

We, the people of All Saints parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, are living members of the body of Jesus Christ.

As Jesus gathered his disciples, took bread and blessed it, and then offered his body for us in order to bring reconciliation, forgiveness and healing, so may we offer ourselves in Christ's name.

## Embracing brave change

*Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong.  
Let all that you do be done in love. (I Corinthians 16:13-14)*

God is calling to us to look ahead and to embrace brave change. As fewer people turn to the church as a source of solace and strength, more than ever we yearn to know and be known by God and one another. In a world plagued by grievous conflict, injustice and poverty, God gives us the courage to be agents of reconciliation, justice and abundance. There will be difficult choices for us as followers of Jesus. It is only through ongoing, prayerful discernment together that we will find a path to a faithful future.

## Reimagining our congregations

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? (Isaiah 43:19)*

With God's help, we can support our congregations as they reimagine the shape of discipleship in 21st-century Massachusetts. We believe in the power of Christian community to transform lives through God's grace, a promise that sustains us even as we adapt to meet the needs of a changing world. We will deepen our relationship with God and increase our capacity to speak of our faith. Rooted in a living tradition, we will joyfully and courageously invite all people to worship our Creator, to share the reconciling love of Christ and to participate in the work of the Holy Spirit.

## Building our relationships

*From Christ the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped...promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. (Ephesians 4:16)*

With God's help, we will address painful divisions within our diocese, that we might serve the world worthily as one body in Christ. Blessed by the manifold charisms of all of our diverse members and congregations, we will strengthen the bonding ligaments between individuals, congregations and diocesan bodies. Honoring the contributions of every generation and working across differences to build each other up in love, we will share our varied gifts with one another and our world.

## Engaging our world

*Just as you did it to one of the least of these...you did it to me.  
(Matthew 25:40)*

With God's help, we will continue to engage our world, working alongside our neighbors to share Christ's love through word and action. We will act as agents of God's compassion to those in need. We will work to reconcile ourselves and all people to one another, and all of creation to God, seeking justice and committing ourselves to the stewardship of our planet.

*Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. (Ephesians 3:20-21)*