

St. Mark's Discernment Process

Our Priest-in-Charge, The Reverend Nancy L. Threadgill will be retiring soon. We and St. Francis-in-the-Fields in Somerset, PA will share a new priest. We have begun the discernment process that ultimately will lead to our calling our new priest. **Monthly updates on our progress are available in our newsletter, *The Grapevine*, found under the main menu tab "About."** Now and throughout the process, we ask that you join us in praying the following prayer for guidance.

Gracious and loving God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide the Discernment Committees, Vestries, and people of St. Francis-in-the-Fields and St. Mark's through this time of transition and discernment. We pray that your Holy Spirit continues to open our hearts and minds to new opportunities and ideas; so that we may follow where you lead — knowing that Jesus Christ walks with us each step of the way.

Empower each and every member of the Discernment Committees to use their gifts for ministry to the fullest; to share their thoughts openly and honestly; to respect the opinions of others; and to encourage humility, patience, and joy.

Finally, instill in all the people of St. Mark's and St. Francis in-the-Fields a glorious vision of the future; that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we may be united in love — with warm hearts, enlightened minds and open arms — so that we may gladly accomplish the mission to which you are calling us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from *Rector Search Committee Prayer*, Christ Church, Winnetka, IL