



Goals for the Parish during Transition

Guidelines for the Interim Rector and the Parish

The vestry and the interim rector will work together to help fulfill their continuing purposes: to help each other experience and worship God, to share openly the Good News of Jesus Christ, and to respond in love to the needs of others.

It shall be the Interim Rector's task to lead them in fulfilling this purpose through exercising a priestly role of blessing and absolving in God's name; faithful administration; and, by fulfilling a role as pastor, priest, and friend to all those whose lives are touched by both congregations.

The vestry accepts their responsibility to lead their people in exercising their ministries in response to their baptismal vows and as God calls them; and, in supporting and enabling the ministry of the interim rector with their time, talent and treasure.

Goals of the Interim Period...

Shall include the nationally-recognized *Developmental Tasks during the Interim Period*:

- Assist the congregation in dealing with its recent history.
- Seek and discover an identity for the future with a new priest.
- Affirm the present leadership while including new emerging leaders.
- Strengthen the relationship with the diocese.
- Committing themselves to a new future of mutual ministry with the new rector or priest-in-charge when the interim period draws to a close.

The vestries and interim rector agree to work closely together and to support each other by prayer, word, and example to achieve these goals.

They will also provide time for mutual ministry review(s) when they shall discuss and mutually review the total ministry of the congregations on a regular basis in order to intentionally.

Goals of the Interim Rector

The interim rector shall work closely with the wardens, vestry, staff, and other parish leaders toward the major goal: to prepare the congregation for the coming of the next rector or priest-in-charge. This means:

- Help the congregations deal with any present feelings or residual issues from the previous years and recent rector's departure.
- Address internal conflicts when present and help heal any divisions within and between the congregations.
- Help the vestries and lay leaders bring about such change, if needed, to align each congregation's life and administration to affirm the values of the congregations and meet the generally accepted standards in the diocese.

Many churches and interims find a productive focus for the interim period is bolstering stewardship: increasing financial pledges and lay involvement in ministry.

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