

Parish Profile 2018

Saint Barnabas Episcopal Church
Falmouth, Massachusetts

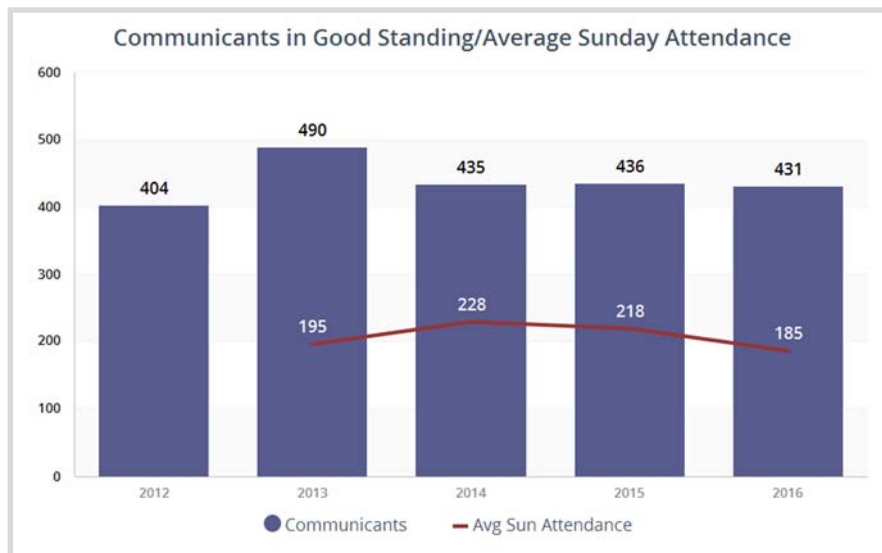


belonging before believing

Saint Barnabas is a place to belong; a place to explore and go deeper in your faith; a place to learn how to pray, grow and serve in the town and world.



our worship and liturgy



Sunday Services

Preaching is a central and valued component at all our services at Saint Barnabas Memorial Church. Our parishioners appreciate being educated, challenged, enlightened, and given something they can carry with them and apply to their lives. When asked what they seek from worship services, 70% of respondents said: "Sermons that teach and inspire."

We have a rich, broad tradition of Episcopal worship. We enjoy traditional worship as well as experimenting with other forms and liturgies. Our eight o'clock service uses Rite I. On occasional Sundays and major feast days the service includes music.



Rite II is the basis of the 10 o'clock liturgy, with regular adaptations drawn from various resources including the Church of England, New Zealand, Iona, and Enriching Our Worship.

Younger families make up a large number of the folks in the pews at 10:00 a.m. From September through early June, children join us from Sunday school as worshipers greet one another with the peace. Our choir sings weekly, switching to a pick-up choir for July and August.

This year we have had special family services at 10:00 a.m. in which children and youth participated as lectors, ushers, and singers. This service features simpler language and prayers.

During the summer we occasionally offer a combined service to give congregations an opportunity to mingle.

Wednesday and Seasonal Services

Throughout the year, Eucharist is celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Chapel of All Saints. This service alternates between Rites I and II and has included a service of healing. In the summers we have a 5:00 p.m. Saturday service in the Chapel, adapted loosely from Iona liturgies.

During Advent and Lent, we offer a variety of weekday worship opportunities. In recent years, parishioners have offered the meditations for these services. With local churches, we have also offered a Blue Christmas service for those who are grieving. We usually offer three Christmas Eve services: an afternoon service designed for families of young children that includes a pageant, and worship services with music and choir at 7:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. We offer Holy Week and Triduum services; Easter Sunday usually sees three services.



"When bad things happen (e.g. terrorist attacks in Paris), I know I can come and grieve. The things going on in the world will be acknowledged, talked about."

our community



From gatherings after worship to service in our local towns, Saint Barnabas values community. We pride ourselves on being a welcoming presence to those who enter our doors and those who simply enjoy visiting our beautiful campus. Saint Barnabas draws parishioners from the surrounding towns and villages of Bourne and Mashpee as well as Falmouth.

On the first Sunday of the month the 8 o'clock community enjoys an ample coffee hour where fellowship continues. During the church school year the 10 o'clock service is followed by a light lunch for children and adults, provided by parishioners. This event has been enthusiastically received by many, including families with young children and newcomers. During the summer months, we enjoy lemonade on the lawn after the 10 o'clock service.



"I love being with others that I wouldn't otherwise have a chance to meet and get to know."



"We are a warm, caring community of faith where love is experienced in our commitment to each other and the world as a whole. I feel we are love."



Events such as the Episcopal Church Women's Christmas Fair, the Alternative Gift Market, the Strawberry Festival, and Lobster on the Lawn give us an opportunity to share our hospitality with the many people from the surrounding towns who look forward to these events every year. Saint Barnabas hosts three scout troops: Sea Scouts, Cub scouts, and Boy Scout Troop 40, which boasts a record number of Eagle Scouts whose work appears everywhere throughout Falmouth. We are proud to be celebrating the 50th year of our sponsorship of Troop 40.

Communication is vital to a healthy parish. In addition to our electronic weekly update, we print and mail a quarterly newsletter, The Banner, which includes reflections from clergy, lay leaders and parishioners. The Banner even has its own social column that reports on the doings and celebrations of members of our parish. During Advent and Lent, we create resources to support meditations on the season.

Our location in a summer resort town influences the numbers in the pews. While many churches experience quieter services in the warm months, Saint Barnabas enjoys an influx of summer members. These people feel strong ties to the parish and consider Saint Barnabas their second church home.

Saint Barnabas occupies a five-acre campus between Falmouth's Village Green and Siders Pond. Our location and the beauty of the campus invite visitors and tourists to stroll the grounds and walk our [labyrinth](#). The Saint Barnabas web site includes an excellent [description of our history, buildings and campus](#).

"My daughter-in-law asked why I want to be buried in your Memorial Garden rather than in a grave near all my family. My answer came quickly, 'Saint Barnabas is my spiritual home.' "

"We can't plead ignorance and look the other way. We shouldn't be trying to preserve our own church bubble, insulated from the messier and more challenging issues around us."



our town

Falmouth is a coastal town in Massachusetts, on the southwestern tip of Cape Cod, with a year-round population of approximately 32,000. It is an area of natural beauty, extraordinary light, and recreational areas. Falmouth comprises several villages including Falmouth Village, North Falmouth, East Falmouth, Waquoit, West Falmouth, Teaticket, Hatchville and Woods Hole. In the summer, our population grows to 100,000. Approximately 70 miles south of Boston, Falmouth is a thriving year-round community with a nationally recognized hospital, a strong library system, a weekly local newspaper, and a public school system comprising four elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school. Falmouth Academy is a private day school serving grades 7-12. Peter Pan buses run from downtown Falmouth to Boston daily; the Commuter Rail (MBTA) runs throughout the year from towns in southeastern MA and during the summer, from Buzzards Bay.

In addition to a variety of small service and technological industries, Woods Hole has a world renowned scientific community. This community was established in 1871 by the National Marine Fisheries Service, now part of NOAA, which also operates the oldest public marine aquarium in the United States. The community includes six major research and education organizations, employing and educating more than 2,000 scientists, staff and students from all over the world.

Falmouth is a beautiful place to live, worthy of the great pride we take in it. At the same time, to really know Falmouth one must see beyond its charming vistas. While our beaches attract vacationers during the summer, many year-round residents live with poverty, addiction and racism. We are a town with 21st-century challenges. Saint Barnabas is a church community eager to meet and address the pain of those challenges. When asked what they seek outside of services at Saint Barnabas, many parishioners identified the opportunity to be involved in outreach to the larger community as a high priority. We seek a rector with energy and enthusiasm to help us embody the teachings of Jesus in our community, to witness and embrace our neighbors with kindness and love.

*"There is a sense of joy
that comes from
preparing God's table
and seeing beauty when
it is set for a service."*



our ministries

Saint Barnabas is rich in ministries. Our parishioners are a lively and engaged community, caring for one another and committed to the future of our parish, regularly volunteering in parish ministries. The ministries described here represent only a selection of the ways we serve our neighbors. [Many parishioners take to heart the place of "service"](#) in our mission statement, and derive meaning and satisfaction by participating in the altar guild and choir, by serving as ushers, lectors, lay Eucharistic ministers, providing [pastoral care](#), praying with the prayer chain or centering prayer group, and by supporting outreach, to name a few. More than 70% of parishioners who responded to a recent survey ranked Saint Barnabas taking a role in community issues (e.g., hunger, homelessness, addiction) as "very important."

our outreach

The spiritual life does not remove us from the world but leads us deeper into it.

-- Henri J.M. Nouwen

Saint Barnabas has a long history of involvement in caring for others in our community, [particularly for those who are homeless](#). Recently, Saint Barnabas played an important role in launching a local non-profit program called Belonging to Each Other, which provides winter shelter for those in Falmouth who are homeless. We are fortunate to be able to offer generous support for several programs and projects each year through the Saint Barnabas Behrens Fund and Outreach Committee. The Outreach Committee works closely with the Sunday School to coordinate service projects and develop greater understanding within the parish of the work we support locally, nationally, and around the world. The church has particular connections with [EffortZ Foundation](#), supporting students in Tanzania; [Maya Childcare](#), offering preschool care and family support in Guatemala; [Oyate Concern Christian School](#), giving hope to Lakota students in the Pine Ridge Reservation in North Dakota; [Touching Tiny Lives](#), responding to the HIV/Aids epidemic in Lesotho; [Wings for Falmouth Families](#), supporting local families in times of crisis; and the Falmouth Service Center, working to improve the quality of life of those in need locally.

In the past, Saint Barnabas had separate Social Justice and Environmental Committees, working alongside the Outreach Committee, but we are currently working to bring these ministries together into one coordinated effort. The guidance, vision and encouragement of an enthusiastic rector would be greatly valued as Saint Barnabas continues to strengthen its outreach efforts.



our music



In November 2016, we happily welcomed a new parish music director. We are [expanding opportunities for participation in our small, skilled adult choir, developing a children's choir, and occasionally welcoming instrumentalists.](#) We are learning new hymns and service music, and enjoy singing together as we continue to support congregational song. We enjoy music from the Anglican tradition (4-part harmony), music that is hard to find anywhere else in this area.

Our new choir director thinks creatively about the role of music in our community, imagining possibilities for greater integration among ministries and having singers present at church events to provide music. She has also begun collaborating with the choir director at Church of the Messiah in Woods Hole, developing resources, and mutual support for choirs at both churches. Lastly, she seeks to find ways to incorporate a greater variety of instruments into the music at Saint Barnabas.

The church has a fine two-manual Hutchings tracker organ and a Steinway piano, recently gifted to the church by a generous parishioner; the chapel has a small Fisk organ and piano.



our children

One of our most vibrant and magnetic ministries is the [Children's Program](#). The number of children and families in the church has significantly increased since a new program was introduced in September 2016. In autumn 2017, we currently have a total of 64 students: 57 registered for Sunday School, seven for the Youth Program. The Children's Program focuses on love, starting with the conviction that we are each uniquely valuable and loved, with all our strengths and weaknesses: we have gifts to give and the capacity to grow. From here, the curriculum builds a greater understanding of the call we have to love our neighbor. Children and families are given the opportunity to experience love in action through a range of service projects. Then, children are encouraged to reflect on our faith that God is Love, and to recognize the ways in which God can be found in our everyday experiences.

The Love First program is accessible and meaningful to children, whether they have previous church experience or not. It is welcoming and affirming. It nurtures empathy and kindness. It encourages curiosity, a search for meaning and an open exploration of faith. Love First aims to plant ideas and begin a conversation that can continue at home. It seeks to integrate children's experience in church with their experiences elsewhere, helping them to find meaning and to apply values of love and kindness in daily life. By helping children to build a practice of loving self and others, the program also seeks to provide tools to deal with the inevitable challenges that children will face as they grow.

"I love that the children's program is building relationships among unlikely people at Saint Barnabas. I like the thoughtfulness and intention of the program."

The Director of Children's Ministries carefully designed the Love First program in response to the needs of children and parents at Saint Barnabas and in the local community. Many members of the congregation are involved, helping strengthen the church community and supporting deeper connections between older and younger generations within the church. The life and growth in the Sunday School has helped encourage and reinvigorate the whole church, and we are keen to nurture its continued development.

When asked 'What do you love about Saint Barnabas?' Sunday School members responded: "Friends, playground, coloring packs in church, arts & crafts, reading books about God, beautiful flowers, colorful windows, eating, playing after church in hall, Ms. Flannery, Ms. Jackie and Ms. Colette. 'Everyone likes me at church – even the big people.' "

our youth

The Director of Children's Ministries also works with a group of young parishioners in junior high and above. Currently, the group is about 15 young adults, with 7-8 of those being regular, active participants. This past year (2016-17) the youth group provided service to the community, preparing meals for house-bound members of the congregation as well as for the homeless ministry, Belonging to Each Other. The coming year (2017-18) will focus on a story corps project of interviewing octogenarians and sharing those interviews with the whole parish. In addition, the program will include a series called "[Big Questions](#)" where youth can ask questions about faith (what is the meaning of life? what is evil? what is good? who or what is God?) in a safe environment.





our adult education

The growth of our children's ministry has inspired our leaders to build more [opportunities for adult parishioners to mature and transform in their faith](#). A popular discussion series is "Death and Teacakes" where people can share their ideas, concerns, fears and hopes about dying, death and grieving in a safe setting. Two ongoing book groups provide opportunities for thoughtful discussion and fellowship. This fall we are engaging in conversations around the question, "What is Episcopal?" During Advent we will gather to talk about the traditions and customs of Christmas—trees and carols, mistletoe and holly, Santa Claus and stockings—and explore the histories and meanings of these traditions. Following Easter 2018, we will explore a few big questions: Who or what is God? What should we think about miracles? Why is there suffering and where does evil come from?

"I am not religious and yet St. B has struck a chord in me, connecting me with something larger than myself."

our environmental stewardship

Saint Barnabas is committed to environmental stewardship and implementing sustainable practices as an integral part of its mission and ministries. Our clergy, staff, and parishioners strive to minimize our environmental impact on our campus, workplaces, and homes.

Under the dedicated leadership of the late Al Kolodziejski, the Environmental Stewardship Committee carried out this mission in several ways, most notably:

- Communicating energy saving programs, resulting in congregants signing up for home energy audits.
- Conducting energy audits for all parish buildings, resulting in significant energy and dollar savings.
- Hosting forums (movies, lectures, and other social events) focused on current and local environmental issues.

The most significant energy related project was the installation of a rooftop 30 KW solar array which was blessed by Bishop Cederholm (fondly known as our Green Bishop) in May 2014. Since its installation three years ago our system has generated 128,571 kWh while reducing CO2 emissions by 69,436 pounds.

Saint Barnabas is committed to continued action on behalf of God's creation, as well as supporting the diocesan environmental mission.



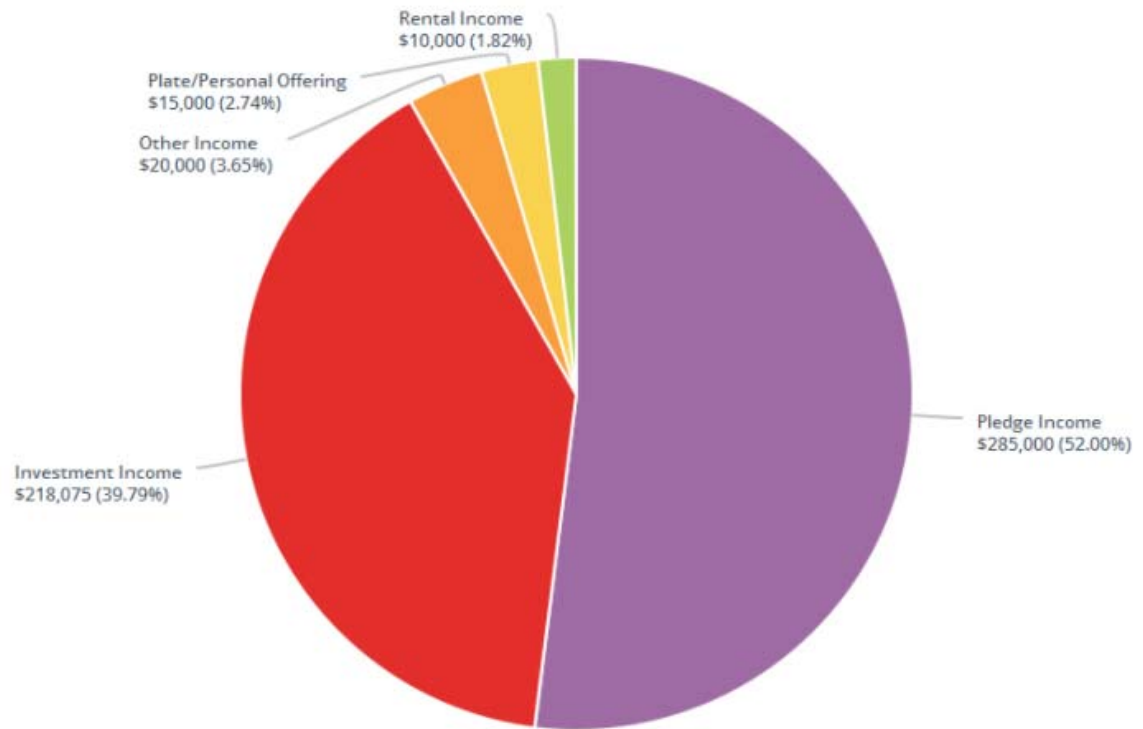


our finances

This section presents a snapshot of our current financial status. Saint Barnabas has a stable financial foundation consisting of a six million dollar endowment with a 2017 annual budget of \$548,075. In 2016, 175 members pledged \$285,000. We recognize that the disparity between the amount pledged and budgetary requirements is a cause for concern and attention going forward. The good news is that a talented, energetic, creative and much loved member of Saint Barnabas recently volunteered to chair this year's stewardship campaign. Below is a summary of our 2017 operating income and expenses.

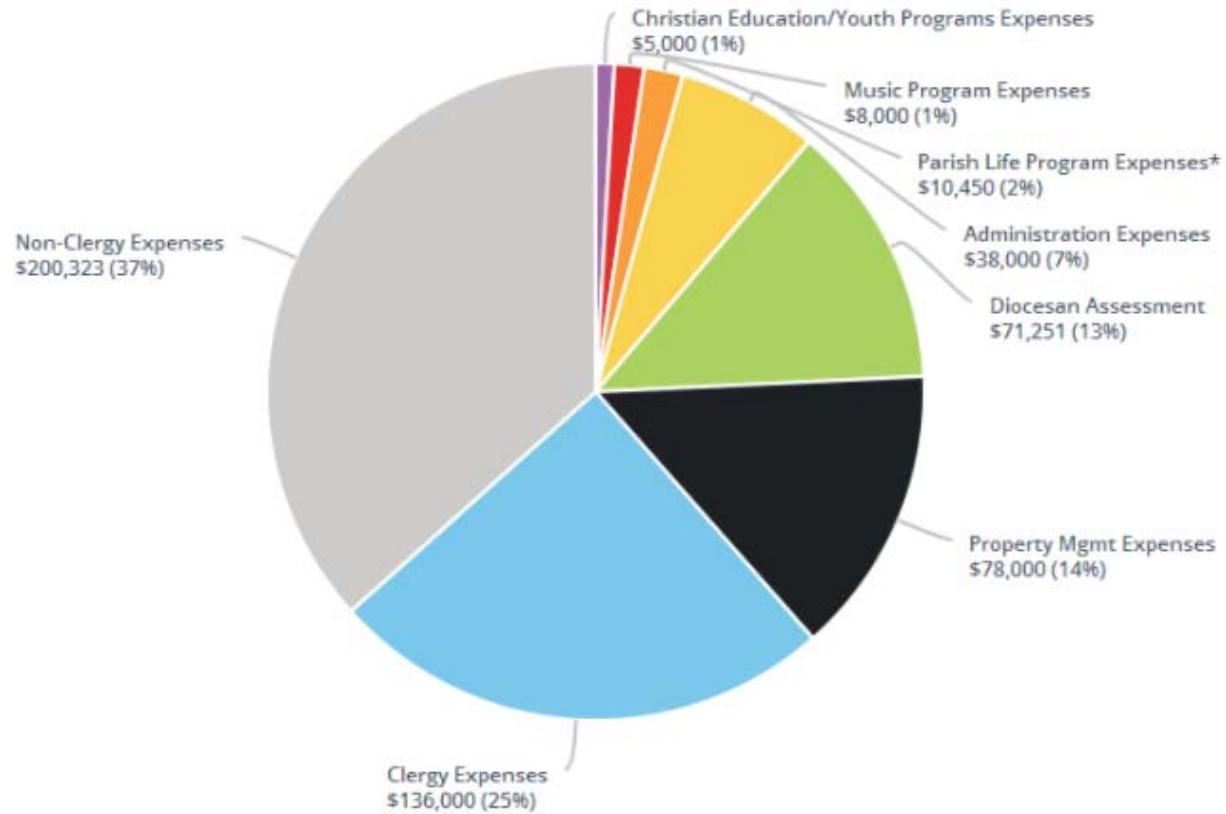
2017 Operating Income (Estimated)

*Other Income includes; Use of facilities, Undesignated gifts, Transfers to General Fund



2017 Operating Expenses (Estimated)

*Parish Life Programs expenses include (worship, vestry, fellowship and stewardship programs)



*'I love the fellowship, music,
and the great emphasis on outreach.'*





strengths, challenges and opportunities

Strengths

- Intellectually challenging and spiritually uplifting sermons and adult education activities
- A growing Children and Youth Ministry is bringing young families to Saint Barnabas
- Effective and generous Music Ministry leadership
- Theologian-in-Residence is a gifted communicator and a supportive, collaborative colleague
- Talented parish office staff who communicate through a variety of regular, professional communications
- Substantial parish endowment
- Beautiful, 5-acre parish campus
- Small core group of parish members willing to actively serve in parish ministries
- Strong support for current liturgical practices that emphasize both traditional and contemporary approaches to worship

Challenges

- Revitalize parish ministries
- Inspire a wider participation in lay leadership
- Attend to ongoing infrastructure maintenance
- Increase operating revenue stream
- Make more funds available for parish facilities upkeep
- Continue attending to underrepresentation of "middle decades" -- from adolescence well into middle age

Opportunities

- Theologian-in-Residence has interest in and ability to provide Adult Formation
- Desire for a clear shared vision and growth among parish ministries
- Willingness to develop a robust and ongoing stewardship effort
- Develop alignment between parish goals and new Diocesan Strategic Plan
- Explore potential revenue opportunities presented by parish facilities
- Engage in evangelism and outreach that support our Episcopal traditions

our hope for the future

During her seven-year ministry, our beloved former rector Patti Barrett developed a strong foundation for lay-led pastoral care, assembling a core of parishioners who actively attend to the needs of our congregation (while providing an inspiring example of pastoral care herself). Patti also deepened the spiritual life of Saint Barnabas, symbolized by our beautiful labyrinth. Our hopes for the future build upon and enhance her work with us.

We hope:

That our spiritual influence on the surrounding community grows to reflect our physical presence in the village, and that the beauty of our campus is enhanced by the manifestation of our Christian values, loving and welcoming all.

That the rich blessings we presently enjoy, especially the talents and vision of our gifted staff, grow along with us into a richly blessed future.

That our parish activities cohere and integrate so that we become a stronger vessel for God's work in the community and the larger world.

That the Saint Barnabas parish reflects God's diversity in age, gender, race/ethnicity, economic circumstances, orientation, lifestyle, culture, and perspective.

That those who seek God with us are similarly devoted to growing and giving their gifts of time, talent, and treasure -- in stewardship, pastoral care, lay leadership, and participation in our Anglican worship traditions.

"I feel a sense of spiritual calm and comfort entering our lovely church, the chapel or walking the Labyrinth, the courtyard and all the holy places on our beautiful campus."





*Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

who we seek as a rector

Saint Barnabas enjoys an abundance of talent, skill, and passion. We seek a leader who can help us create and sustain momentum for carrying out a shared vision in the service of God. We straddle the line between a pastoral and a program church. To nurture our growth, we seek:

- A spiritual guide who helps us excel in the things we do well, and helps us to grow in areas where we are challenged. A person experienced in managing change and conflict.
- A prayerful administrator: someone with energy and enthusiasm to communicate and implement a vision that includes and coordinates all ministries. An inspiring manager/supervisor: someone who recognizes and develops the talents of our gifted staff members.

- A leader who views the development and execution of strategic goals as central to ministry.
- A person who relishes pastoral care and values the spiritual richness among an older congregation, and who is invigorated by connecting parishioners across generations.
- A leader who values all of God's children, who practices inclusivity and embraces and grows diversity. A lover of social justice. A guide who follows and helps others to follow Jesus by naming and countering injustice in all its forms.
- A gifted communicator who can engage, challenge and inspire people from the pulpit as well as in more personal settings.

- And because we seek more than one human can realistically provide, we seek a leader who can inspire others to serve and be the ministers that our baptism calls us to be.

We treasure the history of our town and our church. And we are curious about where we could journey — and the impact we could have on the larger community — with the support and leadership of a progressive rector.

To apply for the Rector position, please submit a C.V. and a cover letter. In your cover letter, discuss what intrigued you in our Parish Profile and explain how your skills and experience match the qualities we seek in a rector. In addition, describe any areas that might present an opportunity for you to grow.

our diocese

Saint Barnabas Memorial Episcopal Church, Falmouth, Massachusetts, is one of 16 year-round parishes in the Cape & Islands Deanery of the Diocese of Massachusetts. The Diocese is composed of 59,000 members in 163 congregations throughout Eastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates is the 16th bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts. Serving with him is the suffragan bishop, the Right Reverend Gayle Elizabeth Harris. Website: www.diomass.org

our contact

For additional information, please contact

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS February 18, 2018



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