

Welcome!  
Please ...  
Sit with Someone  
Surprising

St. Mark's  
Discernment and Search Committee

January 4, 2015, Town Hall Meeting

# Town Hall Goals

1. Provide an overview of the Renewal Works component of the Discernment process
2. Provide an understanding of the work required to prepare to call our next rector
3. Encourage participation in upcoming events

# Town Hall Format

(90 minutes)

- Opening Prayer
- Renewal Works
  - Overview of Renewal Works.
  - Facilitated table discussions, and dessert
  - Summary of important themes.
- Discernment and Search Timeline
  - What we are doing and when.
  - How you can participate.
- Closing Prayer

# RW is the First of Several Inputs

- RW Survey and Experience
- Parish manager/Pillar reports
- Home Gatherings
- Multiple Town Halls
- St Mark's Survey (added)

# History of RW at St Mark's

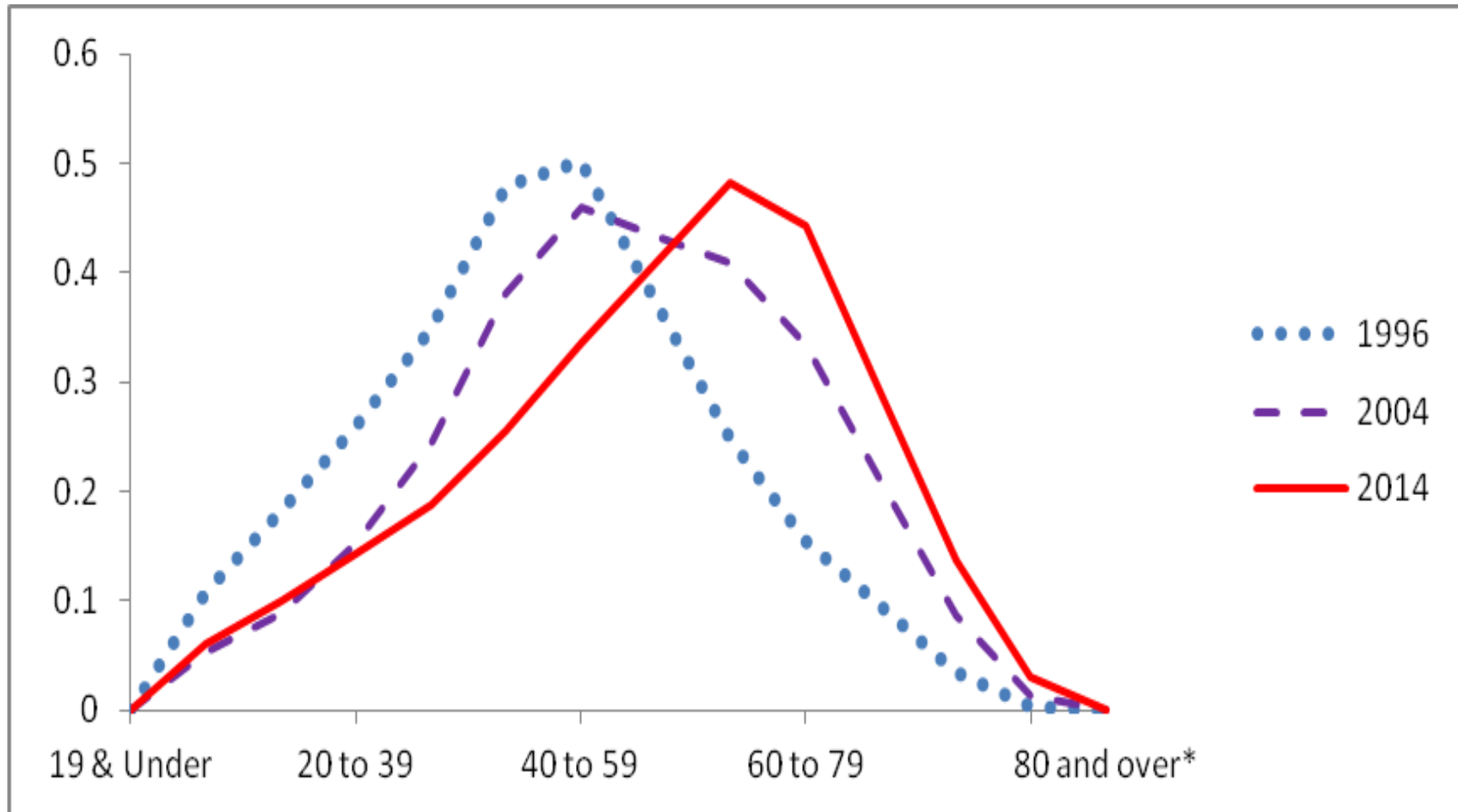
- Feb. - Rev. Sidebothan presentation
- April 17 - Vestry decided to use RWS
- Sept. 14 - St. Mark's RW town hall
- Sept. 20 - RW Survey opened
- Oct. 12 - RW Survey closed
- Nov. - DSC discerned meaning from RW
- Dec. 14 - DSC reported to the Vestry
- Dec. 19 - DSC made RW report available

# We Listened and Made RW Our Own

- Town Hall learning: there's more to RW than survey responses
- 188 survey responses (58%), 49 written comments, 67 signatures on a letter to the Vestry
- Customized RW workshops 3 & 4
- Independent analysis; No comparison to other Churches

# Key Findings

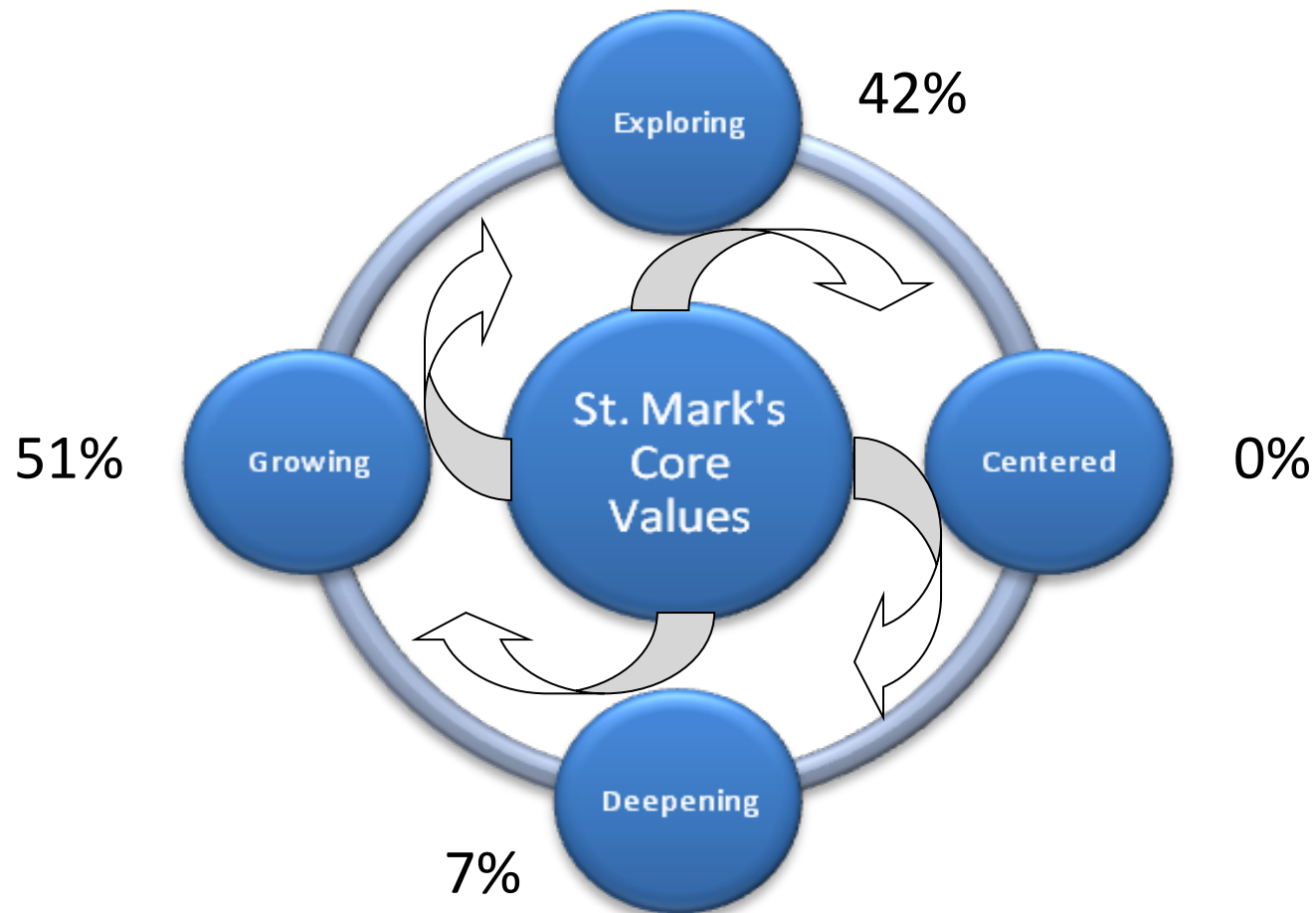
- Aging Population





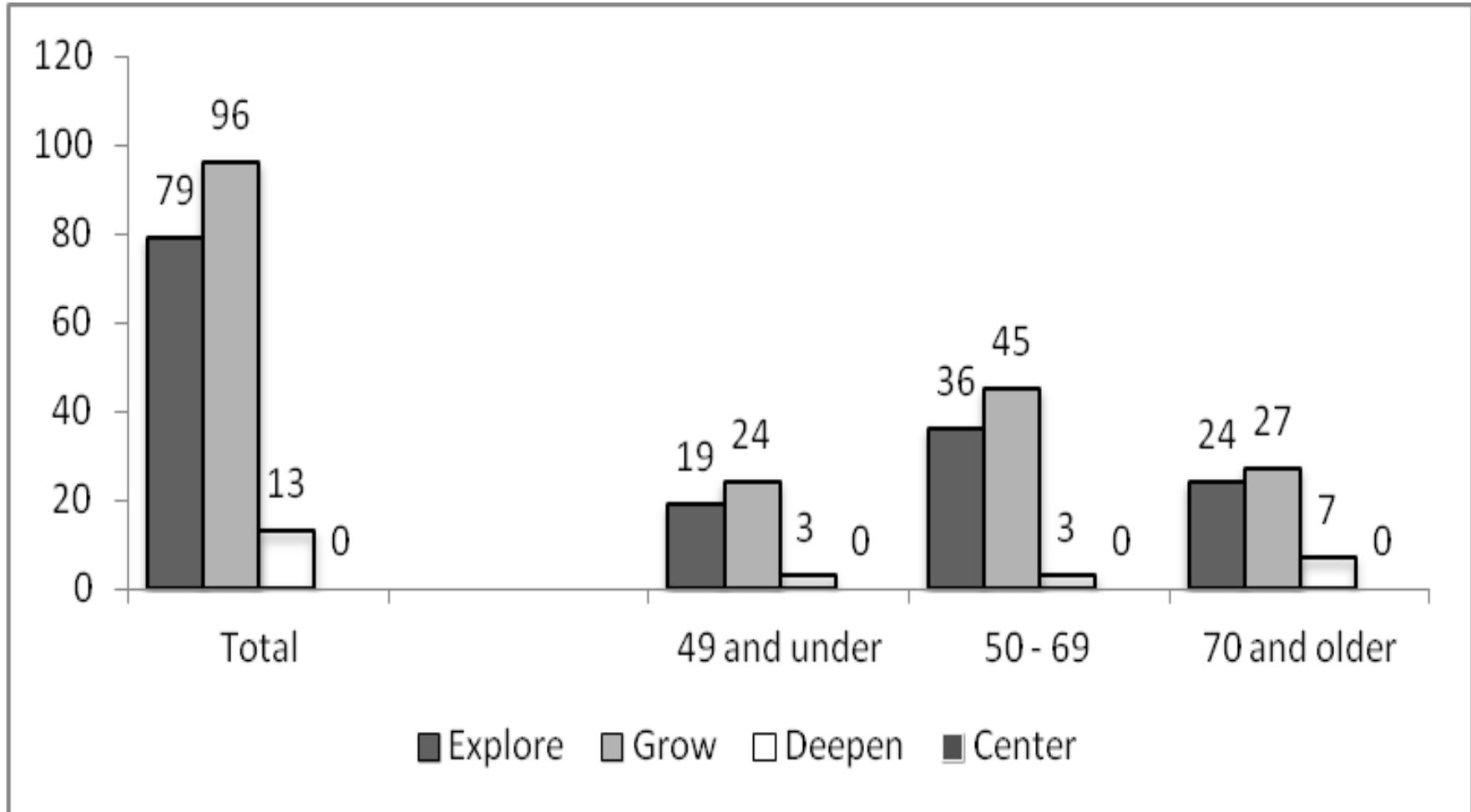
# Key Findings

- Spiritual Profile Snapshot



# Key Findings

- We Are Similar Across Generations



# Key Findings

- Spiritual Practices Demonstrate an Open Congregation that Values Being Challenged and Feeling Connected with the Community and the Church

	Critically or Very Important
Provides worship that is challenging and thought provoking	80%
Encourages me to be respectful and welcoming to people of other faith traditions	78%
Helps me feel like I belong	77%
Church leaders are authentic about their struggles	72%
Deepens my sense of community by serving alongside others	71%

# Key Findings

- St. Mark's Supports an Open Community, Provides Challenging Liturgy, and Provides Opportunity to Participate in a Diverse Set of Programs

	Extremely or Very Satisfied
Encourages me to be respectful and welcoming to people of other faith traditions	70%
Provides liturgy with music that feeds my spirit	63%
Provides worship that is challenging and thought provoking	61%
Empowers members of the congregation to serve in leadership roles	56%
Church leaders are authentic about their struggles	55%

# Key Findings

- Respondents Indicate a Desire for Enhanced Efforts to Support Their Most Basic Needs and Create Avenues for Service through the Church that Strengthens Ties to One Another and the Community

	Critically or Very Important	Extremely or Very Satisfied	Diff
Helps me in my time of emotional need	69%	36%	33%
Helps me feel like I belong	77%	45%	32%
Challenges me to grow and take next steps spiritually	54%	23%	31%
Provides opportunities to grow spiritually through relationships with others	68%	44%	24%
Provides opportunities for me to serve those in need	53%	30%	23%

# DSC Recommendations

Bring diverse groups of parishioners together to enhance commonalities, in particular:

- Help parishioners feel that they belong and are supported in times of need.
- Establish connections among existing programs.
- Connect parishioners with their community, increasing the presence of St. Mark's within the community.
- Expand challenging liturgy that encourages parishioners to join together in their learning and understanding of our spiritual practices.

# Table Discussion

- What questions do you have about the DSC process of interpreting the RW experience?
- What more do you need to understand the role of RW in DSC process and to move forward?

# Questions

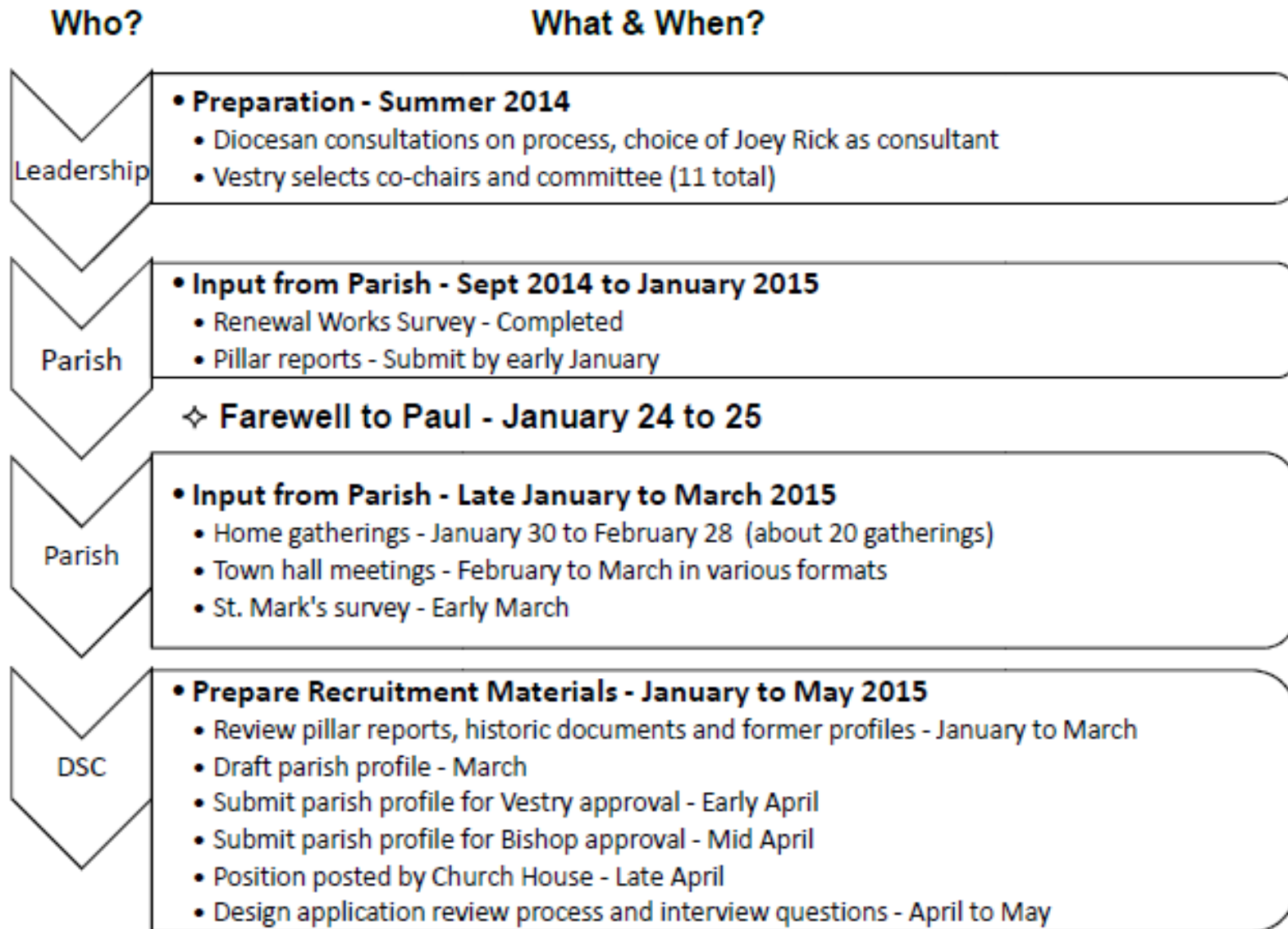
- How was RW analysis customized? How did you incorporate comments outside of RW? Why no other churches?
- How will RW results affect D/S going forward? Will candidates get RW results?
- Will Diocese respond to our use of RW?
- How to get more out of the report – share more details/breakouts? Print copies?



# Going forward

- How will RW experience affect next survey?
- Better age breakout – 20s-30s too?
- Don't take more time on RW – Move on.

# DSC Timeline

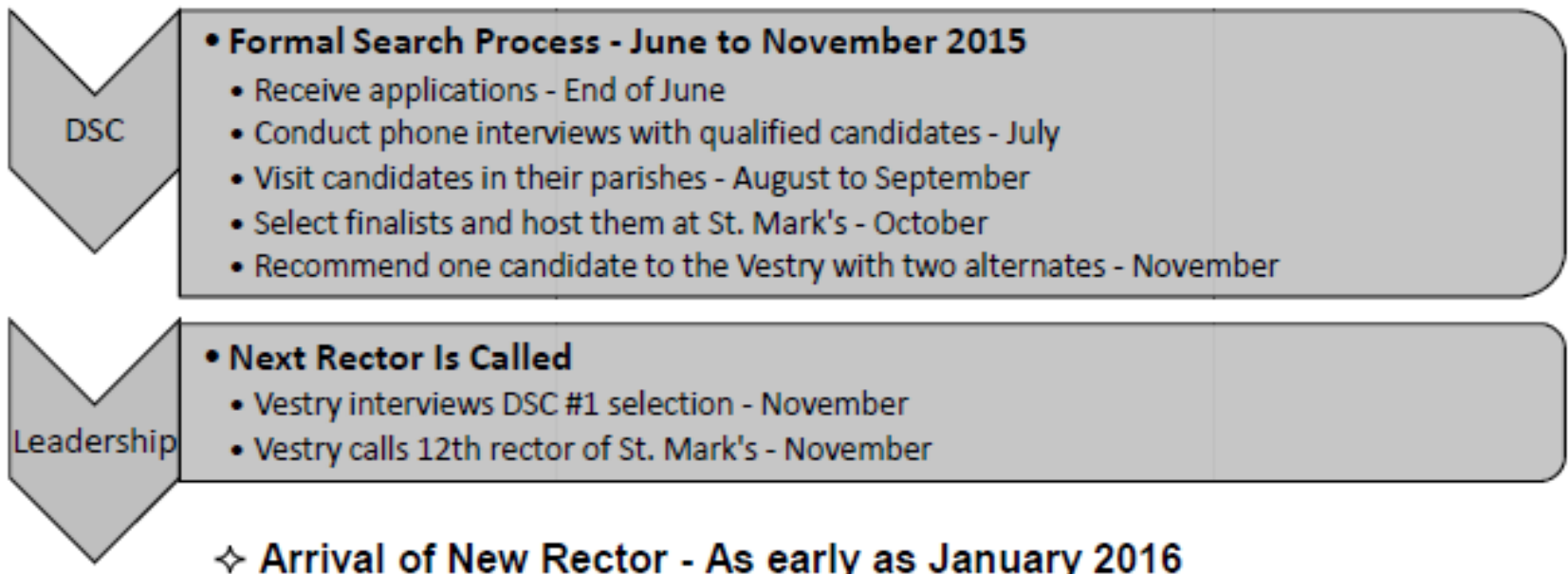


◇ **Interim rector arrives no later than June 1.**

# DSC Timeline

**Who?**

**What & When?**



# DSC Ongoing Communications

Ways to keep in touch:

1. The Bulletin, announcements, and the Gospel
2. Visit <http://stmarksdsc.wordpress.com>
3. Sign up for email blasts at: <http://stmarksdsc.wordpress.com/email>
4. Text *stmarksdsc* to 24587
5. Email [stmarksdsc@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksdsc@gmail.com)

# Home Gatherings

- Your vision and ideas
- January 31 through February 22
- Throughout Greater Washington
- Potluck dinner, cocktail/wine and cheese, brunch, or coffee/tea with dessert
- Sign ups start Sunday, January 11 and online