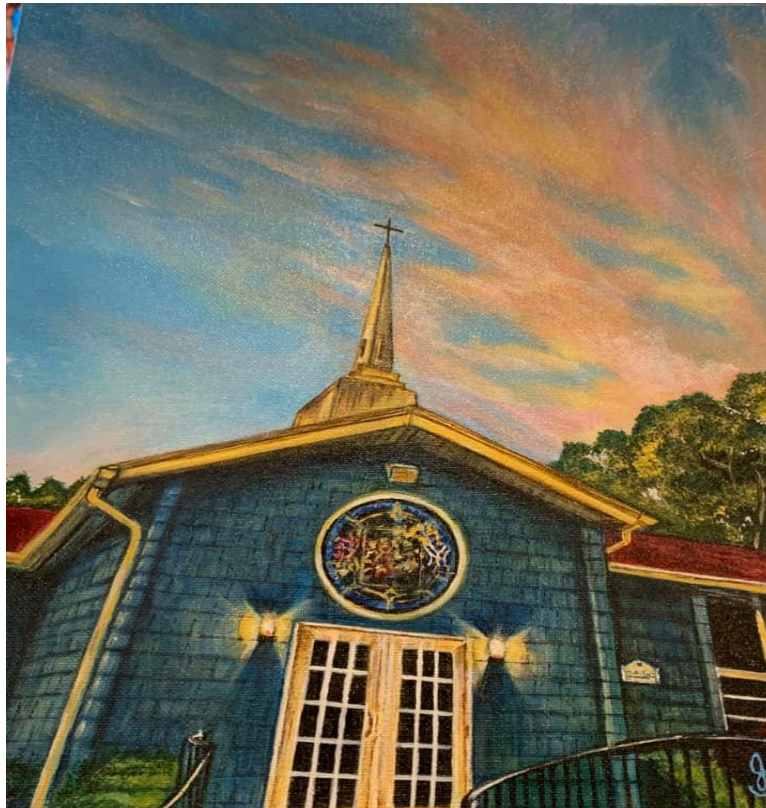


SAINT ANSELM'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Shoreham, New York



PARISH PROFILE

2021

WELCOME

We, at St. Anselm's Episcopal Church in New York, wish to express our gratitude for your consideration of this profile in our search for a new Rector. We look forward to the growth of our congregation under the guidance of new spiritual leadership, who will continue our commitment to a place of faith and friendship, a sanctuary in times of celebration and sorrow.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to love one another as Jesus loves us and to share this love with others as we build God's family. We accept people as they are and help them grow to their full potential as God's children by encouraging their participation in the Sacraments through the teachings of the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer. We strive to be aware of needs in the local and global communities and through our Christian faith to meet these needs through time, treasure and talent of the St. Anselm's family.

Approved March 24, 1992; Adopted 2007

While we believe that this statement may still apply to us, we are open and would welcome pursuing possible new directions with new clergy.

COVID PANDEMIC

It would be disingenuous to state that the challenge of this unfortunate world wide circumstance did not prove daunting albeit frightening to our parish fold. Yet it provided us with the opportunity to learn from the challenges presented and to emerge as a more resilient body of congregants dedicated to our capacity for sharing with the intention of moving forward and preserving the commitment to our Mission Statement.

We have endeavored to support, not only our parishioners, but our communities at large with their spiritual and physical needs through initiating virtual worship, conducting phone call outreach and pairing with local food pantries and other outreach groups to combat the feelings of isolation and disconnection that have affected so many at this time.

Both through prayer and action, we have stepped up to meet the trials associated with this pandemic and have done so in a fashion that merits a sense of comfort, achievement, and most importantly, gratefulness for the many individuals endeavoring to accomplish these objectives and for the outcomes that have been achieved.

WHO WE ARE

As St. Anselm's parishioners, we see ourselves as a relational and inclusive community with common values. We seek to provide a warm, welcoming parish grounded in empowering and inspiring individuals through our services, outreach programs and education to participate with us in worshipping our Lord, Jesus Christ.

History

St. Anselms' Episcopal Church was founded as a mission church in the 1960's and became a self-sustaining parish in the seventies. As part of the wider Church, we are proud of our roots in the Anglican tradition with the Eucharist as the central act of worship while emphasizing a continued need for participation in prayer. Being a relational community, we invite all baptized persons, regardless of background, to the Altar. We confess Christ was sacrificed for ALL and we accept our responsibility as Christians to minister to the troubles of human society locally and as part of the larger global picture.

Geography

Shoreham, situated in the Township of Brookhaven, is at the entrance to the North Fork of Long Island with access to the center regions of the Island comprising approximately 482,000 souls. It is approximately seventy miles from New York City and is home to the Brookhaven National Laboratory, Stony Brook University and Health Sciences Center and the Tesla Science Center. Hosting these facilities, places Brookhaven Town at the forefront of the world's leading research centers. At the same time, residents and guests can appreciate the town's natural resources and beauty through its many parks, beaches and the North Fork vineyards. Common outdoor activities include hiking, bicycle trails, kayaking and fishing as well as access to the Riverhead Town Aquarium, local theaters, the Tanger Mall outlets and Camp DeWolfe, a family camp and retreat center located in the adjacent hamlet of Wading River.



Tanger Mall Outlets



Camp Dewolfe



Vineyards

Our Community and Membership

Our church membership **comes** from all walks of life. St. Anselm's is a caring parish of 175 family units with an average weekly attendance of 103 parishioners (pre-pandemic), 66 (post-pandemic) and a virtual congregation attendance of 75 disciples on line. We possess a dedicated and relational Vestry and our core membership is comprised of longtime parishioners. We are active in community and parish work, enjoy our time together and encourage all who visit to become active in the church and to grow spiritually with us. Approximately 30% of our members are active and, as an older congregation, we are seeking to spread the Word more extensively into our communities-at-large regarding what we have to offer. To that end and in preparation for the calling of our new Rector, members of the Vestry went on a "Prayer Walk" in our

surrounding communities in order to better acquaint ourselves with the changing needs in our immediate area. The results of this endeavor continues to serve us in achieving our goal of engaging the community around us in a way that "invites our neighbors as friends and not just clients to be served".

Financials

We are blessed to have several sources of funding: annual pledge giving (currently 68 pledging units), non-pledged giving and the revenue from our well established St. Anselm's Academy. Our parish, like many others, has gone through a period of fiscal hardship, partially due to the coronavirus pandemic. Growing the Saint Anselm's Academy has been a major key to our ongoing and committed financial revitalization. Although we have lost members due to the hardships of the pandemic, our giving amounts have remained relatively the same. Oversight of the church's finances is provided by the Vestry in conjunction with the Finance Committee for advice and suggestions relative to general financial matters.

Church Building & Rectory

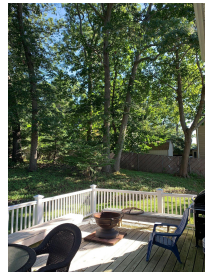
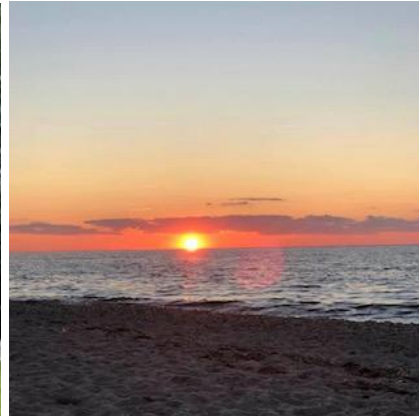
The church, parish hall and churchyard comprise approximately 5 acres at the easterly entrance to the Rocky Point business district and community. The parish hall has a large meeting room with a full kitchen and restroom facilities. It is often used by civic groups and other organizations, eg. AA. The downstairs basement of the parish hall houses a separate studio utilized by a yoga center and our widely-recognized food pantry.



A separate building adjacent to the church houses our lucrative thrift shop known as "Anselms' Attic".



The Rectory, built in 1955, is located one-half mile from the church in Shoreham. It has 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room, study, kitchen, laundry room, railed backyard deck and 2 car garage, together with deeded beach rights to Sill's Gully Beach.



Saint Anselm's Academy

Saint Anselm's Academy is an extension of the educational, pastoral and missionary arms of our parish. The school operates under the control and supervision of the Rector, Wardens and

Vestry of St. Anselm's Church and the Academy School Board. The day care center is overseen by a Board of Trustees which is guided by the President, who is a vestry member. Our Rector, as Head of the Church also serves as Head of the Academy with all hiring practices subject to his/her approval. We have recently secured a contract for a Universal Pre-Kindergarten program with the Shoreham-Wading River school district which ensures us a continuous enrollment of approximately 32 children.



History of the Academy:

The Academy has been serving the community since 1973. Many of the children in our care today stem from families whose parents were once students of the school. Beginning September 2015, we expanded our programming to include before and after care and child care under licensing through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. Our prior renovations and expansions, as well as our spacious playground and dedicated staff, enabled us to obtain a contract with the adjoining school district in Shoreham.

Worship

We are a community of faith worshipping in the mainstream Episcopal tradition

with two Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and a 5:00 pm Saturday evening service. These liturgies include a quiet, contemplative communion service, as well as, a more formal choral mass provided at our principal service on Sundays . During the summer, we celebrate the 5:00 pm Eucharistic service outdoors (weather permitting) and have one choral Eucharist service at 9:30 a.m. Our post-pandemic collective attendance for the weekend Eucharistic services is 66 and our weekly virtual on-line attendance is 75.

In addition, Morning Prayer is conducted twice weekly by our group of devoted lay readers.

Our congregants have expressed feeling closer to God and stronger in their faith by worshipping here.

Music & Choir

Music being a core element of our services, we are blessed with a paid Music Minister and volunteer choir including Cantors, who provide us with a wide variety of sacred music. Traditional hymns accompanied by piano and organ as well as more contemporary worship music encompass that collaboration. On occasion, additional presentations are conducted utilizing classical instruments and hand bells. However, the traditional form of music and classic hymns predominate our weekly service.

Our parish congregants have indicated that our music program is one of the greatest blessings offered by our church.



Liturgical Assistants

Lectors and Eucharistic ministers, together with our Acolytes, composed of youth and adult members, serve at all Sunday and Saturday masses.

Outreach and Ministries

Culinary Angels

prepare and deliver meals to those with occasional special situations such as illness, temporary incapacity, death in the family, et.al.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Parishioners and friends who meet monthly to knit/crochet prayer shawls, baptismal blankets and small prayer patches.



PB&J Gang

meet monthly (pre-pandemic) to prepare and pack PB&J sandwiches for distribution at several local homeless shelters in our community.



Anselm's Attic

Thrift shop serving as an outreach center that sells gently used clothing, toys and household goods for purchase at low prices. Open two days /week, staffed by volunteer parishioners



Food Pantry

Providing non-perishable food to our neighbors in need. Open two days/week serving approximately 125 individuals. Sponsors special food drives for holiday packages.



Pastoral Care

Provision of the Holy Eucharist to the homebound by our Eucharistic Visitors.

Technology

Established on July 23, 2015 with the production of our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/saintanselmsepiscopal> which serves as a calendar for special events.

COVID RESPONSE: Our last rector's final day was February 29, 2020. A scheduled interim clergy was unable to begin due to a decline in health, so we lacked a spiritual leader as Covid began. A dedicated group, including Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, our Music Director and choir members together with our IT specialist, undertook recording zoom sessions of both the Liturgy of the Word and later Morning Prayer. These were posted on our Facebook live page. Thereafter, we were able to continue to do so until the arrival of our new Interim Priest in June. We subsequently purchased a live streaming camera which enables us to continue to virtually share our weekly ministry and Sacraments.

Christian Formation

Messy Church - A program designed to bring young children into church on a non-Sunday and give them an opportunity to interact with older youth and adults in worship participation and spiritual formation.

Bible Study - adult classes that provide us an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the scripture and Episcopal traditions.

Sacraments - preparation of parishioners and others seeking to receive the sacraments is provided.



Events/Projects

A. Fellowship/Outreach

- Coffee Hour, Pancake Breakfast, Oktoberfest (fundraiser), Basket Raffle (fundraiser)



Coffee Hour



Basket Raffle

- Abused Women's Outreach, Back to School Outreach, Thanksgiving Baskets, Christmas Family Adoption



Back to School Outreach

- Provisional Pantry Boxes (aka "Blessing Boxes"), Blessing of the Animals, Harvest In-Gathering Luncheon



Blessing Box



Blessing of the Animals



Harvest Luncheon

B. Academy

- Appreciation Dinner

While our involvement in the greater community, particularly through the St. Anselm's Academy has drawn outside interest and membership to our parish, our parishioners have themselves expressed deep appreciation for the church's efforts to maintain a supportive and inviting church family.

PARISH GOALS

Our Challenges

The challenges we face are fairly universal, not unlike those of many churches throughout the country, and we have tried to view them in light of our many blessings and as opportunities for growth and revitalization. We truly recognize that the current search climate for a Rector is formidable for both parishes and clergy and that the relocation associated with that endeavor is no small or insignificant matter.

- Our last pastoral relationship was a loving and spiritual one which ended due to our rector's relocation to his family. The two prior pastorates, one involving a retiree who faced allegations of misconduct and the other, whose management style did not match ours, proved challenging. Nevertheless we learned to be a more committed and loving fellowship who are eager to call a new Rector to join our community. Our interim clergy has helped us to further that growth and we look forward to the continuation of that process with our new Rector.
- St. Anselm's parish has gone through a period of fiscal hardship which was exacerbated by the Covid pandemic. However, growing the St. Anselm's Academy through the

efforts of our dedicated staff, together with maintaining our giving amounts in the face of diminishing church membership, has played a major role in our ongoing recovery .

- Finding ourselves in a region of growing population, we are looking to work with a Rector to engage that populace in the endeavors of our parish.

Where We Would Like To Go

- Increase participation by our parishioners in all volunteer ministries;
- Decrease our dependence on the Academy to fund the cost of the church's day to day operations by the further development and maintenance of a strong stewardship program in order to stabilize our financial outlook;
- Continuing development of programs to encourage attendance by all families and individuals critical to our growth;
- Increasing involvement in our church and local communities with those in need, so that all will know that St. Anselms is a place **"where something is going on all the time"**.

OUR NEW RECTOR

Our parish values the following characteristics and skills in a Rector:

- The ability to preach with a clarity applicable to daily life;
- Being a warm, genuine and approachable person;
- Strong administrative and interpersonal skills that will enhance the many moving parts of our parish, eg. the Academy and Outreach;
- Having flexibility in dealing with a wide range of beliefs, social, political and otherwise;
- Strong spiritual leadership skills, serving as a spiritual guide, to assist us in living our faith while we journey forward with Christ;
- The ability to fulfill his/ her ministry while working with us to increase our membership and attendance.

RECTOR COMPENSATION

The compensation for our Rector is based upon a \$ 61,000.00 cash stipend, together with appropriate healthcare coverage and additional compensation, including but not limited to a housing equity account, continuing education expense and other applicable compensation as set forth pursuant to the diocesan 2021 Clergy Compensation Guidelines which can be found here: https://www.dioceseli.org/download_file/view/1951/.

The Rectory, with all utilities and beach rights, is also provided by the Parish.

CLERGY SUPPORT

We are blessed to be associated with a Diocese that is abundant in it's programs and initiatives geared to the support of the clergy and their parishes incorporating clergy development, skill building and ministry exploration. This support is accomplished through an active diaconry which provides fellowship throughout the year, congregational support, and together with the Mercer School of Theology, ongoing clergy development and education such as First Tuesdays, First and Fresh, Clergy Days and the new January Preaching Institute.

The Diocese provides coaching for all clergy and access to spiritual directors, as well as therapeutic work through health benefits and our Canon Pastor who is available to clergy and clergy families.

Programs, such as the two year DCDI (Diocesan Congregants Development Institute), are available for clergy and lay individuals to promote knowledge and leadership skills. We are most fortunate in that our current Wardens have both completed this program which clearly serves to enhance our parish's attempts to navigate the challenges of rebounding from the pandemic and to support us in our new Rector search. In addition, an arm of the Episcopal Ministries is in place assisting parishes with congregational outreach.

The Diocese has also been known to provide financial support in the form of "Parish Mission Grants" and "Congregational Development Grants" developed for the purposes of meeting the needs of the greater community and for strengthening a parish and enriching the lives of parishioners.

We are additionally blessed with access to Camp DeWolfe, a ministry of the Diocese of Long Island, which provides a beautiful and contemplative setting for its retreats and many other offerings open to people of all denominations.

Names of Vestry and Staff

Vestry:

Bob Pokorny - Senior Warden
Mary Collins - Junior Warden
Laura Spillane - Treasurer
Warren Ferdinandsen - Clerk

Bob Higgins - Buildings/Grounds
Greg Jeffrey - President of Academy Board of Trustees, Worship
Bonnie Kroll - Worship
Pat Herring - Liaison to Search Committee, Worship, Outreach
Scott McDermott - Finance, Buildings/Grounds, Worship, Stewardship
Luciano DiRico - Buildings/Grounds
Libby Lister - Christian Formation, Outreach
Linda Weiss - Worship, Stewardship

**Lay Staff:**

Barbara A. Dougherty, Director of Parish Administration
Dr. Joan Daly-Lewis, Music Minister

Search Committee:

Richard Morgan, John Schimmel, Kristen Torres, Anna Acker, Pat Herring

Website:

www.stanselmsofshoreham.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/saintanselmsepiscopal

Diocesan Website:

<https://www.dioceseli.org>

