

Meet our new interim priest, Rev. Joan Yetter:

I was happy to visit you a few Sundays ago and meet the parish leadership, and a number of others. Following the visit, the Vestry invited me to accompany you on the “next steps” and the discernment work that will result in the calling of your next rector. I am passionate about parish ministry and welcome the opportunity to share in this journey with you.

First, let me tell you a bit about me. A Montana native, I grew up in Billings, but as many do, I left for college and job opportunities, returning to the state permanently in 2010. My Bachelor’s degree was in Business Administration and I spent a number of years in the Commercial Insurance industry, first for Transamerica Insurance, followed by a private Commercial Broker in Orange County, California.

I went through the ordination process in the Diocese of Los Angeles and attended seminary at both Claremont School of Theology in Claremont, and Church Divinity School of the Pacific, part of the Graduate Theology Union in Berkeley. I was ordained a Transitional Deacon in 1998 at my home parish in Orange, CA and a priest at Holy Spirit Parish in Missoula in 1999, where I served as the Assistant Rector for five years.

I have served amazing and diverse parishes in the Dioceses of Montana, Missouri, Oregon and Spokane, several during transitions. I retired for the first time in 2014 from Calvary, Red Lodge, and the second time in 2019 from a two-year Interim at St. Stephen’s, Billings. For the past couple of years I have done supply in Miles City and Forsyth.

We live in Billings in the house my parents built when I was in first grade. My husband, Ben and I have three grown children and five grandchildren, including one grandson in heaven. Our daughter lives next door so we are very involved with them. Our daughter-in-law and granddaughter lived with us during much of the pandemic allowing us to help as much as we could during such uncertain times. She is divorced from our son, so it was pure grace that they spent the time with us. They have recently moved out but are still in Billings

We enjoy all outdoor activities: hiking, canoeing, soaking in hot springs, camping (with a trailer now), but have done a lot of backpacking. The perfect Montana adventure for us is enjoying a scenic drive complete with a roadside picnic. I also love to read and listen to music. And, recently, we have become quite the travelers, thanks to our youngest son & daughter-in-law whose careers take them overseas, giving us exotic places to visit.

We look forward to meeting you all and beginning to do some great work together building the Kingdom of God in Dillon.

Faithfully,
Rev. Joan Yetter