

Profile of Christ Church Cathedral 2024

35 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01103

Christ Church Cathedral

Gathered – Transformed - Sent /Reunidos -Transformados - Enviados

Who We Are



Christ Church Cathedral (CCC) is a diverse community united by our faith in the loving, compassionate, and just ministry of Jesus Christ. Each Sunday CCC has two English language services and a Spanish language service. The English and the Latino/Hispanic congregations share many ministries, and we gather for bilingual services on designated Sundays. The Spanish language service draws people primarily from Springfield, and the English language services attracts people from all over Western Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Throughout this profile we share the special dynamic of a Community of Faith comprised of three worshipping congregations. Christ Church Cathedral is not the 8:00 am congregation. It is not the 10:00 am congregation. It is not the 12:15 pm congregation. Christ Church Cathedral is all of these and more.

The Dean we are seeking to lead the Cathedral will share our commitment to the continuing growing in community of the various parts with a recognition that each part brings strengths and opportunities which impel us to move deeper into our life in Christ.

Our Mission statement reminds us that we are **Gathered** together from many peoples, **Transformed** by Christ, and **Sent** out empowered by the Spirit. We are excited to hear how candidates for the vital leadership position of Dean can join us in our journey of spiritual growth and becoming.

The profile committee consists of seven members charged with creating an accurate profile of the Congregation. We used the Church Assessment Tool provided by Holy Cow Consulting to establish our profile. It was given both in Spanish and English. One glitch is that those people who attend the Spanish speaking service and responded in English were lumped with the English-speaking survey. We held numerous town hall meetings for open discussion and spoke with individuals as well. We provided the Congregation with a rough draft of the profile and held a town hall meeting to give the Congregation an opportunity to comment on the findings.

Our profile

Christ Church Cathedral is at a crossroads. Members are pleased with the spiritual vitality of the community, appreciate and are uplifted by worship and music and are drawn by the diversity of the Congregation, and engaged in outreach programs focused on supporting people in need.

However, there are concerns about our future. Members prioritize the need to attract younger members and families, to increase the spiritual generosity of the Congregation through pledging, and to provide more paths for ministry and leadership. There is the belief that important decisions are made by a select group of people and that governance should be more transparent.

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Our mission statement is to be Gathered, Transformed, and Sent. While this is accurate, the CCC Mission statement has not been reviewed for many years.

We “Gather” in community from many peoples and cultures. There is a bond between members that is exemplified by the exchange of peace and overall engagement in both the internal and external activities of the Cathedral. Fellowship is important to us.

We are “Transformed” by having our faith deepened and confirmed. We’ve enjoyed quality sermons over the years and the Congregation has been reinvigorated both intellectually and spiritually by the message of the awe-inspiring wonder of Christ’s love and compassion. Music is important and the Congregation is deeply appreciative of the choir. The church assessment tool showed the Congregation to be moderately progressive, but not all members identify with that label. There is an appreciation for the traditional liturgy, but the Congregation is open to innovation.



1 Multilingual Reading of Acts on Pentecost

We are “Sent” to serve each other and the wider community. We open our doors to the community. We house the Big Blue Drop In ministry which offers a place of rest and comfort to the homeless and marginalized members of Springfield. We also have a clothing closet and work with St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Longmeadow, MA on this project; individuals can also wash and dry their clothes. CCC also provides space to Loaves and Fishes which offers food to the disadvantaged. We host a site for the ACTS (Action Centered Tutoring) program - a tutoring and mentoring program which serves elementary and middle school students. There are other activities where we go out into the community such as Church Without Walls, and projects to renew city neighborhoods. Along with another church, we adopted a refugee family of eight from Afghanistan and helped the family find shelter and the father to find work. Volunteers help with scheduling medical appointments and tutoring for the children. They have taught the father to drive and are helping them through the process of getting a Green Card.

It is important to the English-speaking community that the Spanish-speaking community thrives. We support them in their hopes and aspirations and appreciate the support which they have given us. Again, the Church Assessment tool emphasized the importance of diversity to our Congregation.

Worship

There are three Eucharists each Sunday at Christ Church Cathedral. Each of these Eucharists has its own texture and flavor.

The 8:00 am Eucharist is celebrated in the Chapel of Reconciliation in the South Transept. This is a small area which is under the large South Wheel Window and the plaque and nails identifying the Cathedral as a member of the Coventry Community of the Cross of Nails. This is the first of the Sunday services and does not include music. The chapel provides for a more intimate and meditative gathering for the parishioners who regularly attend. This is the Sunday Service with the smallest attendance.

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The 10:00 am Eucharist is the primary English language service on Sundays. Music is an important element of the service and highlights the magnificence of the Cathedral's choir, organ and acoustics with a well led and directed choir. Ample opportunities exist for those who wish to be active participants in the liturgy as lectors, eucharistic ministers, ushers, acolytes, and Altar and Flower guilds. Additionally, healing prayer is regularly offered at the altar in the Chapel of Reconciliation after receiving communion for those who desire it. The prayer team is made up of lay persons called to this important and vital ministry. Neither high nor particularly low, this service is marked as traditional and yet open to new ways of expression. During recent years our organist/choir directors have responded to the community's desire to expand our experience of musical and cultural elements to resounding success.

The 12:15 pm Eucharist is a Spanish language service. The worship is joyful, and one can feel the Holy Spirit moving in our midst. The people feel free to respond to the music which helps us to connect with our loving God and to one another. The songs are performed with rhythms and arrangements representative of all Latin America. Healing prayer is offered the first Sunday of the month by the clergy and a member of the 10:00 am service. Finally, several times a year the 10:00 and 12:15 services are combined into an 11:00 am bilingual service incorporating elements from all the services. This is always an exciting and inspiring time for the Cathedral as it is a fundamental expression of our having been "Gathered" from many cultures.

A noonday Eucharist is held each Wednesday in All Saints Chapel in the parish hall. It has recently been reinstated having lapsed during the time of COVID but restoring a decades-long tradition.

As the Cathedral for the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts, Christ Church Cathedral remains a welcoming worship space for special diocesan events.

Youth Christian Formation

The core of Christian formation is a weekly Sunday School Class. It is mostly based on the Lectionary with some interruptions for things like Black History Month and Saints Days. This year we brought back the Christmas Pageant including the children from the ACTS tutoring program.

Several times a year we have outings sometimes joining with the Spanish speaking congregation and a neighboring church St. Peter's Episcopal Church. We've taken trips to a pumpkin farm, a science museum, and a bowling alley.



2Leading Prayers of the People

We recently had our first youth service where the children wrote and led the prayers, did the readings, and took the collection. Some of our children are being trained as Acolytes. Some children also participate in the Bishop's Choir which attracts members throughout the Diocese as well as the Cathedral. We look forward to its expansion under our new music director – Dr. Colin Britt.

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When asked about their dreams for a new Dean, the kids expressed an interest in someone who takes the time to know them and who helps them connect with the community beyond the church building. They are especially interested in connecting with their peers around Christian faith.

Adult Christian Formation

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3—NIV)

Or so it seemed to the author of Ecclesiastes 2500 years ago, or to the Byrds in 1965.

As with much else, COVID necessitated a rethinking of how we do Christian formation. What had been assumed, meeting in person regularly, became impossible. Various Zoom courses were held throughout the pandemic. Now that the worst of the pandemic is behind us, we are ready and anxious to return to the status quo ante with an openness to also including new ways of doing things.

Christian formation for adults included preparation for confirmation, reception and affirmation of baptismal vows. Adult forums following the 10:00 am Eucharist had been a staple of the Cathedral fellowship for decades but lapsed during the COVID shutdown. These have begun again.

Weekly Bible studies, some which have been going for more than thirty years-continued during COVID although only in Zoom format.

A weekly contemplative prayer group continues to meet via Zoom after having adopted virtual meetings during the pandemic.

There have been short and long series of adult education courses on different weeknights. Some have been Scripture focused, like a course entitled “Love, Paul” focusing on the Pauline correspondence, or a series on the “Psalms” which included exercises in writing our own psalms. Some have been studies reading C.S. Lewis, Immaculee Ilibagiza, Anne Lamott, and others.

Separately, a book club has been meeting regularly over the years to read books of interest to the members. As many as 15 have participated in these discussions. Since COVID this has continued, undeterred, using Zoom.

A film series entitled Popcorn Theology gave an opportunity for theological reflection on new and old films.

The regular weeknight Adult Formation courses fell away during COVID, and others ran their course, but one comment heard regularly during our listening period was people looked forward to enjoying similar programs in the future with our new Dean.

Fr. Mike Devine leads a Saturday morning bi-monthly Men’s Bible study and fellowship program with participants from the Cathedral and St. Peter’s Episcopal Church.

Fr. Devine also leads a Tuesday evening Bible study also composed of participants from the Cathedral and St. Peter’s.

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.”

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Outreach

The mission of Outreach is to improve the quality of life within the greater Springfield community, our nation, and the world. Our objective is to reach beyond the Church walls to bring Christ's vision of a loving and sharing community to fruition. We recognize that there are unmet needs within all segments of society as we support those agencies that attempt to heal our brokenness. We will also be engaged in direct participation when we can be of service.

The Outreach Committee provides grant money to various community human service programs including Revitalize CDC (Community Development Corporation), the Big Blue Drop-in Center, Square One, Acts Tutoring, The Open Pantry, Residents Encountering Christ, a program at the Hampden County Jail, and Friends of the Homeless. We sponsor and participate in community activities: the annual April Revitalize Green N Fit event in Springfield, sponsorship of the Christ Church Cathedral Classroom at Square One, and provision of Meal Kits for Square One Families. ESL (English as a Second Language) classes are offered by one of our parishioners to the broader community.

Lay ministries

Christ Church Cathedral offers many opportunities for people to get involved. Some choose to serve as Acolytes. Others serve to be involved as either readers or Lay Eucharistic Ministers. A prayer team is available during services to meet with those who have a specific request or a desire to express Thanksgiving. Both men and women serve on the Altar Guild. Others choose to express their gifts through music. Choir members provide a spiritual gift to the community while forming meaningful relationships. Others find purpose in ushering. The Live Stream Team began during COVID and continues their mission of allowing those who can't be physically present to worship. Some find purpose in pastoral care connecting with parishioners with either visits or notes where appropriate. English as a second language classes are offered. The Spanish language congregation has a fundraising committee which does projects throughout the year to financially support the Cathedral.

Financial

Christ Church Cathedral has an annual budget of \$575,000. The Finance committee recommended a conservative budget showing a \$12,500 deficit for 2024 although it appears at this time that we will be in surplus. There are 100 pledges for 2024 in the amount of \$228,000. The Cathedral has an endowment of approximately \$4,000,000 invested with the Trustees for the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts. This pays a quarterly distribution to CCC based on a formula set by the Trustees of the Diocese. As of July 2024, cash on hand is \$134,635.

Recently the Cathedral completed a capital campaign which successfully raised \$368,000. Plus, CCC was awarded a grant from the Community Preservation Act funds of the City of Springfield for \$80,000 which enabled the repair of some of our beautiful stained-glass windows. The capital campaign provided for some necessary upgrades to the building's infrastructure (e.g. new fire alarm system and basement/undercroft HVAC system) and undercroft meeting space renovations.

Please click the link to the website for the annual report for more detail.

<https://christchurchcathedralma.org/history/annual-report-2024/>

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The Cathedral and the Diocese

Christ Church Cathedral serves as the Cathedral for the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts (51 parishes) and is the seat of the bishop – The Right Rev. Douglas Fisher. The diocesan offices are located on the second floor of the Cathedral’s parish house. Partly because of the proximity of the bishop’s office and that of the diocesan staff, Christ Church Cathedral has been blessed with a close relationship with the bishop and diocesan staff. Bishop Fisher describes his relationship with the Dean as a very important one of collegiality and collaboration. The Bishop also notes the Cathedral as integral to and owned by the whole Diocese. As the Cathedral of the Diocese, the governing body, the Chapter of the Cathedral, is made up not only of the officers (wardens, treasurer, and clerk) of the chapter and the nine elected members of the Executive Committee drawn from the parish, but also the Bishop and three lay and three clerical members from around the diocese elected during Diocesan Convention.

The role of the Cathedral as a diocesan player is always in flux based on the organic interaction of the various players and their gifts, skills, ministries, and passions. What remains to be seen is how that interaction will change and grow with the onboarding of a new Dean with their unique gifts and vision. Thus, the Dean is an integral and leading member of the diocesan team and the gifts which a new Dean brings will help shape the growing and changing relationship with the diocese.

Our Location – Springfield Massachusetts

Christ Church Cathedral is located on Springfield’s historic quadrangle. The quadrangle is home to the George Walter Smith Art Museum, the Springfield Science Museum, the Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum, and the Springfield Public Library as well as the Cathedral. These architecturally splendid buildings surround green space featuring statues of many of Dr. Seuss’s famous characters.

The city of Springfield has followed the same trajectory as many Northeast cities. Its population peaked in the 1960’s at approximately 185,000, and as of the 2020 census the population is listed as 155,929. The metropolitan area has around 750,000 residents. Springfield is a minority majority city. Hispanic and Latino citizens comprise 45% of the population, non-Hispanic whites 31% of the population, African Americans 21% and Asians 3%. 21% of the population falls below the Federal poverty line.

The largest employers are in health services and education. Springfield has four colleges within city limits—Springfield College, American International College, Western New England University, and Springfield Technical Community college. The five College Consortium also is in Western Massachusetts comprised of Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, and UMass Amherst. The wealth of colleges and universities in the area has been referred to as the New England Knowledge Corridor. Mass Mutual, (a financial and insurance company), Big Y Inc. World Class Markets (a grocery chain) and Baystate Health Systems are among the largest employers.

Springfield is attractively situated near several interesting destinations. It is less than two hours from Boston by car, two and a half hours from New York City, an hour from the Berkshires, an hour and a half from the Connecticut Rhode Island shoreline, and three hours from Cape Cod. It is twenty minutes from Bradley International Airport and has regular Amtrak service.

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Our Next Dean

The Church Assessment tool indicated that our Congregation is highly **clergy focused**. We are looking for a Dean who is a **LEADER** who can help people discern their gifts and guide them into productive ministry. The CCC Mission Statement is our guiding document and there is clearly a desire by many individuals to contribute more given the opportunity.

The quality of preaching and sermons has always been and continues to be a high priority for the Congregation. Many find their spiritual connection most deeply in pondering enlightening reflections on the Gospel and scripture just read. The importance of scripture and the Gospel to our physical, mental, and spiritual well-being in leading our daily lives has always been important to the Congregation.

The need for engaged pastoral care also was listed as a priority in the Congregational Assessment tool. People want to have a personal relationship with their Dean. Our next Dean needs to find fulfillment in interpersonal connections. This is always important but becomes vital in times of personal challenge and times of crisis.

The new Dean needs to be multi-culturally experienced and sensitive given the Cathedral's rich diversity – especially the Latino/Hispanic culture; CCC's congregations represent various African, Caribbean, and European cultures as well as individuals of the LGBTQ+ community. CCC is an inclusive parish welcoming all people regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or creed. Certainly, being English Spanish bi-lingual would be an advantage, but not a requirement. The Dean has an equal responsibility to the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking congregations. They also need to embrace and be comfortable with current communications technology and social media. Our hope is to have the financial capability for the new Dean to recruit a Canon to assist with the Latino/Hispanic congregation and services, and other duties. The Dean will need to discern both the needs and opportunities inherent in each Congregation.



Christ Church Cathedral at Springfield Pride Parade 2024

With the Cathedral Mission as a guide, our next Dean needs to have a vision as to how we can build on our existing strengths and find a path for opportunities and growth. We need to grow in numbers. We need to attract young families. We need to become stronger financially. It is important that the new Dean establishes a leadership role in integrating the Cathedral into the ecumenical and community life in greater Springfield, but most importantly we need to give ourselves and our neighbors the opportunity to experience the transformative grace of Jesus Christ.

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12:15 Latino/Hispanic Community

Who We Are

Our Latino/Hispanic congregation is a diverse community. The majority of our members come from Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, but we also have people from Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. Most are first generation, and others born in the US are second or third.



Most adults speak Spanish, and some are also fluent in English. Most second-generation people are bilingual, while there is a trend for third generation persons to be English dominant. Cultures and traditions are distinct to the different countries which make our congregation vibrant and beautifully complex. There are also a few non-

Latino/ Hispanic persons who are members of the congregation because they appreciate the richness of our diversity.

Clergy for Hispanic/ Latino Congregation

Our interim priest, the Reverend Michael DeVine has been our pastor for many years, first as the Canon of the Cathedral, and now as our Interim priest. Before becoming an Episcopal priest, Father Mike served in the Peace Corp in the 1970's for three years, first in Chile and later in Paraguay when Chile experienced extreme political instability and violence. It was during these years that he learned Spanish and developed a love for Latin American culture and people. While he retired as Canon in 2013 after ten years as our pastor, he soon came out of retirement to be the Interim Rector of St. Peter's. When Dean Tom Callard resigned in 2023 from the Cathedral, Father Mike agreed to be our part-time priest as well as continuing his ministry at St. Peter's. His sermons are engaging and speak to the heart of the gospel through teaching the context of the passages as well as the importance for us in our daily lives. Under his leadership and guidance, we are recovering from the post- pandemic challenges as well as the challenges posed by several changes in clergy. He has blessed us with many years of selfless service and we give thanks to God for his ministry with us.

Worship

Our worship is joyful, and one can feel the power of the Holy Spirit moving in our midst. The music directed by Sergio D'Orsini is Spirit- filled. It helps us to respond freely to the music and to connect with our loving God during times of joy and sorrow, praise and thanksgiving. The music brings us closer to God and closer to one another.

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In terms of members and attendance, after the Pandemic our congregation was much smaller. Our Sunday attendance was usually around 40-50 before the pandemic. Now we are seeing on average around 30 people at the 12:15 service. We are growing as more people return and as new people join us. This growth process is facilitated by all that Barbara Garriga does to keep us organized. She has set up different chats on WhatsApp for each group in the congregation. She attends all staff meetings and keeps us informed about any new changes or events throughout the Cathedral. Barbara has become our go-to person and is so skillful and efficient that her nickname is Santa Barbara!

Our Strengths

We have many strengths, one being our cultural and ethnic diversity. However, when asked to describe our community, various members responded by saying we are a vibrant, enthusiastic, dedicated and caring community. When we gather on Sundays, we can feel God's love alive in the service and in the gathering after the mass when people have time for fellowship.

Another strength is having Sergio and Barbara as the Lay Leaders of the Hispanic Congregation. Their role as liaison is to communicate between the church administrators, our Hispanic Congregation and St. Paul's. They are there to assist the Lay Leaders in trying to solve any issue within their ministry before seeking the help of Fr. Mike or our Interim Dean.

Our planning committee, as well as all our liturgical lay ministries and groups, are well organized and have their own lay leaders. That said, we are always seeking new people to join a lay ministry.

Music is a huge strength as many people tell us how it really touches them in a profound way.

Communication via WhatsApp is keeping members well informed about all the activities in the church as well as letting us know when someone needs prayer.

Our numbers of attendance are growing. This seems to have begun after the end of live streaming the Spanish mass, although we're not sure if there is a direct correlation.

A new beginner English language class began in February, and meets after the 12:15 service from 2:00-3:30. These classes are open to members and people outside the church as well. The students are very motivated to learn and are making wonderful progress!

We have a variety of activities throughout the year. We have a bilingual mass and potluck luncheon every Pentecost as well as another during the year. The English and Spanish choirs enjoy singing English, Spanish and bilingual songs together.

Last year we, and members of St. Paul's, attended a spiritual retreat held at St. Mark's in Worcester. We went home with our spirits uplifted. Another inter-congregational retreat was held July 13, 2024. The theme was on leadership with a time to reflect on related Bible passages.



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During Advent, we celebrate a Christmas parranda with delicious food and live music. The Sunday after Christmas we celebrate the mass with a service of lessons and traditional Christmas songs from Latin America. Last year we invited our sister congregations at St. Paul's in Holyoke and St. Mark's in Worcester to attend this service and the luncheon that followed.



In Lent we have special healing masses in All Saints Chapel with music as well as a Good Friday service. Last year we read the Stations of the Cross and celebrated the Eucharist. The veneration of the Cross is another cherished tradition at this service.

In November we have a special mass celebrating the Day of the Dead. Parishioners are encouraged to bring in photos of their loved ones who have died and to place them on the altar.

On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, we celebrate the mass in thanksgiving for God's blessings.

Most recently, we celebrated a wonderful Father's Day with a picnic at the home of Glenda and Juan. There are many more activities going on; we are a very active congregation!

Our Challenges and Hopes for the Future

Our Next Dean

Our priority is to find the right priest to become Dean of the Cathedral. It is important to both the English speaking and Spanish speaking congregations that this person be someone who values a diverse and multicultural church community. The new Dean should be someone who enthusiastically supports the Latino/Hispanic congregation. A priest fluent in English and Spanish with some experience with Latino/Hispanic congregations would be outstanding. However, a priest who has some experience with and sensitivity to multicultural congregations is a must.

We understand that the Dean of the Cathedral has a huge responsibility and that there is the likelihood that we will need to find a Canon after the Dean search. Therefore, our next priority is to find a permanent pastor for our congregation after we have our new Dean. We pray that God will bless us with a bilingual Hispanic priest or one who is fully bilingual and has bicultural sensitivity and understanding. We also hope that this person will be found soon because Father Mike is more than ready to enjoy a well-deserved and needed retirement from active ministry.

Our Challenges/Opportunities

Like many churches today, we need to attract more people into our community, especially younger families with children. This is not just about increasing our membership. We need to always remember that the most important reason to reach people is to proclaim the Gospel of God's Love and Compassion. This is especially true now when the world holds so much uncertainty and doubt, and there is so much

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anxiety about the future. Sharing the love of Jesus in concrete ways inside and outside of the church is part of our mission statement and what Jesus sends us to do.

Another challenge is to deepen our spiritual lives by means of Christian education programs for adults, youth and children. We need to build a strong group within the congregation willing to commit to helping in a program like the Sabatina to teach children about the Bible and our faith. We would also like to see Bible studies again in a format that engages our adults who are often very busy with families and work during the week.

Our new Dean should be very involved with pastoral care. We need to strengthen our Pastoral Care Committee so that we are making contact with people unable to attend Sunday services. While there are people making visits and calls now and sending notes of encouragement, we would benefit from more people participating so we can expand this important ministry.

Another challenge is to invite more people to participate in our lay, liturgical ministries. We have seen in the past that this involvement helps people to feel a strong connection to God and to our community. We also need to emphasize that training is available so that people will have peace of mind and that they will be well prepared. Right now, we especially need more people to be part of the Altar Guild for the 12:15 mass as well as the Flower Guild.

We also would like to develop more shared ministry with our sister Latino/Hispanic congregations in Western Massachusetts. We presently have a group from our Planning Committee working on this with leaders from St. Mark's Episcopal Church (Worcester) and St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Holyoke). We need our new priest to continue this process along with our lay people. We are in a process of discernment about how our outreach should change to meet the ongoing changes in communication technology.

Specific goals we have are to create an updated photo directory for our members, increase communication between the church office and the congregation, including having most announcements online or on paper in English and Spanish, and post bilingual information about our Latino/Hispanic congregation on the Cathedral's website.

We know that there are many areas to improve in our congregation, but we also believe we have a strong foundation from which we can build. We trust that God will provide us with the right clergy that we need to go forward, and we believe that "With God, all things are possible."

In 2025 our congregation will celebrate its 35th anniversary. Looking back on that first house church in the home of Xiomara and Ruben Reyes and founded by Father William Dwyer, we are thankful for our church community and how it has grown since then. We are proud to have two Hispanic Episcopal priests in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. The first, the Rev. José Reyes, Rector of St. Mark's in Worcester, was raised in the Cathedral and was both a child in the Sabatina and also a teacher and a musician there when he was older. Our second Hispanic priest is the Rev. Joel Martinez, now Rector of St. Paul's in Holyoke, who served us as our Seminarian and later as Canon. May God bless us here at the Cathedral with a new priest who will help us to continue sharing God's love with the Latino/Hispanic community of Springfield and beyond.

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For additional information:

Appendix CCC History as found on the Website. <https://christchurchcathedralma.org/history>

Appendix CCC History of the Spanish Speaking Congregation.

<https://christchurchcathedralma.org/history/history-of-the-latino-hispano-congregation>

Appendix CCC Clergy and Staff. <https://christchurchcathedralma.org/history/clergy-staff>

Interested applicants should apply, by email initially, to the Rev. Canon Rich Simpson at rsimpson@diocesewma.org. The email should include a cover letter, resume, and an OTM profile

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Springfield Economic Development Office June 30, 2024

SPRINGFIELD PROFILE

Springfield is located along the Connecticut River, 20 miles from Bradley International Airport; 25 miles from Hartford, CT; 50 miles from Worcester, MA; 80 miles from Albany, NY; 85 miles from Providence, RI; 90 miles from Boston, MA; and 140 miles from New York City.

Springfield has a storied history and several impressive attractions. The Springfield Museums offer five world-class galleries, including The Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum, which celebrates the life and work of Springfield native Dr. Theodore Geisel. Additional attractions include two art museums, the Springfield Science Museum, the Museum of Springfield History, and the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden, all under a single admission.

Established in 1794, Springfield Armory National Historic Site commemorates the critical role of the nation's first armory by preserving and interpreting the world's largest historic US military small arms collection, along with historic archives, buildings, and landscapes.

In 1891, basketball was invented in Springfield by Dr. James Naismith at Springfield College. The Basketball Hall of Fame highlights the history of basketball and celebrates over 300 inductees with legendary exhibits and interactive displays. The Hall of Fame was recently updated after a \$25 million renovation in 2021 and opened a new Boston Celtics exhibition in 2024.

The Neo-Classical City Hall and Symphony Hall (1909) flank the City's iconic Campanile, a bell and clock tower similar to St. Mark's in Venice, Italy. Bronze bas-reliefs of Springfield's history adorn the front doors. Symphony Hall is home to a Broadway-style theater, children's programming, concerts, internationally recognized speakers, as well as the acclaimed Springfield Symphony Orchestra which is the largest professional orchestra in Massachusetts outside of Boston, established in 1944. In recent years Symphony Hall has featured entertainers including Jerry Seinfeld, Bob Dylan, and Boyz II Men.

Located at the crossroads of New England, MassMutual Center is the region's most diverse meeting and special event venue. The 8,000-seat arena caters to a wide variety of sporting and entertainment events and is the proud home to the AHL Springfield Thunderbirds. The Thunderbirds have become one of the most successful franchises in the league, regularly selling out games. The MassMutual Center, managed by MGM Springfield, has hosted national acts in recent years including Bruno Mars, Cher, Aerosmith, and Maroon5.

Long seen as the gateway to the City, Union Station (1926) was renovated and reopened in 2017 as a regional transit hub featuring rail and bus routes, connecting Springfield with frequent commuter rail service to Hartford, New Haven and New York City.

Opening its doors in 2018, MGM Springfield is located in the heart of downtown. This \$950 million integrated luxury resort and entertainment destination offers a suite of hotels, restaurants, gaming floor,

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a movie theater, and outdoor dining and entertainment venues including, TAP Sports Bar, Chandler's Steakhouse, Regal Cinemas, Indian Motorcycle gift shop, and Wahlburgers.

Beyond its distinctive historical roots, the City is home to four (4) colleges: Springfield College, American International College (AIC), Western New England University and Springfield Technical Community College (STCC), with a combined enrollment of nearly 20,000 students. Cambridge College and UMass Amherst each have a location in Tower Square, a major commercial hub in downtown Springfield. The City has an active economic and cultural partnership with Hartford, Connecticut, constituting New England's Knowledge Corridor with the second-largest concentration of institutions of higher learning in New England outside of Boston.

Major and prominent employers in the City include the world headquarters of MassMutual Financial Group, MGM Springfield, Baystate Health System/Baystate Medical Center (BMC), Mercy Health System, Shriners Children's New England (1925), Big Y Inc. World Class Markets, Peter Pan Bus Lines, Smith & Wesson, Chinese Rail Road Corporation (CRRC) MA Corporation, and Merriam-Webster. Baystate Medical Center is currently the City's largest employer with over 8,900 local employees and is also affiliated with the University of Massachusetts School of Medicine.

Springfield is the third largest city in Massachusetts and fourth largest in New England behind Boston, Providence, and Worcester. Springfield is commonly referred to as the City of Homes for its vast stock and variety of historic architecture and housing styles. Springfield is also known as the City of Firsts for its being the home to many "firsts," such as the birth of basketball, the nation's first armory, the production of the world's first motorcycle, and the first gasoline-powered commercial car.

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