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Do you have questions about the Episcopal Church?

Is it time for you or one of your family to be confirmed in the Church?

Has your faith become inadequate, irrelevant, or boring; are you looking for a real faith that gives way for the Abundant Life promised?

Have you forgotten or do you just want to know why Episcopalians do what we do when we do it?

Do you need reminding of what it means to be an Episcopalian in today's world?

Do you want a safe place to ask 21<sup>st</sup> century questions about God?

## **You are invited and encouraged to take part in the Inquirers' Class.**

Join us these seven Sunday mornings at 10 am. Child care is provided. This class will be intensive and encompassing. Presentations of lectures and videos along with serious conversation and Q&A will be our format. The goal is for you to learn more about your relationship with God and how St. Mary's can deepen and enhance this connection. The culmination of the sessions will be the Bishop's visitation on May 6. All participants looking for confirmation, reaffirmation, or reception are expected to attend all sessions.

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### Explore...

- the people's history of Christianity
- the uniqueness of being an Episcopalian
- the emergence of the Episcopal church
- St. Mary's rich witness of shaping and healing Memphis
- why we say "no" to fundamentalism

### Deepen...

- your relationship with God through Christ
- the way you worship with liturgy and the sacraments
- your reading and use of Holy Scripture
- your practice of social justice work

### Open...

- your heart to be more compassionate
- your mind to new ways of thinking and dreaming



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# **St. Mary's 2018 Inquirers' Class**



Sundays at 10 am, Sisters' Chapel  
March 11 & 18; April 8, 15, 22,  
& 29; May 6

# Class Schedule & Teachers

## March 11

“Why Become an Episcopalian?”  
St. Mary’s Clergy

## March 18

“The Uniqueness of the Episcopal Church”  
St. Mary’s Clergy

## April 8

“Not Catholic, Not Protestant: History of the Episcopal Church”  
Miranda Cully Griffin

## April 15

“Get to Know Your Book of Common Prayer”  
St. Mary’s Clergy

## April 22

“St. Mary’s Distinctive Place in the Episcopal Church: History of St. Mary’s”  
Patricia McFarland

## April 29

“Called to Live out our Faith”  
St. Mary’s Clergy

## May 6

Breakfast, 9 am  
Bishop’s Forum, 10 am  
The Rt. Rev. Don Johnson  
Confirmation, 11 am service

## CONFIRMATION \kan-fur-ma-shen\

a post-baptismal rite of mature commitment to Christ through prayers, the renewal of baptismal vows, and the laying on of hands by a bishop. It is usually preceded by a period of organized prayer, study, and instruction called a confirmation class or inquirers’ class.

**REAFFIRMATION \re-a-fur-ma-shen\** an opportunity for a confirmed Episcopalian to mark a significant stage in his/her Christian journey by making public a reaffirmation of baptismal vows in the presence of the Bishop.

**RECEPTION \rə’sepSH(ə)n\** Those confirmed in other denominations by a bishop in the historic succession may be received into the Episcopal Church by the bishop.



## Sponsorship

The choice to follow the Christian journey is not simply an individual one as it is made in the setting and fellowship of a given Christian community of faith. We think it appropriate that at the time of Confirmation those persons who have played a significant or formative role in helping the candidate to know Christ be present with him or her to celebrate this rite of growth and maturity in Christ. *The above photo is of the 2015 confirmation class, clergy, and sponsors.*

## Seeking confirmation, reaffirmation, or reception?

Be sure to contact Parish Administrator Emily Barnwell Pratt by emailing your name, email, address, and phone number to [ep Pratt@stmarysmemphis.org](mailto:ep Pratt@stmarysmemphis.org) or by calling the Cathedral office at 527-3361.

The prerequisite for Confirmation is Baptism. You will need to provide your Baptism date and place.