

Episcopal 101: For Everybody

6 Sundays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7 at 11:45 am in the Bloom Room

The entire history of Christianity and the Episcopal Church in 540 minutes!

This inquirer's class is specifically designed for those who are considering becoming official members of Grace St. Paul's or are pondering being received into this faith tradition. The class will finish before Palm Sunday and coincide with the first annual visitation of Bishop-elect Jennifer Reddall on May 5. However, everyone is invited to participate because the class will cover material that many cradle Episcopalians do not even know. In reality, the class is for anyone who would like to learn more about the church, specifically the Episcopal Church and the Anglican tradition, in which we are a part. All of this will come at you from the slightly different slant of your Rector, who facilitates each class. We are going to cover a bunch in a short time, but we believe the classes will be informative for all and fun, whether you have a doctorate in Anglican studies, (as I know some of you do) or you think that Episcopalian is something that only appears on spelling tests. Come join us every Sunday for six successive weeks in the Bloom Room. Classes will be 90 minutes long, and food will be provided. Classes will finish the week before Holy Week and will be video recorded in case you cannot make each class.

Our first class will be on the history of the church from Jesus to the Protestant Reformation. (All of that in an hour and a half.) The second class will be history, part II, a look at the church as it developed in America. Class three will be everything you always wanted to know about the Book of Common Prayer and our liturgy, but were afraid to ask. Class four will be a discussion of Sacramental theology, and what we mean by Sacrament. Class five will be on Episcopal church polity, how we get things done and how we govern ourselves. This class is particularly important to us now as we consider American politics and also the fragile state of the Anglican Communion. The last class will be a comparison of the Episcopal tradition with other Christian denominations, a discussion of the issues facing the church today, our Presiding Bishop, and a discussion of being Episcopalian in what may be a post-religious age.

EPISCOPAL 101 CLASS SCHEDULE

March 3 - Church History to the Protestant Reformation

March 10 - Church History from the Henry VIII thing, the George III thing and in the United States

March 17 - The Book of Common Prayer and the Liturgy

March 24 - The Sacramental Tradition

March 31 - American Church Polity

April 7 - A quick comparison of Christian denominations, present day conflict in T.E.C. and the Anglican Communion, our new Presiding Bishop and a discussion of being Episcopalian in a post-religious age.