at any point on their spiritual journey and encourage them to travel with us in our quest to know God more deeply. We seek a rector who is in a deeply committed relationship with Jesus Christ and is able to share his or her spirituality visibly through sermons, prayer, education, and other parish activities, and to encourage us to do the same out in the world.

Worship. We come together to participate in common worship in an inspiring space where we are able to grow spiritually. All who worship with us are invited to receive communion. We appreciate provocative and challenging sermons that provide insight into living a Christian life. We love our excellent music program that engages members of all ages and enriches our experience of the liturgy and of being in God’s presence.

Outreach. Our active, well-established outreach program serves as an avenue to live God’s word outside of Epiphany’s walls. We offer many channels, ranging from local and Boston-area projects to partnerships in South Africa and Honduras, through which to put our faith into action, serving others while enhancing our own sense of community.

Haven. Our beautiful and well-maintained buildings provide a haven, figuratively and literally, for all

“For me, outreach is our way of doing God's work in the world. If we neglect this, our worship, our spirituality, is very one dimensional.”

- A parishioner

parishioners. The faith community is a welcome change to the many secular places where we spend much of our time. We would like our physical space to be more easily accessible to all.

Why Epiphany

Epiphany is a flourishing, healthy parish, humming with activity. It is a safe haven in which to gather together to worship and grow. Talent, energy, and commitment abound within the congregation, providing rich resources with which to carry out God's teachings both within and beyond Epiphany's walls.

Epiphany is respected as a leading parish in the diocese. We are relatively large and have numerous programs, yet we value the sense of community and caring inherent in a smaller church. Our outstanding adult education, outreach, and music programs, strong children's ministry, and devoted and engaged lay leadership contribute to the strength and uniqueness of Epiphany. Yet, we are a parish at a crossroads.

There is great opportunity for leadership here, and for a pastor to bring God's grace to bear on us during this time of transition. We invite our new priest to model God's love for us, to take our hand and walk with us as we discern our ministry together. The journey will have its challenges but also rich rewards.

