

THE REV. ANN LOVEJOY JOHNSON

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Ms. Andrea Burr, Senior Warden
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
41 Park Street
Manchester, CT 06040

Dear Andrea, Members of the Vestry, and People of St. Mary's,

I am humbled and delighted to accept your call to serve as the next Rector of St. Mary's Church! The grace of God has blessed us in our discernment and now the Holy Spirit is bringing us together to enter this new chapter in the life of St. Mary's Parish.

It is you – the people of St. Mary's – that attracted me to you and that excites me now as we begin this new venture in ministry. The dedication of your Recruitment Team and the integrity of your whole discernment process have been commendable.

Already I have experienced the good energy and humor of your vestry leaders! I see in you a desire to nurture your spiritual growth, to rejoice in your worship life and to increase in your care of all that God entrusts to you. Your openness to discover where the Spirit is leading you as ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is wonderful. Participating with you in God's mission in Manchester and beyond will be a joy.

I am very excited and look forward to beginning ministry among you on May 15, 2017. Prior to that time, I will be saying good-bye to Trinity, where I have been Priest in Charge since 2013; and taking up the task of purchasing a home in Manchester and relocating my family – daughter Azalech, and son Muse (both of whom have birthdays this spring and will be 11 and 9 respectively when we arrive in Manchester).

It will be a pleasure to meet each of you and to join in Christ's mission with you in the weeks, months and years ahead. I pray that God will guide us in our transition as we begin our new life together in Christ. You are in my prayers!

Faithfully,
Ann Lovejoy Johnson