

All Saints Welcomes the Rev. Kathryn L. King as Rector



The wardens and vestry are pleased to announce the appointment of the Rev. Kathryn L. King as the new rector of All Saints Church.

The Rev. King will officially join us on November 15 and ascend the pulpit on Christ the King Sunday (November 21).

She is delighted to become a part of our parish family and eager to get to know everyone.

As a first step in building her new relationship with us, she has recorded a video greeting that you can view in early October on this website. (As you'll see in her greeting, she emphasizes "relationship" in her ministry.)

In the weeks ahead she hopes to meet many in the parish and the community in person. Given the ongoing pandemic, the Rev. King welcomes the opportunity to meet people outdoors or through phone or Zoom calls, according to each person's ability and level of comfort. During the time St. Alban's could not worship in person, she conducted service online and phoned parishioners weekly and asked her vestry to do so as well to ensure everyone still felt the unity of parish family. She also offered "Bedtime Stories and Prayers" twice a week in the evening via Zoom for the littlest parishioners, which became an unexpected joy and successful way to teach children to pray.

The Rev. King comes to us from St. Alban's, the "hard-to-find church at the top of the hill" for Franklin Lakes, Oakland, and Wyckoff (NJ), where she has been serving as rector for 12 years. Among her many duties there, the Rev. King has handled the subdivision and sale of an undeveloped tract of church property. The decade-long process retired debt totaling \$800K assumed under the previous rector. It was a challenge, she observes, for which the seminary did not prepare her.

A more joyful duty was supervising the operation of St. Alban's Pre-school, which offers non-sectarian early childhood education and care for children ages 1 to 6. It fit well with what Rev. King identifies as her particular gifts in "family ministry and redevelopment of parish ministry and life." Prior to that she was the rector at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Bergenfield.

The Rev. King, who declares herself "a womb to tomb Episcopalian," describes her liturgical style as "broad church," "creative" but "grounded in the *Book of Common Prayer*." The Rev. King also says she is "passionate about collaborative ministry" and likes to "include lots of voices" in worship. She encourages parishioners of all ages to serve as lectors. And, like our parishioners, she values the presence of beautiful music in worship.

In person, as she was aptly [described in 2011](#), the Rev. King “has a dynamic ‘can do’ and ‘will be done’ attitude that is infectious.” That energy and focus is already apparent in her plans to draw more visitors to All Saints during the weekend of the Bay Head Christmas Walk (December 3) with a program featuring special treats made from antique cookie cutters and candy molds and a display on loan from the St. Nicholas Center at the Virginia Theological Seminary.

Aside from All Saints’ location, which appealed to her as a sailor, the Rev. King noted that it presented the opportunity for her to draw on her experience working in a parish that brings people together from several neighboring communities. She is eager not only to support our outreach programs but also to spearhead a variety of new interfaith and intergenerational activities open to the broader community.

She invites parents in the parish to let her know when their children will be participating in school plays, concerts, and sporting events, because she attends as many as possible. It’s one way she gets to know parishioners and the community—she’ll be the one cheering from the sidelines and wearing the collar.

Accompanying the Rev. King as she moves into the rectory are her cat and dog, Joy and Lily. Her son, Nicholas, is a freshman living on campus at Rutgers. We hope to meet him as soon as he can take a break from his studies.

The daughter of an Episcopal priest, the late Rev. Alan King (shown below holding Kathryn at her baptism), she knew “she would wear the robes as early as elementary school.” She received her Master’s in Divinity from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Prior to that, she earned a B.S. in Early Childhood and Elementary Education and served as Coordinator for Youth Ministry and Director of Residential Camping in the Diocese of Newark and as Assistant Director of the Merck Pharmaceutical Corporate Child Care Center.

