



Transitions

Deacon Babs to Transfer to St. Matthew's



After much prayerful consideration, evaluation, consultation and discernment, Bishop Megan has requested that Deacon Babs devote her full efforts and energy to support the work and ministry of the people of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Sacramento. As a result, Deacon Babs last Sunday with us will be October 20th, and she will begin her ministry at St. Matthew's on October 27th.

The ministry of a deacon is to represent Christ and his church, particularly as a servant of those in need, and to assist bishops and priests in the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments (BCP 856). The decision as to where a deacon serves is at the sole discretion of the bishop. Bishop Megan's decision to transfer Deacon Babs is a recognition of the specific gifts and talents that Deacon Babs has (gifts and talents we have come to know and love), and the way those gifts and talents may be used to serve a community with tremendous needs.

We have all participated in Deacon Babs' discernment of God's call of her to the diaconate, and have helped her grow into the ministry of a deacon over the past three years. The time has now come for us to let God lead her into new forms of ministry, serving the church as God desires her to do.

Bishop Megan's decision is also a reflection of the strong lay leadership that is present at St. John's, and a recognition that our faith community has willingly embraced and is ready to sustain a number of ministries that Deacon Babs was able to grow and support during her time with all of us. Bishop Megan has expressed her full confidence in all of us as we live into our mission to experience and share the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

We will celebrate and give thanks for Deacon Babs' ministry in our midst during our services on October 20th. Please join us as we thank God for her willingness to answer God's call, and as we pray that God guides her, sustains her and supports her as she enters into this new phase of representing Christ and his church.