

**Vestry Preparation Questionnaire
For Bishop Visitations
Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
2019-20**

During my visitation, I would like to meet with your vestry or bishop's committee for forty-five minutes or so to discuss the challenges and opportunities of your ministry. If you are currently in a rector/vicar transition, please include the search committee in that meeting as well. At your last vestry or bishop's committee meeting before my visitation, I ask you to discuss the following questions so that we can be prepared to talk about them when I visit.

1. What are the major strengths and gifts of your congregation?
2. What are the major challenges of your congregation's ministry?
3. Looking at the community beyond your doors, what groups in the area might benefit from hearing the good news of Christ through the Episcopal Church? What ideas do you have for sharing that good news with them?
 - For this conversation, please print and pass out to your vestry the demographics of your community, which you can find at this link: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/research-and-statistics>. Scroll down to "Study Your Congregation and Community," enter the Diocese of San Diego, find your congregation in the drop-down menu, and click "Visit Community Profile."
 - Consider how your community has changed in recent years, and how well your congregation matches the demographics of your neighborhood.
 - What are important local issues in your area?
4. What are the major needs of the neighbors in your wider community? How are you currently serving your neighbors? How might you be called to serve them in the future?