

Diocese of Albany Vision

The Diocese of Albany is One Church fulfilling the Great Commandment and Great Commission, moving from membership to discipleship; equipping, emboldening, and sending disciples to make disciples.

Marks of Discipleship and Diocesan Values

❖ *Prayer & Worship*

- Worshipping the Lord daily (Psalm 95:1-7, Psalm 96:1-9, Acts 2:46, Romans 12:1)
- Gathering weekly as the Body of Christ in remembrance and thanksgiving (Acts 2:42, I Corinthians 11:23-26)
- Praying continuously & interceding for all in need (Romans 12:12, I Thessalonians 5:16-18, I Timothy 2:1)
- Praying with and in the Spirit (I Corinthians 14:1-25)

❖ *Scripture – The Word of God*

- Studying the Holy Scriptures daily; ordering our lives to God's word; and proclaiming the Good News through Biblical Preaching (Luke 4:16-21, Acts 2:42 & 17:11, Romans 12:2, II Tim. 3:14-17, II Timothy 4:1-2)
- Acknowledging that the Old and New Testament is the very Word of God, "containing all things necessary to salvation and as being the rule and ultimate standard of life" (BCP 853 and 877)

❖ *Catholic Structures of Anglicanism*

- Committing to The Body of Christ, The Universal Church, across space and time (Matthew 16:18, Romans 12:5, I Corinthians 12:27-28, Ephesians 4:4-16)
- Honoring the three-fold ministry of Bishop, Priest and Deacon (Acts 2:21-26, Ephesians 2:19-22, I Timothy 3 & 4, II Timothy 2:2, BCP 510, BCP 517-519, BCP 531-532, BCP 543-544)

❖ *Christian Education*

- Teaching young and old alike in Sunday School & Bible Study to know God and follow Jesus (Psalm 27:11, Matthew 28:20, Mark 1:21-22, Mark 10:13-16, Luke 24:27 & 45, John 14:26, Acts 17:11, Titus 2:1)
- Teaching the Catechism & preparing for Confirmation (BCP 845-862)

❖ *Christian Fellowship*

- Committing to being in the Body of Christ – the Church, and using our Spiritual Gifts for its benefit (Acts 2:42-47, I Corinthians 1:9, I Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4, Colossians 3:1-17).
- Loving One Another as commanded by Christ (John 15:12, Romans 12:10, I John 1:3-7)

❖ *Spiritual Gifts & Healing*

- Learning to identify and use the Spiritual Gifts God has given each person for the work He has prepared for them to accomplish in His name (Romans 12, I Corinthians 12, I Peter 4:10)
- Following Jesus' command to His disciples to heal the sick (Matthew 4:23, Luke 9:1-2 & 10:9, James 5:14-15)

❖ *Christian Service*

- Serving the Lord faithfully (Deuteronomy 10:12, Joshua 24:14, Romans 12:11, Philippians 2:3-8, Colossians 3:17)
- Serving others in a broken world (Matt. 25:31-40, Luke 10:30-37, John 13:1-17, Galatians 5:13, I Peter 4:10)

❖ *Generosity in answering God's call as Stewards of His Creation*

- Embracing the Biblical standard of tithing and working to achieve it (Malachi 3:10, II Corinthians 9:6-8)
- Contributing to the needs of the saints (Matthew 6:2-4, Acts 20:35, Romans 12:13, II Corinthians 8)
- Growing in stewardship of all God has given us (Genesis 1, Luke 21:1-4, I Peter 4:9-10)

❖ *Evangelism – Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ*

- Introducing people to Jesus (Matthew 28:18-20, John 17:18-26)
- Encouraging the next generation to pass forward the faith (Deuteronomy 6:6-9, Psalm 78:1-8, 2 Timothy 2:2)

❖ *Mission at Home and Abroad*

- Restoring all people to unity with God and each other in Christ (BCP 855, John 14:6, I Timothy 2:3-6)
- Witnessing to the truth of Jesus Christ, going into the world and making disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16, Luke 24:46-48, Acts 1:8)

As we pray through the "Marks of Discipleship and Diocesan Values," may the Lord show us where we need to grow – individually, as a parish, and as a diocese.