

St. Christopher Episcopal Church, League City
Alcohol Policy

The Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, and St. Christopher Episcopal Church, League City (herein named St. Christopher or the Church) acknowledge the dangers of alcohol abuse, the seriousness of the illness of addiction as a disrupter of family, economic, and social life, and the need to exercise a healing ministry and offer support to victims of addiction and to their families. Although the responsibility for drinking alcohol always rests with the individual, St. Christopher intends by this policy to create an atmosphere where alcohol is not normalized as essential to celebrations, where people who do not drink alcohol feel fully welcomed into the community, and where leadership is encouraged to address the abuse of alcohol when it occurs.

The Vestry of St. Christopher, hereby adopts and directs the publication and enforcement of this Alcohol Policy.

Unless otherwise provided, the following guidelines do not apply to the serving of wine at the Eucharist.

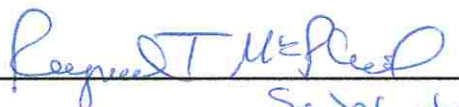
1. St. Christopher shall provide a safe and welcoming environment for all people, including people in recovery.
2. All applicable federal, state, and local laws must be obeyed, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors and those forbidding the sale of alcoholic beverages without an appropriate license.
3. Hard liquor may **NOT** be served at any Church related event/activity regardless of the location of the event/activity.
4. Alcoholic beverages may not be served at events or gatherings held on Church owned property.
5. The only exception to item 4 above is for the reception for the Celebration of a Marriage if both the wedding ceremony and reception are held on Church property. Prior approval of the Rector (or Head of Congregation in the absence of a Rector) is required. In this case, champagne or wine (specifically excluding hard liquor) may be served. A member of the Vestry of St. Christopher must be present throughout the event. All other requirements of this policy must be followed.
6. For Church sponsored activities occurring off Church owned property (including property affiliated with but not owned by the Church), wine or beer may be served. However, the event cannot be for the primary purpose of serving alcohol and cannot be advertised in Church announcements as including alcohol.
7. Whenever alcohol is served, appealing non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal prominence and accessibility. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages must be served from separate tables or locations and each table or location must be clearly labeled as alcoholic or non-alcoholic.
8. When alcohol is served, it must be monitored and those showing signs of intoxication should not be served. Whenever alcohol is to be served, the Head of Congregation shall work with the individual organizing the event to appoint an adult to oversee its serving and consumption. That adult must not drink alcoholic beverages during the time of his or her execution of his or her responsibilities.

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9. Serving alcoholic beverages at events where minors are present is strongly discouraged. If minors are present, alcohol must be served at a separate station that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking. Serving alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 is strictly prohibited.
10. Food prepared with alcohol or alcohol flavored ingredients may **NOT** be served at activities held on Church property.
11. The serving of alcoholic beverages at sponsored events should not be publicized as an attraction of the event, e.g. "wine and cheese reception," "cocktail party," or "beer and wine tasting."
12. Ministries inside or outside of congregations, schools, or other diocesan organizations will make certain that alcohol consumption is not the focus of the ministry and that drinking alcohol is not an exclusively normative activity.
13. Food must be served when alcohol is present.
14. In congregations, the groups or organizations sponsoring the activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the Head of Congregation or from the Vestry or Bishop's Committee. Such groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those individuals who might become intoxicated. Alternative transportation (to include delivery of the individual(s) and their vehicle(s) to their home(s) must be provided for anyone whose capacity to drive may be impaired. The driver(s) of the alternate transportation must be alcohol free. Consulting with liability insurance carriers is advised.
15. Because alcohol is a mood-altering drug, alcoholic beverages may not be served when the business of the Church is being conducted.
16. Clergy shall consecrate an appropriate amount of wine when celebrating the Eucharist and perform ablutions in a way that does not foster or model misuse.
17. We encourage clergy to acknowledge the efficacy of receiving the sacrament in one kind.
18. It is expected that the leadership of each congregation will be aware of local resources and programs that can provide assistance to persons struggling with addiction and to their families.

APPROVED:  DATE: 7/27/2026
Interim Rector

APPROVED:  DATE: 7/27/2026
Sr. Warden