

**INCUMBENT,
ST. BARBARA, OKANAGAN FALLS,
ST. STEPHEN, SUMMERLAND**

The Bishop of Kootenay invites applications for the position of Incumbent in the Parishes of St. Stephen, Summerland and St. Barbara, Okanagan Falls, British Columbia.

Summerland is in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. A city of 12,000, it is a popular tourist destination and retirement community. Okanagan Falls is a town of 2500 at the south end of Skaha Lake. There are 35 km between the two parishes, a half hour drive.

The full-time position is supported three quarters by St. Stephen's and one quarter by St. Barbara's. The priest leads worship twice a month Sunday afternoon in St. Barbara's, and every Sunday morning at St. Stephen's. Both parishes have experienced and trained licensed lay ministers who officiate and preach at occasional Morning Prayer. Both parishes are stable financially, and have cooperated successfully sharing a priest for many years.

Both parishes are surrounded by beautiful lakes and mountains, showcasing wineries and golf courses, with Apex Mountain Ski Resort and other outdoor recreation opportunities nearby. The parishes are located 400 kilometers east of Vancouver and an hour south of Kelowna, near to the city of Penticton, where there is a hospital, large shopping and recreation centers, and an airport that provides easy access to Vancouver and Calgary International airports. Summerland has all levels of public schools, as well as full sports facilities, beautiful parks and beaches.

St. Barbara's is a small pastoral parish with an average Sunday attendance of 20 or less; they are friendly, easy-going and care well for each other. St. Stephen's has an average Sunday attendance of 55. They value Anglican BAS liturgy while at the same time are open to new expressions of worship and music. The beautiful historic buildings are in excellent repair. They have a strong commitment to outreach, and enjoy congregational social gatherings which are a source of support, fellowship and conviviality. They have a history of strong ecumenical cooperation. In addition to the licensed lay ministers, the parish has a team of strong lay leaders who contribute much to the ministry of the congregation. Both parishes have benefited in the past several months from the presence of an experienced interim minister who has helped them to see their strengths and mission. They have adapted quickly and well to the changed circumstances of worship and pastoral care during COVID-19.

The two congregations are seeking an experienced priest who is a good communicator, a compassionate pastor, a strong teacher and preacher, and a leader who can guide them into strengthening their congregational life. This is an exciting opportunity within a diocese known for its strong sense of community, collegiality amongst clergy, and creative approaches to ministry teams and to liturgies.

Priests with a history of proven congregational leadership who feel called to this ministry are invited to apply with the consent of their bishop. The deadline for applications is **September 1, 2020**.

For further information including a parish profile, please contact:

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