



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated May 27, 2020)

Church of the Redeemer, Southwest Florida

222 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 07/03/20.

rectorsearchredeemer@gmail.com

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
835	5	18	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
	\$150000		We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options Clergy only	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
4		2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$1001-\$2000/year	Yes	Yes	Yes

Compensation package is negotiable.

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

Church of the Redeemer was founded over a 100 years ago and we are guided in our life together by the words from our mission statement: "To build up the Body of Christ by Word and Sacrament, equipping the people of God for the work of ministry that Jesus Christ may be known, loved, worshipped, and obeyed in our homes and parish, community and diocese, and throughout the world." Church of the Redeemer began a robust and much needed Capital Expansion Campaign in January of 2017. Phase One of the Capital Campaign was very successful and allowed for the completion of a new 3 story multi-million dollar office and education building. This gorgeous new structure has provided badly needed expansion space for our growing Sunday School classes, adult formation classes, as well as community space. It also boasts a 3rd floor fellowship hall and a balcony/ terrace overlooking the beautiful Sarasota Bay. This addition provides Church of the Redeemer with the opportunity to not only give our entire church family, and future generations a vital place to worship but also an opportunity for outreach to our surrounding community.

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

Redeemer is always preparing for the future by building and growing both physically and virtually. Our ongoing multi-phase, multi-million dollar Capital Campaign expansion is well into phase two which will renovate our current music and classroom facilities, and bring them up to date by providing larger space. Phase two will also include larger youth space to host our growing youth groups and gatherings. Redeemer is building up our children's and families' futures, and equipping the next generation of saints. We recognize the huge importance of online worship access and Christian fellowship. Redeemer is currently investing over twenty thousand dollars in upgrading our video and live streaming equipment so we can offer even better, clearer, on-line services, including continuing to live stream our Sunday Mass, daily prayer services, and weekly Christian formation classes. All are offered on-line via our social media and web site.

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

integrity, biblical preaching, pastoral care, effective administration

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

Redeemer has a long history of being an Anglo-Catholic parish and worships in the traditional Anglo-Catholic tradition based on the faith once delivered for all time. Our liturgies are reverent and in good order. There are three Sunday morning services, a 7:30 non-choral Rite One service; a 9:00 Rite 2 choral service; and an 11 :00 choral Rite 1 service. In recent years, we have added two additional services; a more "contemporary" service on Saturday evening, led by our clergy using the traditional Eucharistic prayers, but which enjoys more modern music and songs. We also have been blessed with a thriving and growing Hispanic service that meets on Sunday at 1 o'clock led by our assistant Hispanic priest. We have incredible youth acolytes and lay adult Chalice Bearers. We trend strongly toward a traditional "high church," celebrating high Holy Days with the incorporation of incense at some of our services We also offer numerous weekday worship opportunities with daily morning and evening prayer as well as a daily Holy Eucharist, Rite II Mass. Special Masses for Anointing the Healing on Friday and Saturday mornings are also available.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Redeemer has countless lay volunteers. We have a robust acolyte program of more than 60 youth who participate as well as vergers who all enable us to offer beautiful, traditional, Anglo- Catholic liturgies. We have readers for the daily offices, morning and evening prayer. Our laity are encouraged to participate in all of our services. Our Altar Guild is second to none and is integral to the worship experience at Redeemer. Redeemer has a world class music program and every Sunday, our choirs perform anthems expressive of the great diversity found in Christian choral literature. Throughout the year, music fills our church and campus with the sounds of rehearsals, concerts, and community recitals from some of the best and most talented instrumentalists, vocalists, ensembles, and orchestras not only in Sarasota but throughout the world. Redeemer also has numerous lay led Bible studies that meet regularly and over 100 active ministries that reach out to our broader community. There is so much laity involvement at Redeemer it is impossible to fit it all into this space.

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

Redeemer does this in several ways. We have partnered with Samaritan Counseling Center and have a counselor on site two days per week. We also have a scholarship fund with the Samaritan Center for parishioners in need. Redeemer offers weekly confessions; and healing services are provided on appointed days each week. We also have a Rector's discretionary fund which is used to help parishioners in need. Redeemer offers clerical and lay volunteer visits to homebound or shut ins, and nursing homes, as well as clerical hospital visits to all in need.

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

As previously stated in the above, we have a Mission and Outreach committee that devotes all of its time to worthy causes, properly vetting them and then assisting in funding them with both financial and physical resources. We participate in outreach locally by giving time and resources to Caritas here in Sarasota. Caritas is one of the largest community out reach ministries that is a joint effort of five downtown Sarasota churches. It's primary purpose is provide temporary emergency assistance to those who find themselves in acute financial need. We open our doors to about 5 different community groups that meet regularly at Redeemer such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

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

Redeemer is a member of the "Downtown Sarasota Ministerial Association." One of the highlights of this relationship is the ecumenical Stations of the Cross liturgy down Main Street. We routinely have one thousand people from all denominations take part in this liturgy. Redeemer also serves two missions in the Dominican Republic. We do light construction and host a Vacation Bible Study in Puerto Plata, D.R. each summer with our high school youth group. Our adult mission team has built a church in Boca Chica, D.R., and we are building a school on the same site. Redeemer has a Mission and Outreach grant committee which gives away over three hundred thousand dollars per year to worthy causes. One of those causes is Day 4 Hope, which began in 2009 to help prepare at risk children for the upcoming school year. This event has inspired community involvement to serve several thousand children each summer with combined support from over 47 churches and numerous volunteers. Finally, Redeemer hosts a fabulous Vacation Bible School at the end of every Summer, where we serve over 200 children and teach them about Christ's love.

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

A recent ministry initiated at Redeemer by one of our devoted members, Becky Thornhill, is called GATORS: Gathering Adults to Redeemer Singles, began in 2016 with a goal of providing spiritual growth and Christian fellowship for singles of Redeemer. It has been so well received that it has grown to include over 400 singles! It now hosts the largest in home bible study. Members participate in many fun and exciting social outings such as rum tasting and a festive Mexican Fiesta! Two times a year the group opens to all of Redeemer by hosting an annual Halloween Costume party and a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Of course this ministry also has a charitable component in order for the singles group to give back to others; for example, every summer GATORS sponsors and hosts the Snow Cone truck to come and serve the excited children on the last days of vacation bible school. Two wonderful ministries have formed out of the GATORS as well. One is a Christian counseling service provided by the Samaritan Counseling Center with a counselor on campus two days a week. The other is the Widow and Widowers Mite group. GATORS has become a beloved and thriving ministry at Redeemer!

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

Church of the Redeemer participates in a yearly stewardship campaign which is separate from our current Capital Campaign. Stewardship is a vital part of our life in Christ. We are a growing stewardship community. In the recent years, Redeemer has seen the annual operating budget increase almost 40%! We have been blessed with 130 new members who joined the parish in 2018 and 180 new members who joined in 2019. We are a community of cheerful givers.

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

Redeemer tends to do things by consensus. The Vestry and Parish interact and work closely as a team with the Clergy. If a matter is seen as potentially divisive, Redeemer typically takes a conservative approach. Leadership discusses the matters among the people involved, and attempts to take a course of action that should cause the least division. Conflict in a large corporate sized parish should be avoided, if possible. A Rector must decide who the issue affects, which clergy and lay leadership need to be involved, and then lay the groundwork to amenably address the issue. Town hall meetings can provide an appropriate open forum for this type of discussion. Redeemer allows for open and honest dialogue to take place safely, which is crucial for any parish family.

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

Church of Redeemer is constantly changing. Most of these changes should not be considered irreversible if circumstances change or the result were not as expected. We are amenable to new hymns, mass setting, and instrumentation, as changes can be a positive means to add variety. However, there are things that are off limits to change, such as the liturgy. Church of the Redeemer embraces its traditional Anglo-Catholic liturgy and does not seek liturgical change. Redeemer is the largest Episcopal church in the Diocese and one of the largest in the country. We want it to continue to grow with good programs and a variety of services for our congregation so they can find comfort during turbulent times that they might be facing. Overall, we choose to deal with the positive aspects of change and celebrate what the Church of Redeemer does for its congregation, the local community and others in need.



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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Fredrick A. Robinson	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1994-01	2020-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Jack L. Iker	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1978-01	1993-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. William T. Fitzgerald	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1960-01	1978-01

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
	29	102

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School	Number of Students for Adults School
24	165	10	250

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



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Worshipping Community Web site: redeemersarasota.org

Media Links:

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Online References:

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

> <https://www.youtube.com/user/redeemersarasota>

Languages Significantly Represented:

English, Spanish

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English, Spanish

References

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith

Contact Number: 941-556-0315

Diocesan Transition Minister

The Rev. Canon Richard H. Norman, Jr.

Contact Number: 941-212-8009, E-mail: rnorman@episcopalswfl.org

Current Warden/Board Chair

Janet Trefry

Contact Number: 941-809-3771, E-mail: janettrefry@gmail.com

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Bill Mudgett

Contact Number: 941-350-2660, E-mail: billmudgett@gmail.com

Search Chair

Janet Trefry

Contact Number: 941-809-3771, E-mail: janettrefry@gmail.com

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader