



LGBTQ Milestones in the Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church (National)

- 1969:** The Stonewall demonstrations in New York City influence the Episcopal Church as members begin to bring LGBTQ issues to the forefront.
- 1974:** Louie Crew creates the Integrity group to advocate for full LGBTQ inclusion in the Episcopal Church.
- 1976:** The Episcopal Church officially declares that LGBTQ individuals are fully loved by God and can be full members of the church.
- 1979:** The Episcopal Church changes its rules to remove gendered language, promoting inclusivity.
- 2003:** The Episcopal Church ordains its first openly gay and lesbian bishops. Openly Gay and Lesbian priests and deacons had been ordained since the 1980's, and closeted clergy for centuries had been ordained.
- 2009:** The Episcopal Church approves the blessing of same-sex weddings in Episcopal congregations.
- 2012:** The church begins ordaining transgender individuals as clergy.

Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis (in central & southern Indiana)

- 1974:** The Diocese of Indianapolis supports the formation of Integrity chapters, advocating for the full inclusion of LGBTQ Episcopalians.
- 1987:** The diocese responds to the AIDS crisis by helping to open the Damien Center and establishing parish-based ministries to support people with AIDS.
- 1989:** The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Indianapolis adopts the slogan "Our Church Has AIDS" to show solidarity and care for those affected by AIDS, reflecting a deep commitment to the LGBTQ community.
- 1990:** The Diocese of Indianapolis receives awards and recognition for its leadership in LGBTQ inclusion, despite the ongoing challenges of discrimination and spiritual abuse faced by LGBTQ individuals in the U.S.

Holy Family Episcopal Church, Fishers

- 1990:** Holy Family Episcopal Church is founded by the Diocese of Indianapolis during a period of significant LGBTQ-related progress within the Episcopal Church.
- **Inclusive Leadership:** The church has had openly gay and lesbian priests and deacons, as well as volunteer leaders.
 - **Full Participation:** Holy Family encourages full participation in parish life for all, including LGBTQ individuals and families.
 - **Welcoming Policy:** The church openly declares, "All Are Welcome," affirming its commitment to inclusivity and support for the LGBTQ community.