



**Office of The Bishop  
The Rt. Rev. Gary R. Lillibridge**

**The Episcopal Diocese  
of West Texas  
The Bishop Jones Center**

July 7, 2016

TO: The Rector and Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, San Antonio

FROM: Bishops Lillibridge and Reed

RE: Permission for the Celebration of Same-Sex Marriage Rites

We have received your petition for Episcopal authorization to use the same-sex marriage rites authorized by the General Convention of 2015. We also have received and reviewed the materials used in your process this past year as the congregation engaged the conversation regarding same-sex marriage.

We appreciate being regularly updated by the rector as your process unfolded over the year, culminating in our conversation with Beth this morning in our offices. We know that, like all congregations, a variety of theological positions on these matters is present at St. Mark's. We are grateful for the careful and prayerful approach undertaken by you as you cared for all of your people.

This letter will signify that permission of the bishops has been granted. Please know that we continue to hold the community of St. Mark's in our thoughts and prayers, and we are grateful for your leadership and service to the congregation.

In Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Gary R. Lillibridge  
Bishop

The Rt. Rev David M. Reed  
Bishop Coadjutor