

**March 8, 2019**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY AT ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

MILLBURN, NEW JERSEY – In Celebration of New Ministry service, the Rev. Paula J. Toland will be formally instituted as rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church by the Rt. Rev. Carlye Hughes, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The event will take place Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 2:00 pm at St. Stephen's Church, 119 Main Street in Millburn.

Following the homily, representatives of the congregation and of the clergy of the diocese will stand before the bishop and the new rector, presenting symbolic gifts of the ministry they will share together. The bishop will then celebrate the Holy Eucharist with hymns and special music.

All local clergy are invited to participate and to be vested in the tradition of their clergy denominations. Episcopal clergy are asked to wear white stoles. A reception will take place in the Parish Hall immediately following the service. All are welcome!

Rev. Paula has been at St. Stephen's since November 2018. Prior to arriving in Millburn, she served parishes in the Dioceses of Massachusetts and Western Massachusetts, where she worked bi-vocationally as parish priest and chaplain. She is passionate about sharing the Good News that all people are beloved of God and believes it is the call to Christians and to the Church to be expressions of the radical love and hospitality Jesus offers to the world.

Rev. Paula graduated from the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she specialized in pastoral theology. Prior to entering seminary, she worked for many years as a social worker, primarily in the fields of family and sexual violence and child welfare, doing both direct service and program administration.

Rev. Paula is married to Ron, and they have three children: Sean, Kevin, and Kathleen. The "kids" are young adults, each pursuing their love of education and exploring the world.

Founded in 1851, St. Stephen's is a "diverse Episcopal parish, a life-giving sanctuary, a place where love begets love. Seekers, doubters, and believers find a comfortable place in our congregation." St. Stephen's is located at 119 Main Street (at the corner of Rector Street) in Millburn, New Jersey.

For more information please visit us at <http://ststephensmillburn.org/>, call (973) 376-0688, email [church@ststephensmillburn.org](mailto:church@ststephensmillburn.org), like us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Instagram](#).