

Priest in Charge Job description

Church of the Epiphany, established in 1896, is in Vacaville, California, a suburban community (pop. 103,000) midway between Sacramento and San Francisco on the Interstate 80 corridor. With an average Sunday attendance of 42, we conduct two Sunday services (8 a.m. Rite 1-in person and 10 a.m. Rite 2-hybrid). Our small but faithful choir is working to blend contemporary and traditional styles into the second service as we search for a permanent music director. We conduct online Morning Prayer and Compline six days a week to a widespread flock.

We have an active Daughters of the King chapter, a parish nurse, and an experienced deacon. Several community groups meet in our parish hall. We coordinate and host a twice-weekly Community Meals prepared by 14 Vacaville congregations, serving 350 meals each week.

Church of the Epiphany strives to welcome everyone as children of God, created in God's image, whatever their religious background, age, race, disability, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, or economic status. Our congregation includes both lifelong Episcopalians and worshipers from a variety of faith backgrounds.

We are seeking a Priest-in-Charge who will help Epiphany grow and live up to its mission of "meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the community as we share God's love by feeding ALL." This is a three-quarter time position, with a longer-term goal of becoming full-time.

Worship & Teaching

We seek a prayerful partner and teacher who will inspire and equip the congregation in worship and study. Someone who is comfortable:

- With Rite I and Rite II liturgies and who welcomes children in worship. (Our children are accustomed to a short children's homily and participating as readers, acolytes, and ushers.)
- Leading a variety of adult and intergenerational studies. We like a mix of Bible, spiritual and social justice studies, in a discussion format. Previous priest-led studies have included a weekly Lectionary discussion; spiritual books such as Joan Chittister's "In Search of Belief;" video series, such as Church Next's "How to Be a Crazy Christian with Michael Curry;" social justice studies such as Sacred Ground and Bryan Stevenson's book *Just Mercy*; newcomer classes; and intergenerational book studies, such as Angie Thomas' *The Hate U Give* and Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*.
- With different teaching modalities, including but not limited to in-person, online and hybrid.
- Working collaboratively with deacons and other spiritual leaders/teachers within the parish.
- Acknowledging pets as integral to the spiritual life of the congregation and parish community.

Outreach

We seek a priest-in-charge who is interested in serving both our congregation and the wider community, an organizer who creates a safe space and empowers the members of the congregation to become the ministers of the church, serving as the hands and heart of Jesus.

We seek someone who:

- Is comfortable working with people of different faiths, as well as the homeless population we serve.
- Will support and provide a pastoral presence at our community meals programs.
- Will coordinate with other churches and groups in Vacaville to put our facilities and people to their best use in serving the community at large.
- Will represent Epiphany in community organizations such as Vacaville Solano Services Corporation—Opportunity House homeless shelter, the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Vacaville Business Improvement District, etc.

Pastoral Care

We seek a Priest in Charge who is personally welcoming of newcomers and who will ensure the pastoral care of parishioners in times of need, celebration, and transition.

Administration

We seek a priest who:

- Is an effective communicator committed to collaboration and transparency with staff, Vestry, and the parish at large.
- Can help us achieve our immediate goals of conducting successful stewardship and capital campaigns and who will assist us in discerning new goals.
- Will administer staff and oversee the work of associated parish clergy.
- Will oversee Epiphany's budget and spending, in collaboration with the Wardens, Vestry and Treasurer.
- Will represent Epiphany within the Diocese of Northern California, The Episcopal Church, and the Anglican Communion.

In sum, we seek a priest-in-charge whose humor, thoughtfulness, compassion, dynamism, and approachability allows them to engage and serve current and potential new members, while living their faith and guiding Epiphany on our spiritual journey.

This position will be three-quarters time, with the goal of transitioning to full time as our budget allows. Compensation ranges from \$54,535 to \$64,965 and also includes health care (priest-only at 80 percent of the lowest-cost plan) and dental insurance; pension; Employee Assistance Program; and stipends for continuing education (\$500) and professional expenses (\$500). Also includes federal holidays and three weeks paid vacation, 8 days sick leave, and 8 days of paid continuing education.

We are a community rooted in the promises of our baptismal vows to “seek and serve Christ in all persons, honoring our neighbor as ourselves,” and to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.” As such, diversity, equity, and inclusion are core values of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California and are key practices to thriving and faithful life as the Church.