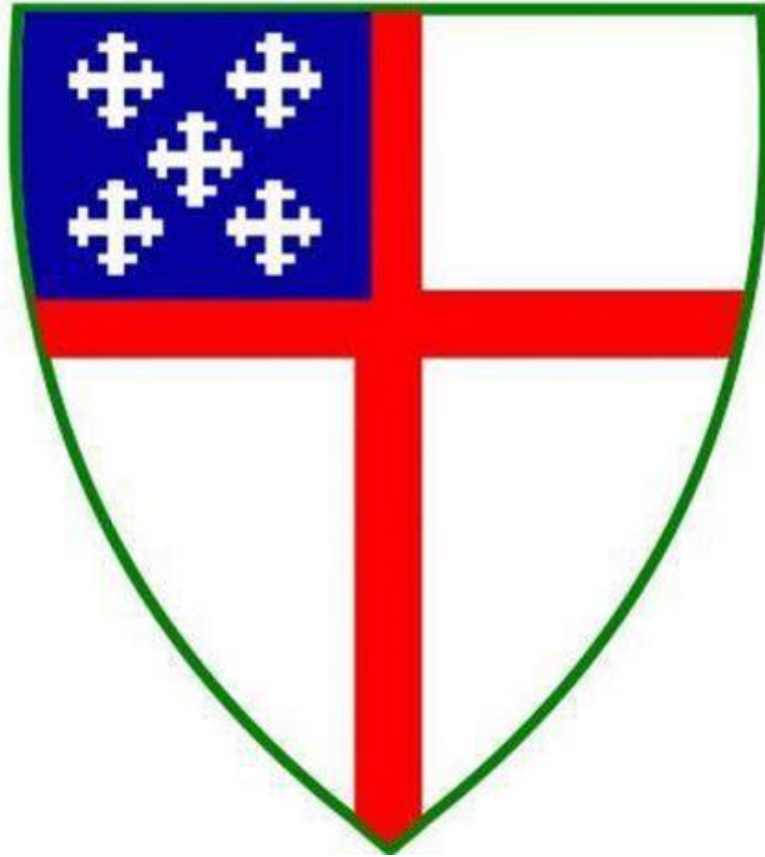


Iglesia Anglicana de México
Christ Church



An Anglican/Episcopal Parish
in Mexico City

Christ Church, Anglican/Episcopal

A loving, multicultural, inclusive faith community committed to celebrating and spreading the Good Word in our parish and Mexico City



Montes Escandinavos 405, Lomas de Chapultepec, 11000 México

Tel: +52 55 5202 0949

Website: <http://www.christchurch.mx>

Contents

Introduction	4
Christ Church Core Values.....	5
Who we are seeking.....	6
Our Location.....	7
Who Are We? - Our Demographics.....	9
By the Numbers	9
Our Response to Covid-19	10
Worship at Christ Church	10
Church Staff.....	11
Lay Ministry.....	11
Our Choir and Music	11
Christian Education	12
Adult Education.....	12
Sunday School	12
Outreach	13
Casa Hogar La Divina Providencia	13
Antes de Partir	13
Santa Juliana de Norwich.....	13
Hospital Ministry.....	13
Disaster Relief	14
Pastoral Care	14
Our Church Community	15
Spanish-Speaking Community	15
Vestry	15
Guild	15
Other Organizational Links.....	16
Finances and Stewardship	17
Buildings.....	18
Christ Church.....	18
Additional Compound Buildings	19
Christ Church and the Anglican Church in Mexico.....	21
Anglican Church in Mexico.....	21
Looking Forward	24

This document was prepared by Christ Church Search Committee members, past and present*:

Jennifer Holden* (Chair)

Lewis Adams

Nwabugo Asikaogu*

Frances Bruton*

Adolfo Crespo

Alix Elverson*

Camillius Uchenna Eze

Rafael Gutierrez*

Anne Meyer*

Michael Putter*

Carolina Rivera*

Linda Saucedo

Wesley Wolfe

Further, the Search Committee wishes to recognize the

essential contributions of:

Morris Thompson

Frances Miller

Rev. Susan Dennen de Rodríguez



Introduction

Welcome! We appreciate your interest in Christ Church, Anglican/Episcopal in Mexico City, Mexico. Our profile provides an overview of life at Christ Church, our goals and prayers, and the qualities we seek in our new rector as we continue our journey in Christ together.

This search for a new rector comes after the departure of our rector on August 31, 2020, following two years of service. Through our last formal parish survey in 2018, we sought to understand and project what matters to us as a parish and what we would like to achieve. This process reinforced that we are blessed with spiritual depth and diversity, benefit from leadership in many places, and are an affirming parish of many cultures and perspectives. We are continuing to encourage our congregation to give input to our search process.

Our Vestry purposely sought varied voices for the Search Committee, of different experiences, involvement, ethnicities, and interests. Each committee member lent voice to preparing this profile. Although what you are reading is mostly an update of previous profiles, it is still representative and true. Through a variety of conversations and interactions, a list of core values came into focus:

- We live the message of the Gospel by welcoming all, serving all, and proclaiming the Word of God.
- We minister to those in need. We are lifelong learners.
- We minister to each other and the wider community through a variety of programs.
- We are inspired to celebrate through music, performing arts, architecture, and service.

We seek a rector who has a strong foundation in the Gospels and the ability to share the scriptures with modern ears. We are looking for a rector who is inclusive, visionary, creative, and collaborative. We seek a rector who can work with all of our multicultural constituents. Our new rector should be comfortable working with all age groups. We are looking for a rector who can work and engage with the community in Mexico City, including our outreach to the neediest in our community. Our new rector should have administrative skills to inspire and guide both staff and lay leadership. We seek a rector who can expand our use of communication technologies so that our worship and other gatherings will be fully accessible to all, if necessary during this Covid-19 crisis, and beyond. We look forward to hearing from you and to the success of this mutual discernment process. If you have questions about this search, please contact the Search Committee via search.committee@christchurch.mx (.)

Yours in Christ,

Jennifer Holden

Chair of Search Committee and Senior Warden

Christ Church is a loving, supportive, inclusive place, full of enthusiastic members who support established programs and seek new programs for outreach, fellowship, and worship; who strive to be an active presence in our community and to serve God.

Christ Church Core Values

We welcome and embrace all who seek nourishment wherever they are on their spiritual journey, and we promote a community of divergent thinking. We find our spiritual integrity in the Anglican tradition of scripture, tradition, and reason.

- We minister to those in need, provide community, and encourage fellowship between volunteers and recipients through outreach and service.
- We are a community of lifelong learners who explore, learn, support, and nurture our spirituality and each other.
- Our lay leadership engages with the clergy to minister to our parish and to the wider community. This rich tradition of collaboration has created and sustained multiple programs across several generations of priests.
- Our unique and modern worship space inspires us to celebrate and express the Holy Spirit through beautiful music and multicultural fellowship.



Detail of stained glass window in church

Who we are seeking

The rector we seek will:

- Have a strong foundation in the Gospels and translate the scriptures to the modern ear.
- Be a visionary thinker who is open to new and creative methods and programs to help us reach out to the community around us.
- Expand our use of communication technologies so that our worship and other gatherings will be fully accessible to all during this Covid-19 crisis and beyond.
- Help us build and develop appropriate programs for our preschool through young-adult members, as well as minister to parishioners at all stages of their lives.
- Join us in determining the future of our major outreach ministries.
- Be prepared to work with the excitement of Mexico City to help us define our place in our multicultural, multiethnic, and multifaith environment and inspire active participation in our shared ministry.
- Be able to guide and drive our stewardship program to assure the long-term sustainability of the parish.
- Be a good administrator, able to collaborate with both staff and lay leadership.
- Be an individual who has an appreciation of Mexican culture and ideally who can speak Spanish. An individual with demonstrable or demonstrated linguistic skills and the willingness to learn Spanish could be considered.
- Native-level English fluency is a “must.”

Some other key phrases from the survey results of what parishioners are looking for were:

Love of Mexico

Intellectual Sermons

Musical

Enthusiastic and Positive

Youth development focus

Innovative and modernizing

Open - minded

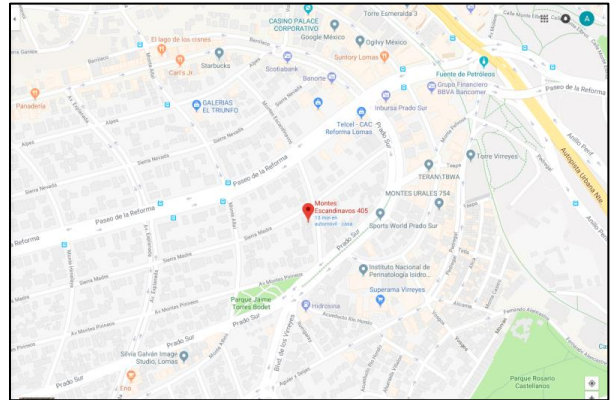
Our Location

CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL
MONTES ESCANDINAVOS # 405
LOMAS DE CHAPULTEPEC
11000 MEXICO, D.F.
MEXICO

Tel. No. +52 (55) 5202 0949 or +52 (55) 5520 3763

www.christchurch.mx

[Facebook.com/ChristChurchMX](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchMX)



Average daily high temperature ranges seasonally from 56 to 86 degrees, Fahrenheit.

Rainy season: June through October Altitude: 7,200 ft. above sea level



Street view of church

The Christ Church compound includes a parish hall, adjoining office building, and rectory. It is in affluent Lomas de Chapultepec on the northwestern end of Mexico City, the nation's political, financial, and cultural capital. It is a short block from Paseo de la Reforma, one of the city's main arteries, often catalogued among the world's most beautiful avenues. Imposing mansions and leafy trees line the streets. It is convenient to public transportation and shopping, as well as to Polanco, a trendy museum, shopping, hotel, and restaurant district. Nearby Chapultepec Park is the second-largest city park in Latin America. Lomas is home to many community and business leaders, expatriates, and diplomats.

Some useful links for additional information on the Anglican Church in Mexico and living in Mexico can be found below.

Anglican Church in Mexico:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglican_Church_of_Mexico

Living in Mexico:

<https://mexiconewsdaily.com>

<https://www.mexperience.com/mexico-newsletter/>

<https://www.facebook.com/expatsinmex>



Angel of Independence monument

Who Are We? Our Demographics

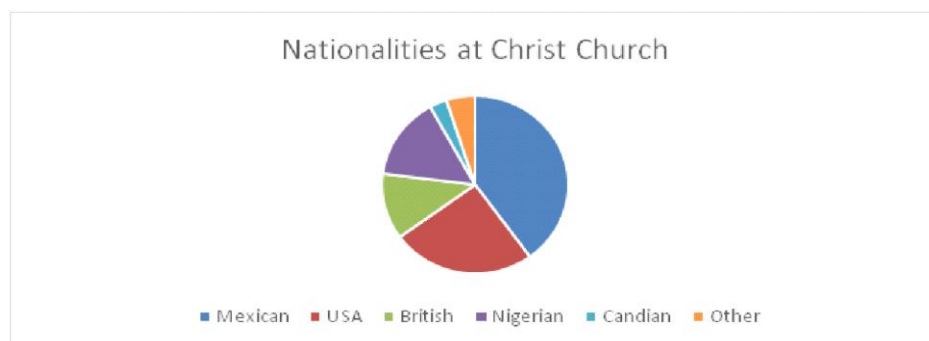
We are an international and multicultural community of Christians. We have come to Mexico from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Nigeria, Australia, and New Zealand, among other countries. Some of us have been in Mexico for a few years or months, working on diplomatic or business projects. Others have lived here for years, marrying, raising our children, or retiring here. Some of our families have lived in Mexico for generations. We are young and old (from newborns to 90+ year olds), lifelong Anglicans and newcomers to the Anglican Church, firm believers and hesitant skeptics. We are all seekers, looking to grow in faith, and live out our Christian convictions in a complex and fast-paced world.

We love a good party, and enjoy celebrating everything from Mexican Independence Day, the Queen's Birthday, and U.S. Independence Day to Canada Day and Nigeria Day. We love children, and we are eager to revive what had been our growing Sunday School program. We love good music, and are very proud of our choir, which in normal times inspires us with beautiful music on Sunday. We love our award-winning building, and have found ourselves moved to worship in this light-filled, contemporary space. And we love newcomers and visitors, and promise a warm welcome to all who join us for worship and fellowship.

By the Numbers

The total number of members of Christ Church has gradually increased over the tenures of the last two rectors. The church and city have a relatively significant number of transitory expatriates who make a meaningful contribution to the church and who are viewed as a potential area for growth. The number of pledges has increased year-on-year; this year the pledge level remains comparable to last year, although Covid-19 has made it harder for some donors to give. Sunday attendance averaged 128 among all services pre-pandemic in 2019. Christ Church has a varied demographic profile in terms of national origins and expatriate status. The resident constituent of the congregation is aging, average age over 50. Other characteristics of the adult members at the time of our last formal survey in 2018 included:

- About one-third of our congregation had attended for five years or less.
- Nearly 20 percent were expatriate members who typically expected to be here for three to five years.
- About 8 percent were under age 16.
- By self-identification, the congregation was 40% Mexican, 25% U.S. American, 12% British, 15% Nigerian, 3% Canadian, 5% other nationalities.



Our Response to Covid-19

Like much of the world, Mexico has been grievously affected by Covid-19. It has required changes to our worship, music, education for children and adults, outreach, and use of our physical facilities. A Covid-19 response team of clergy, vestry, and local medical experts is developing a plan for our eventual in-person reopening. The team is also considering which adaptations might broaden inclusion in our community and reach out to even those reluctant to rejoin us physically, as well as to possible newcomers.

Worship at Christ Church

Worship is at the core of the Christ Church community. On Sundays, due to the pandemic and with our bishop's guidance only Morning Prayer can now be offered, in English and Spanish, via our YouTube channel and website. Our two ordained associate ministers are leading these services with contributions from our team of lay readers, organist, and vocalists. The average number of viewers of Sunday services in English on our YouTube channel is 91; in Spanish on Facebook the average is 24. Whatever the modifications to how we worship together when we can reopen, we hope to retain most of the beloved elements of our pre-Covid-19 practice:


- All services that are in English use Rite Two of the U.S. Book of Common Prayer.
- Holy Eucharist in English without music at 8:30 a.m. Sunday; average attendance 6.
- Holy Eucharist in English with hymns and music and the U.S. 1982 Hymnal at 10:30 a.m. Sunday; average attendance 80.
- Eucharist in Spanish at 12:30 p.m. Sunday; average attendance 25-30.
- English-speaking Bible study and Eucharist on Wednesday; average attendance 8.
- Service in Spanish at 2:00 p.m. Friday at our Cathedral in the Historic Center of Mexico City; average attendance 25. This historic building has recently been closed for restoration and repairs.

Attendance at recent key services was as follows

1 Lent	117
Easter	191
Pentecost	175
Christmas Eve/Day	386

In 2019 there were 7 Holy Baptisms, 3 confirmations, 3 marriages, and 6 burials.

We have customarily celebrated the Church seasons and the specific needs of the parish with additional services throughout the year. Special services that attract more than 200 worshipers include *Lessons and Carols* in the style of King's College, Cambridge, at Christmas, the Liturgy of the Palms and Procession, and U.K. and British Commonwealth Remembrance Sunday. Our special services hold an important place in our parish, bringing together a broader community that typically includes Anglophone ambassadors and other community representatives. We cherish our occasional bilingual services that bring the two key elements of our parish together in celebration. Our liturgical style embraces the breadth of our Anglican Communion tradition with accessibility for those who are new to our Church. We are neither Low Church nor High Church, but Broad Church. In particular, we have cycled among the approved liturgies of the Church (BCP and EOW) at our Sunday morning and Wednesday Eucharists and incorporated a greater breadth of liturgies into our Sunday service in Spanish. Each Sunday morning service has been followed by fellowship time



over coffee or tea in the parish hall. During the pandemic, we have continued to welcome worshippers to a “virtual” coffee hour, to visit and catch up. There has been a discussion of the sermon after Eucharist in Spanish. We are an intentionally welcoming and inclusive community, and we embrace all who seek spiritual nourishment, wherever they are in their spiritual journey.

Church Staff

There are two ordained associate ministers who participate in leading the worship across the four principal services and in outreach activities. Additional paid staff include an accountant, an office secretary, and a resident sexton.

Seminarians

Christ Church has historically encouraged the discernment of religious vocation. Last year, our vestry gave enthusiastic support to two parishioners who are fulfilling their call to the priesthood at the Seminario Teológico de San Andrés, the Anglican seminary in Mexico City. Before and since, we have been blessed by their willingness to participate in and help lead a wide range of church activities, especially our Hospital General and Santa Juliana de Norwich ministries, and during the pandemic, our live daily Morning Prayer online in Spanish.

Lay Ministry

Our laity is involved in many components of the Sunday services. We have an active corps of acolytes and lectors who participate during the services, as well as ushers.

Our Choir and Music

Music has always been an important part of our life at Christ Church, certainly within living memory. The parishioners of Christ Church say that music enhances our worship by elevating our senses and providing an emotional connection to express our thanksgiving, love, and praise to God.

The Covid-19 pandemic has cruelly struck our ability to join voice with our magnificent choir. We have continued to pay our core musicians, and are blessed by their contributions to our “virtual” worship. We hope for the day when we can fully resume this important ministry.

Our choir of both amateur and professional musicians has long made an important contribution to our parish life. Under the direction of Juan Ernesto Villegas, an instructor at the Escuela de Iniciación Artística No. 2 of the National Institute of Fine Arts (INBA), the choir customarily rehearses on Saturday and just before the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday. They lead the congregation in singing the hymns and service music, making use of the 1982 Hymnal for both better-known and less-familiar hymns, as well as an occasional newer one. When in action, the choir often offers anthems by the likes of Vivaldi, Palestrina, Bruckner, Handel, and Poulenc.

The choir's fine music has also provided Christ Church with important contact with the wider community. It performed the Mozart Requiem at well-regarded cultural institutions in the neighboring state of Morelos, as well as sacred and secular favorites for the British Society's celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee. The choir leads our moving annual celebration of Lessons and Carols before Christmas, bringing together English speakers and music lovers from all over the city.

Christian Education

Christ Church seeks to encourage the practice of Christian education as a tool to enhance the spiritual lives and journeys of its parishioners.

Adult Education

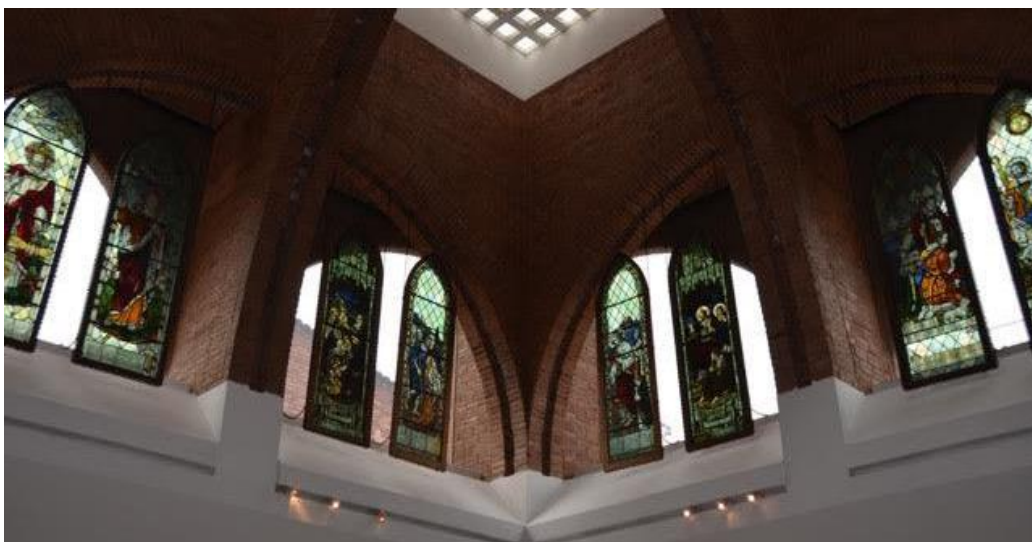
Our adult education program has included both regular Wednesday evening Bible study and occasional Sunday morning offerings. The Wednesday group of about eight parishioners met to read and discuss topics from the Bible. Our past two rectors usually led the discussions.

Sunday School

Christ Church has offered Sunday School for preschool to elementary-age children during the first part of the 10:30 service. As we think practicably about possibilities of a “new normality,” we hope to include many of the elements of our recent practice:

- We follow the *Lesson Plans that Work* program from the Episcopal Church in the USA.
- We focus on social and ecological responsibility and try to use the same Gospel readings as the main service, so parents know what the children are learning and doing.
- The children are in school during the Liturgy of the Word and enter the sanctuary to receive communion or a blessing with their families.
- The children are also given instruction for special community events such as Remembrance Day and Kirkin' o the Tartan.
- In every class we try to make Sunday School a fun time. There is always a hands-on activity, readings from the Bible, and discussion.

Our goal is to make this a warm and fun place to be. Our teachers are mostly professional educators and dedicated members of the congregation. Our teachers have been bilingual and strive to provide variety and stimulus for the children. We are a small group, but we really have fun together.



Stained glass windows in church

Outreach

Unfortunately, during the Covid-19 crisis we have had to suspend several of our outreach ministries. However, we have been able to respond in other ways to needs, always present but made more desperate by the pandemic. In addition to providing despensas of basic food items to parishioners and neighbors in need, we support the following organizations:

Casa Hogar La Divina Providencia

The orphanage here cares for about 200 children and adults, many with special needs because they have a disability or were abandoned.

A pickup-truckload of necessities was delivered, including non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies, and adult diapers.

Antes de Partir

This foundation supports children with terminal cancer and their families. As a result of the pandemic many of the children's parents have been fired from their jobs or forced to continue working without a salary or often a 50% salary cut.

They are vulnerable and many without any food. In addition to assisting with the children's care, Antes de Partir has been helping 250 families with despensas that include 56 essential products.

The following are examples of other outreach we have done in the recent past. We hope to resume these ministries in some form, or explore others or equally vital, as the pandemic eases and Mexico City reopens.

Santa Juliana de Norwich

Every Friday at 2:00 p.m., a Service of Healing and Holy Eucharist was celebrated at our Cathedral of San José de Gracia in the city's historic center. Afterwards, a free meal was offered. This ministry is known as Santa Juliana de Norwich. At times, material needs are addressed with health fairs, food baskets, and medicines. Our outreach continued there through late Summer 2020, when the cathedral was closed for renovation and repairs. We are seeking a new locale to continue this ministry.

Hospital Ministry

Christ Church has had an informal outreach to patients and their families at the Hospital General, where as in most public hospitals here, families must meet many of their loved ones' basic needs. On Monday evenings, a team of clergy and laity visited its emergency-ward waiting room, offering prayers, pastoral care, and a simple supper.



View of reredos

Disaster Relief

Mexico's seismological zone, topography, and relatively large poor rural population mean that frequent natural disasters have a devastating impact. We support relief efforts directly and indirectly through linked community organizations such as Amistad, an Anglo-Mexican charity focused on community infrastructure set up after the 1985 earthquake.

Our building also is used for outreach by organizations such as Alcohólicos Anónimos, and we make our office spaces available to groups so varied as the British and Commonwealth Benevolent Society, psychologists, and a massage therapist.

Pastoral Care

Parishioners of Christ Church are spread throughout a wide geographical area of the city and its environs. The rector and associate clergy are called upon for pastoral care to the sick, homebound, hospitalized, or dying in the range of places these things happen in human lives. Pastoral calls have been made near the church and in suburbs 15 kilometers away. The rector and associate clergy also offer preparation for Baptism, First Communion instruction, premarital counseling, and confirmation classes, as needed.



Christmas Day coffee hour

At this time there is no formal lay-led pastoral care program, but members of the congregation are accustomed to supporting one another in times of joy and grief. Some would probably be receptive to developing a more formal program, if the opportunity were presented.

Our Church Community

Christ Church Mexico City is a unique congregation of long-term parishioners as well as people who come and join us for a couple of years. There is an active Mexican community within our community, and a Nigerian community. Others are from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand. We would like our new rector to create stronger links among these communities. We consider this an important growth opportunity for attracting new members.

A challenge we have faced is trying to increase the small population of children and young adults, while continuing to serve a larger aging adult population.

Spanish-Speaking Community

The Spanish-speaking community forms an important part of the life of Christ Church. There is a desire within this community to integrate further into the life of Christ Church and continue to find common ground and activities in which to share with the broader English-speaking parish. Each year we have several bilingual services, and celebrations of Las Posadas and Día de la Candelaria (with piñatas and tamales) are enjoyed by parishioners of all backgrounds. The past two rectors have made strides in ministering to the needs of the Spanish-speaking community, and it is hoped the incoming rector will continue to encourage their integration.

Vestry

There are currently 14 Vestry members including the senior warden, junior warden, treasurer, the Guild president, and appointed secretary. The present Vestry includes two members in the Spanish-language congregation and two in the Nigerian community.

Guild

Our Guild has been active for more than 120 years in cooperating with the Vestry for the well-being of the church. It organizes an annual bazaar traditionally on the first Saturday of December, as well as two garage and book sales customarily in late April to early May and mid-October, respectively. The funds raised are used for minor and major improvements to the church facilities, as well as to help support aspiring candidates at our seminary here.

Communications

A communications team of seven parishioners, including several with professional experience in online media, was formed in August 2020. This committee works to ensure that all parishioners receive consistently updated and accurate information via weekly emails and across our social media platforms, including our Facebook pages, redesigned website, and brand new Twitter and Instagram accounts.

Other Organizational Links

Several societies have a close relationship with Christ Church:

St. Andrew's Society of Mexico

Christ Church Mexico City has had an important relationship with St. Andrew's Society since the early 1900's. This society has been a home to Scottish expats and people interested in learning about Scottish traditions. One of the celebrations is Tartan Day with Kirkin' o'the Tartans.

British Society of Mexico

As an umbrella group, the British Society helps to coordinate services for Remembrance Day and celebrations of the Queen's Birthday, and is also host for a Eucharist service at the British Cemetery on November 2 to commemorate the Day of the Dead, All Souls Day. The rector leads these events and participates in other community celebrations outside of the church remit.

St. Patrick's Battalion Pipes and Drums

Originally part of the St. Andrews Society, it became independent roughly 20 years ago to establish its individuality. It is a group of more than 20 people who help us celebrate special occasions at Christ Church with wonderful bagpipe and drum music.



St. Patrick's Battalion

Finances and Stewardship

We are very happy to be able to say that for the past six years, our church's operating results have shown a surplus. COVID has affected our results this year compared to budget, albeit fortunately we have been able to meet all our expenses. In addition to that, we have been able to maintain emergency funds in our endowment account in the United States.

We see stewardship as the combination of giving one's money, time, and talents to God's work within and outside of Christ Church. We believe that the financial support of the parish is the privilege and responsibility of all members of the parish, as God enables them.

The Stewardship Committee leads the pledge drive each year, with input and guidance from the rector. Our stewardship drive traditionally has begun in early fall with a stewardship luncheon and presentation of pledge cards. The multicultural nature of the parish of Christ Church means that different cultural groups have different traditions and manners of giving. We are continually working to make pledging a fundamental element of who we are.

Christ Church became a financially healthy congregation in recent years, with strong financial leadership from our current and two previous treasurers. During the economic crisis attendant to the coronavirus pandemic, we so far have been able to stay in "the black" and sustain key programs without drawing substantially on our reserves. At the same time, pandemic or no, like all mainline denominations in the United States, our aging demographics point to challenges. In recent years, we have been able to keep maintenance current on all our facilities as well as do upgrades, including a complete renovation of the kitchen of the parish hall and the installation of new carpeting in the parish hall itself, thanks to The Guild. Other donations made possible key refurbishing in the White Room, our next largest non-worship meeting space. Donations by users of those spaces, as well as of offices in our two-story building adjacent to the parish hall, historically have provided important support for the parish. Virtually all this activity was suspended as a result of the pandemic.

Our offices have a half-day accountant four days a week and a half-day secretary five days a week. We also have a full-time sexton, a full-time cleaning woman, and a part-time handyman two to three times a week, as needed. We contract with a private company to provide security.

The relatively fast pace of life in Mexico City, coupled with the desire of parishioners to serve God, places great pressure on us to avoid being spread too thinly among many activities. It is not uncommon for a relatively small number of parishioners to take on a disproportionate number of commitments in the church, but this situation has improved in recent years, and we have a good active congregation. We continue to look for ways to involve more people in the life of the parish in order to develop more fully the gifts and interests of all and therefore spread the work and share the Grace of God.



Stained glass windows in church

Buildings

Christ Church

Christ Church Mexico City is considered one of the greatest architectural works of renowned Mexican architect Carlos Mijares Bracho (1930-2015). It is our privilege to be able to attend religious services here, but we also consider it a great responsibility to preserve this beautiful building.

The reredos behind the altar is a wonderfully carved gold-leaf tryptic that was donated to the congregation. It was made towards the end of the 19th century in England by the famed artist Charles Eamer Kempe (1837-1907). Splendid stained-glass windows from the same source were also designed in England and shipped to us in Mexico for our prior building. Some of these now hang inside our present church.

To one side of the altar, a door leads to the Columbarium, with green marble burial niches and works of art donated by parishioners. It is a small, quiet space where very small services can be held. On Sundays, this is where the 8:30 service is held.

A spacious basement under the church is used for storage and vesting by acolytes.



Northern view of church

Additional Compound Buildings

Christ Church Rectory

The rectory is a detached house next, and with direct access, to the church buildings. The location is in a prime and relatively central area of Mexico City.

On the first level:

Living Room, dining room, kitchen.

A family room could be used as a fourth bedroom, as it has its own full bath.

A maid's room with bathroom, plus separate service area for laundry with a work sink.

On the second level:

Three bedrooms, each with bath, plus a library or office.

There are also a two-car garage, two storage rooms, and a lovely garden behind the house.

Offices:

The offices are in a structure integrated with the parish hall.

Ground floor:

Office space for the accountant and secretary, plus a large office for the rector with private full bathroom. Another large room serves as the nursery.

A large kitchen that services the parish hall for events, plus two large closets or pantries. It was completely renovated in 2019.

First floor, world sense: four offices and two bathrooms

Second floor, ditto: six offices and two bathrooms



View of Rectory

Parish Hall

A 342-square-meter room with wood-beam ceiling used for events, Sunday coffee hour, and approximately 40 to 50 other events a year.

The basement under the parish hall has space for seven cars and storage.

White Room

A separate (83m²) room adjoining the church for smaller events. (About 70 a year.)

A patio with fountain integrates the church proper with the Parish Hall and White Room.



Outside of Parish Hall



Patio and Fountain

Sexton's Apartment

In basement of office building. Has its own kitchen and bath, as well as access to the patio of the apartment and church kitchen.

Christ Church and the Anglican Church in Mexico



1895 church building on Calle Artículo 123

Christ Church traces its beginning to 1871, when English-language services were first conducted on a regular weekly basis in Mexico City. For a number of years, Sunday services were held in various locations, including the library of the old Roman Catholic Monastery of San Francisco, the YMCA headquarters, and even private residences until the cornerstone for a neo-Gothic style church was laid in 1895. The church was opened for regular public worship on Pentecost 1898.

Worship, Sunday School, social functions, and fundraisers (including the Christmas Bazaar that continues to this day) all took place at that location. Over the years, many improvements and additions were made to the church building and grounds, including the stained glass windows and a parish hall. By 1970, its neighborhood had changed, and what was once a residential area on the outskirts of the city had been enveloped by a noisy and crowded commercial district. The decision was made to move the church to a new site in Lomas de Chapultepec.

Anglican Church in Mexico

The Anglican/Episcopal Church in Mexico is the oldest non-Roman Catholic Church in the country. During the reforms carried out under the government of Benito Juárez, a religious movement began in 1865 with the aim of establishing an independent Mexican Church in the Catholic tradition. This body later became known as the Iglesia de Jesús. By 1869, Henry C. Riley, a U.S. Episcopal priest born in Chile, was called to assist the nascent church. At around the same time, the Church of San José de Gracia, originally a convent church of the Roman Catholic Dominicans, was acquired as a worship space for the congregation. It continues today as the Cathedral of the Anglican Diocese of Mexico.

By 1875, the Iglesia de Jesús (“Church of Jesus”) counted more than 50 congregations, many in remote rural villages. Unfortunately, for lack of strong central leadership, the Church floundered for some years. Eventually, a U.S. priest was consecrated as Missionary Bishop for the Mexican Church, and by 1904 what had begun as an independent and self-governing native Church united with English-speaking churches that had been established to minister to Americans and British who had come to Mexico to work in the oil fields, mines, and railroads. One observer noted in 1906 that “it was a unique sight to see Mexicans, Indians, British, and Americans working as one in the cause of the Lord and His Church.”

Within a short time, the bishop reported 72 congregations in Mexico, plus schools, an orphanage, a medical center, and a theological seminary.



Things changed with the disruptions of the Mexican Revolution, which began in 1910. By 1915, nearly all foreigners had left the country, and out of 30 English-language congregations, only Christ Church was left. By the time a partial peace was restored and a new national Constitution was drawn up in 1917, many congregations had scattered and buildings had been destroyed. The Church faced opposition and difficulty due to government restrictions on all religious bodies during this time. The Church persevered under the leadership of two bishops who were consecrated by the U.S. Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Henry D. Aves, and later the Rt. Rev. Frank Creighton.

In 1931, the first native Mexican was elected bishop of Mexico. The Rt. Rev. Efrain Salinas y Velasco, a scholar, educator, and able administrator, served until his retirement in 1957. His successor, the Rt. Rev. José G. Saucedo, was the first Anglican bishop consecrated on Mexican soil, in 1958. Bishop Saucedo's goal was to lead the Mexican Episcopal Church to become an independent province of the Anglican Communion. During his ministry, the church grew to five dioceses, a new Spanish-language Prayer Book was published, and a new hymnal was produced. In 1982, the first woman was ordained in the Church in Mexico.

Bishop Saucedo's dream was achieved in 1995, when the Anglican Church of Mexico was constituted as a self-governing province of the Anglican Communion. The Anglican Church's Diocese of Mexico, which includes Christ Church, comprises 32 churches, of which 13 are classified as parishes and 15 as missions.

Our diocesan bishop since 2002, the Rt. Rev. Carlos Touché Porter retired in August, 2020, but the election of his successor has been delayed by the pandemic. A standing committee comprising Dean of the Cathedral Sally Sue Hernandez, three other priests, and four lay people is currently exploring potential candidates for the position of bishop. The primate (archbishop) of the Anglican Church of Mexico is the Most Rev. Francisco Moreno, who is also bishop of Northern Mexico in Monterrey.

Among the spiritual ministries of the diocese are Cursillo de Cristiandad (adults), the Evento Feliz (youth) and Carusel (children), as well as the summer mission, an evangelization program carried out by young people.

The social ministries are organized by the various congregations, not directly by the diocese, and include meals for children or adults in need, preschool education, hospitality and pastoral care for AA, care for the elderly and terminally ill patients, and visits to public hospitals to provide spiritual and material attention to patients and their families.



Easter Vigil

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, a diocesan pastoral program was created to foster effective communication within families, with a focus on handling emotions and conflicts and acknowledging challenges faced by today's diverse families. The project was carried out by clergy and lay professionals with a pastoral approach in the Anglican tradition. Distinctly, priests in the diocese met monthly as a group with the bishop.

Currently, the main project for diocesan self-support is a technological high school under the name of Canterbury Institute, which operates in a section of our Diocesan Center in southern Mexico City. This is a private school, but with tuition well below that of similar high schools in the area. The institute began its activities in August 2017.

Another project is the remodeling of the Institute's facilities, including physical modifications, furniture, and decoration for a lodging area in the Diocesan Center, and its

anticipated subsequent affiliation with the Airbnb program. This project is to be implemented when the necessary resources are obtained.

These are among the uses of Christ Church's important annual contribution to diocesan funds.

Looking Forward

This document is designed to provide a flavor of the essence of Christ Church: who we are, our history, our values, the things important to the parish and community around us.

We anticipate that applicants will have many more questions, which we will be glad to field as the process of selection advances.

We hope the information prompts you to consider becoming our new rector at this exciting if challenging time. Please send applications, including cover letter, curriculum vitae, and links to at least two recent sermons to search.committee@christchurch.mx (.). Your cover letter should include a paragraph describing what attracts you to life in Mexico and service to our community. Please do not send photos, academic transcripts, or copies of credentials.

Candidates must be ordained as a priest in a member province or extra-provincial church of the Anglican Communion as of the date of application. Candidates must demonstrate native-level English language fluency. Preference will be given to qualified candidates who are bilingual in English and Spanish.

In light of the coronavirus pandemic, we certainly shall proceed with this process mindful of all local restrictions and recommendations for safe practices.

We look forward to hearing from you.

A word cloud featuring various traits and roles. The central, largest word is 'Collaborator' in green. Other prominent words include 'Spiritual Leader' (red), 'Visionary' (blue), 'CREATIVE' (red), 'Dynamic' (green), 'Compassionate' (red), 'Teacher' (cyan), 'Intellectual' (red), 'Genuine' (green), 'Mature' (teal), 'Inspirational' (blue), 'Sense of Humor' (red), and 'Communicator' (blue). Smaller words include 'Respectful' (green), 'Inclusive' (blue), 'Active in Community' (pink), 'Flexible' (red), 'Good Listener' (green), 'Warm' (green), 'Organized' (red), 'Personable' (pink), 'Friendly' (blue), 'Embracing' (green), 'Counselor' (yellow-green), 'Minister to All Age Groups' (red), and 'Facilitator' (green). The words are arranged in a circular pattern around the central 'Collaborator'.

Spiritual Leader
Visionary
CREATIVE
Dynamic
Compassionate
Flexible
Good Listener
Teacher
Intellectual
Genuine
Mature
Inspirational
Sense of Humor
Communicator
Respectful
Inclusive
Active in Community
Warm
Organized
Personable
Friendly
Embracing
Counselor
Minister to All Age Groups
Facilitator

October 2020