



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Jul 31, 2019)

St. John's Episcopal Church, San Diego

760 First Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge (Part-time) | Receiving Names until 09/30/19 | sheridancampbell@edsd.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
90	2	1	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
\$31100			
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$61365		
Healthcare Options Clergy only	Dental Yes	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks 2 (standard)	Continuing Education Weeks Details
Continuing Education Funding in budget \$501-\$1000/year	Sabbatical Provision Yes	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account

This is a 3/4 time priest-in-charge position

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Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

Following prayerful discernment around good stewardship, declining school enrollment, border crossing delays, and the overall economic environment, we took the painful action of closing the parish day school in 2017, through which we had served the community for 67 years. This was a pain-filled experience for both the day school and church communities, as it was also the loss of a long-supported community ministry in which several congregants were vitally involved. Through worship, prayer, and solid leadership, the congregation has persevered and grown closer as we have allowed God to open our eyes to new possibilities. In 2018, our prayers were answered through a new relationship with Episcopal Community Services (ECS), a diocesan-affiliated outreach organization, to take over our classrooms to serve and support an expanded Head Start program for our wider community. Saint John's has entered into a 10-year contract with ECS for this program, which is currently serving 262 children. We give thanks for God's comfort, guidance, and discernment as we were called to end a cherished ministry, but provided with the opportunity to serve God's people in a new and vital way.

How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?

We are a loving congregation working earnestly to reach out to the wider community through many long-standing outreach efforts (both inside and outside of the Diocese); striving to grow by learning to evangelize without fear; keeping our minds and hearts open in spreading the Word of God; remembering that the church is here for those who don't come - all we have to do is show them the entrance; making all welcome in this oasis of God's love whether they join us for a day, a season, or a lifetime. In April 2019, 76% of the parish's Average Sunday Attendance participated in the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) survey. The top priority identified is to "Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment." We will begin conversations in August to move forward. We believe that Christ accompanies us as we pay attention to opportunities for His mission in this world. We have been blessed to lease space to the ECS Head Start program, host diocesan and greater community events as well as providing prayer quilts to recipients beyond our parishioners.

Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.

collaborative leader, skilled administrator, personally prayerful, pastorally present

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Describe your liturgical style and practice for all types of worship services provided by your community.

Sunday Worship: Traditional Rite I (8:00 am; no music) and Rite II (10:00 am with organ, choir, hymns) Holy Communion and Homily/Sermon. Order of St. Luke members or retired clergy are available for healing prayer with individual congregants during distribution of Holy Communion at both services. Seasonal variations within BCP norms are used occasionally during the 8:00am service, and more frequently at the 10:00 service. Saint John's is historically moderately conservative, with an appreciation of customs such as the use of Sanctus Bells and Incense (for high holy days), Prayer of Humble Access, kneeling to receive Holy Communion, holy water fonts, and traditional hymns. In general, there is an openness to variety at both services when explanation and education is offered. Additional Worship opportunities: weekly Morning Prayer; monthly Healing Service; Ash Wednesday with Ashes to Go, Stations of the Cross weekly during Lent; Maundy Thursday; Good Friday; Blessing of the Animals; Thanksgiving Eve Eucharist; Daughters of the King Patronal Feast Day; Advent Quiet Day; New Year's Eve Meditative Service, Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Saint John's is blessed with strong, collaborative ministry leaders - both lay and retired clergy associates. Members are invited into various ministries in three ways: through ministry opportunities being listed in the Sunday bulletin and weekly eNews; through the personal invitation of a current ministry participant; through an invitation to join the ministry from the clergy. A ministry member or leader, as appropriate to the ministry, provides one-on-one training. Diocesan level training opportunities are publicly highlighted to congregants when available.

As a worshipping community, how do you care for your spiritual, emotional and physical well-being?

The spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of our household is very important to this community. Our understanding of community reaches beyond those in the pews and/or on the rolls. We embrace all whose need is made known to us. We have an active healing ministry supported by several members of the Order of St. Luke who actively pray with any in need on a Sunday. Our Prayer Quilt ministry is our broadest outreach, as congregants tie prayer knots on the handmade quilts that have been blessed during service to go to those we know of with physical or spiritual health challenges. Eucharistic visits are available to any unable to attend worship that request a visit. We have an active Daughters of the King chapter that maintains an active prayer list, as well as providing a parish prayer list that is recited during Sunday worship. This list is also provided in the Sunday worship bulletin, and thus is available for parish members to take home for inclusion in their daily devotions. Pastoral appointments, pastoral counseling, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation are all available upon request.

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How do you engage in pastoral care for those beyond your worshipping community?

Morning Prayer, a morning Bible Study, and an evening Bible Study, are open to all on a weekly basis and are advertised on our website. A Healing service, separate from Sunday Eucharist is offered on a monthly basis and is advertised on our website. Prayer quilts are provided upon request to extended family, friends, neighbors. Given the growing demographic of seniors in our community, a program - Calling All Seniors - was started in mid-2018. The two-hour program met weekly and included chair yoga, a program of games, music, or a speaker, and concluded with prayer. Due to lack of participation and over-extended leadership, this program has ended. Ashes To Go has been a regular feature of pastoral care to those beyond the parish. Saint John hosts three different 12-step groups. The majority of baptisms over the past year have been for the children of those who attended the Day School or who have siblings attending the Head Start program. None of these families are parish members at this point.

Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.

Saint John's members actively support South Bay Community Services, a community food bank through weekly food collections. We are dedicated in our support of Episcopal Community Services with their various outreach donation requests, such clothing/hygiene items for the homeless and back to school backpacks and their contents. Additional programs we support are numerous and include support for the Mission to Seafarers, the recycling of pill bottles, eyeglasses and greeting cards, Habitat for Humanity, visits to nursing homes and services at retirement centers, blankets for domestic violence victims, Toys for Tots, our diocesan-affiliated Refugee Network, Holy Thursday foot washing outreach to the homeless, Interfaith Shelter Network, Called to the Wall stations of the cross with the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, and the San Diego Diocesan Service and Justice Coalition Summit.

Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can be contacted about this?

A combined Morning Prayer/Bible Study ministry was started in mid-2017. Originally it was lead by the then Priest-in-Charge. A short homily was provided during the Morning Prayer service with the immediately following Bible Study focused on the lectionary lessons for the subsequent Sunday. Following the departure of the Priest-in-Charge, the ministry was taken over by a team made up of a lay leader and a retired clergy member associated with the parish. The format of Morning Prayer followed by Bible Study continues, but the homily portion of Morning Prayer has been replaced by dialog pertaining to the readings of the day and the Bible Study is now thematic as various topics (Spiritual Gifts, Prayer, Forgiveness, for example) are examined in the light of scripture. There is a regular group of dedicated participants, including both parishioners and non-parishioners. The Reverend Cathey Dowdle may be contacted about this ministry at revcat@gmail.com.

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What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?

Our practice of stewardship fully embraces the attitude of God's abundance in our lives, as members willingly, readily give in all areas of time, talent, and treasure. Members are resourceful and creative in problem solving and addressing emergent needs around the physical plant and our many ministries. There is a strong recognition that with God's strength and guidance, paired with our hearts, minds, and hands we can do the work to which God calls us. While the practice of stewardship is visible as noted above, currently there is not a structured plan to address stewardship on an ongoing basis.

What is your worshipping community's experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?

Saint John's is a community that is resilient in the face of conflict. Within the last ten years, we have experienced what many continue to believe was ill treatment by interim clergy, the relatively recent closure of our day school (a ministry many felt defined our presence in the wider community), and the departure of a beloved Priest-in-Charge in mid-2018. The laity has pulled together and raised up strong ministry leaders in the midst of upheaval. Dedicated retired clergy have stepped up to bridge the gap for liturgical leadership and pastoral care. The community is now emerging with great energy for whatever comes next and confident in God's grace. We currently have a strong and gifted interim priest who is guiding us toward a successful transition to permanent clergy leadership.

What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?

Many of us were surprised to learn that the national church changes that allow for LGBTQ ordinations were an issue for some members of our congregation. That this was an issue, surfaced when it became known that the interim chosen by our vestry to lead us as we prepare to call a new Priest-in-Charge is a married gay man. The wardens, the assisting clergy, and other members conversed privately and lovingly with those who voiced concerns. Nonetheless, several members have subsequently left the parish for this reason. All have been expressly told how much they are loved and that they would/will be welcomed back, should their faith journeys bring them back to Saint John's. Parish leadership continues to reinforce the belief that our parish is an oasis on the Christian journey and that all are welcome for the time they sojourn with us. But we must also recognize that not every sojourner is destined to remain with us forever. We have learned that life in God is ever-renewing us. In the wake of the departures, visitors are transforming into new members and they are transforming us as well.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Thomas Wilson	Interim	2018-11	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. David Marshall	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2012-05	2018-09

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. William Wade	Interim	2010-11	2011-04

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
yes	1	5

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School	Number of Students for Adults School

Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School



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Worshipping Community Web site: <https://www.saint-johns.org>

Media Links:

> <https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsChurchChulaVista>

Online References:

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

References

Bishop:

**The Rt. Rev. Susan Brown
Snook**

sbrownsnook@edsd.org 619-481-5454

Diocesan Transition Minister

**The Rev. Laura
Sheridan-Campbell**

lsheridancampbell@edsd.org 619-481-5451

Current Warden/Board Chair

Karen Duignan

kmduignan77@gmail.com 619-422-4141

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Claudia Dalrymple

cdalrymple2006@gmail.com 619-476-8227

Search Chair

Jane Ferguson

priestsearch@saint-johns.org 619-321-7860

Parish/Institution

David Dennehy

masterfrog@att.net 619-840-9994

Local Community Leader

Lesslie Keller

lkeller@ecscalifornia.org 619-228-2800