

St. John's Episcopal Photographic Use Guidelines

- **Verbal Permission:** In all situations (photographs, slides, videos, or statements for publicity purposes, for communications and publications, and for posting in our website and/or social media) we should get verbal permission from those we wish to photograph (or their parent/guardian). As long as photos aren't being used for monetary gain, this is acceptable.
- **Group Photos:** Photographs of groups at the Church, or Church events with parishioners & non-parishioners, do not require written permission, as there is no expectation of privacy (our Tuesday guests fall under this – an extra step would be to not list their names with the pictures). The foremost goal is to project a welcoming environment. For parishioner photos used in a website or social media, verbal permission will suffice.
- **Individual Photos:** Individual photographs of parishioners do not need written permission, due to the low possibility of that kind of person giving verbal permission, and then suing the Church. Again, photos are not being used for monetary gain.
- **Children's Photos:** Written permission by a parent or guardian is recommended for any pictures of children, especially if they involve non-parishioner children. One approach is to include permission language in the registration paperwork for Sunday school or for specific youth events, so it's addressed in advance.
- **Adult Photos:** Individual photographs of adult non-parishioners require written permission in most cases depending on the situation.
 - All publications need to be checked for content/context of photographs.
 - If the image could cause shame, humiliation, and/or derision or portray an illegal activity, it should not be used.
 - A photo taken in a place where a person would reasonably expect to be secluded/private requires written permission (pastoral care, counseling sessions, etc.).