

Gifts and Ministry of the Clergy

What we are looking for in our new priest-in-charge:

The people of St. Mark's are searching for a shepherd who brings the following gifts:

- First and foremost, we pray for someone who has excellent **pastoral care** skills.
- We pray for a pastor with a **warm and friendly personality** who will help us heal from recent struggles and who will work together with us as a team.
- He or she will not be afraid to reach out to our **local community**, and become a part of it. They will welcome the diversity in our area and encourage the same diversity in our membership.
- We would welcome an inspiring **teacher**, who will preach informative and relevant sermons which challenge us to think and reflect. We welcome someone who speaks from the heart.
- We pray for a **leader** who can help us be better disciples and grow discipleship in the parish - a leader who can help us build teamwork among our congregation and standing committees, so that we can grow our church, and sustain the future of St. Mark's,
- He or she will be comfortable interacting with our **youth** and developing a youth program - someone who is not afraid to engage with our young people but will meet regularly to guide them through their Christian formation. This could involve partnering with other churches in and around Westhampton Beach to develop an ecumenical youth program.
- Finally, we pray for someone who has good management skills as our staff is small and much of the work is done by volunteers. Guiding our volunteers through our **stewardship** program is especially important.