

Greetings, people of the Diocese of Montana! I'm so looking forward to meeting you in person!

I am drawn to your combination of joy and hard work, your honesty and hope, and your clear understanding of your diocese's unique identity and needs. The missional heart at the core of your ministry, and your desire for true pastoral relationship between the bishop and the communities of the diocese resonate deeply with me. Serving with you, being fully present with you in mission and ministry, would be a joy!

I was raised in a secular home, choosing Christianity intentionally, being baptized my first year in college. (My father was born and raised in Mumbai, India; my mother is from Methuen, Massachusetts.) My upbringing affords me perspective and entry to interfaith and ecumenical collaborations, and has helped me stand in the threshold place between the church and the world, translating for, and welcoming those who are unchurched. Much of my life has been spent working with youth and young adults in Episcopal school communities, first as an athletic trainer and teacher, and eventually as a chaplain.

For the past 12 years I've had the privilege of serving as the rector of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Yarmouth, Maine. St. Bart's, known for genuine welcome and creative approach to liturgy, often serves as an entry point for many who are unchurched. With 12 years of experience in shaping responsive liturgy, I'm enthusiastic about serving as Vice-Chair of the Task Force for Liturgy and Prayer Book Revision (an Interim Body of General Convention).

I spent more than a decade on the diocesan finance committee in Maine, finding new ways to fund mission and ministry on the ground, advocating for those who serve the farthest reaches of our diocese; while promoting standards of being transparent, equitable, and relational in the way we do our work. As Chair of Finance, I brought that work before our diocese with energy and clarity - focused on mission and ministry, and our being One in the Body of Christ.

My spiritual gifts are straight forward and obvious. I love well. I'm direct and I speak the Gospel clearly. I relate well to people of all ages, and of differing opinions. I've been a care-giver my whole life and that charism is foundational to my ministry. I'm pastoral and relational by nature - it's where I find joy in my vocation. I pay attention, raise up the gifts of others, and see connections, patterns, and possibilities in how those gifts might come together to lead us forward to what God is calling us to become.

I am joyful - my joy is grounded in the hope that is within me, and my deep and abiding faith in God. It's from this place of being deeply hopeful that I'm relatively undaunted when faced with challenges. I'm creative in my

approach to problem solving, and I understand that we have to be willing to risk, to try, to be imperfect, on our way to finding what God is calling us to become. Yet I believe we can move forward together with faithfulness, courage and JOY. My husband Ken is a photographer and web marketing professional, and we've been married for 25 years. We have two daughters, both of whom are in college (and three cats and one dog, all rescues).

I look forward to getting to know you, Nina+