

PARISH IDENTITY

St. Anne's was formed out of a desire to remain faithful to the Scriptures, to defend the Faith "that was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3), and to uphold "the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of Christ" as the Church has received them. Like many other Anglican parishes in the United States, this has provided the foundation for our common life together and cultivated a desire to remain faithful to the tradition of the Church. This can be summarized in our desire to express: Catholic Faith, Orthodox Worship, and Anglican Spirituality.

CATHOLIC FAITH

St. Anne's is a Church which upholds the doctrines of the Catholic Faith. We confess the Faith of the Nicene Creed, and maintain fidelity to the Holy Scriptures. We adhere to the same doctrines as the Apostles, Church Fathers, and Holy Saints of every generation. In the early Church, those who were "catholic" were those who not only belonged to the one universal church, but expressed the Creed of the true Church and possessed the Sacraments of Christ. At St. Anne's, this is our Faith – as expressed in the Nicene Creed, the Apostolic Ministry, and the Sacraments of the Church.

ORTHODOX WORSHIP

The word "orthodox" can rightly be translated as "right opinion" or "right glory." To be of the right opinion is to teach the true Faith, and to give "right glory" or right "worth-ship" (worship) is to worship God according to the true Faith. Christian Worship is not mere preference, not a search for relevance, and not even simply traditional customs – it is a holy thing, received from the Apostles of Christ and developed fully in the Early Church. It is something that we receive and enter into. At St. Anne's, we seek to simply and faithfully provide "right glory" by Worshipping God according to Orthodoxy in faith and practice. Our Worship is faithful to the practices of the Western Church and comes from the liturgies of the Early Church. We desire to remain faithful to the liturgy as it has always been celebrated (whether with simplicity or elaborately), with sincere devotion and conformity to the Tradition of Christian Worship. Our form of Worship connects us to every generation of Christians who has gone before us. At St. Anne's, we celebrate the liturgy according to the tradition of the Book of Common Prayer. In our desire to maintain the Tradition of Christian worship, we would be considered an Anglo-Catholic parish.

ANGLICAN SPIRITUALITY

St. Anne's is an Anglican Parish. This means that our spiritual life is nourished by the prayers and devotions of the English people, which has shaped the life of the English Church. Anglican Spirituality focuses on the Daily Life of Prayer as found in the Book of Common Prayer. The particular form of worship found in the Book of Common Prayer, and the unique language and prayers of the services in the Prayer Book, provide the structure to our Common spiritual life. We seek to express faithfully the gifts of Anglican Spirituality, as lived by so many English Saints and expressed in the life of the English Church – which is itself a gift to the entire Church.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in aw of him.

– Psalm 96:9