



THE EPISCOPAL  
DIOCESE OF OHIO




Come to Christ Church...

TO LIVE

TO PLAY

TO PARTNER



Welcome to the profile for Christ Episcopal Church in Shaker Heights, Ohio. We are so glad you've found us. We're a unique community nestled within a creative, vibrant suburb, and we're seeking a partner to join us in ministry. One of our hallmarks is our diversity. We have a diversity of gifts, identities, and experiences, and we seek a rector who will help knit us together as one tapestry, pointing us toward Jesus and his walk of love.

Are you called to join us on this journey of co-creation and exploration? Keep reading and let's discover together!

# Who We Are...

We are families, couples, empty nesters, and singles.

We are children engaged in liturgy and learning.

We are youthful vitality and we are wisdom.

We come from Shaker Heights, Ohio, across the country, and the world.

We are the arts and we are music.

We are compassionate.

We are racial, economic and ethnic diversity.

We are loving – regardless of if you are “straight” or LGBTQ.

We are progressive.

We are followers of Jesus.

We are imperfect.

We are Christ Church.



# Where We Are...



**Shaker Heights:** A [city](#) with historic architecture, magnificent tree-lined streets and parks, and well-supported, top-notch schools. Shaker Heights recently took the top spot in [Niche.com's Best Places to Live in Ohio](#), took a top spot in Cleveland Magazine's Best Places to Live in Northeast Ohio, made [Stacker's Best Places to Live in Every State](#), and was voted the [Best Place to Raise a Family](#) in Northeast Ohio Magazine's 2022 Parent Choice Awards. Read some of the reasons why in this [feature in the magazine's Community Focus section](#).

**Van Aken District:** Christ Church is nestled within one of the most exciting and impressive areas of Cleveland, the Van Aken District. [The Van Aken District](#) is the largest single construction project in Shaker Heights history. The planning took years of public and private partnerships to transform the auto-oriented location around the Cleveland RTA terminal into a pedestrian-centric, transit-oriented retail development. This 7-acre, vibrant, walkable getaway serves a population of over 200,000 people and is a destination for nearly half a million people living in greater Cleveland. New retail and housing developments are still being added, and the area is growing in every way.

**Cleveland:** [Cleveland](#) is a vibrant city, rich in cultural heritage. We are home to three professional sports teams (Guardians, Cavaliers, and the Browns) and two major universities (Cleveland State University and Case-Western Reserve University). Many diverse cultures call Cleveland home, coming together in pride in our city. Highlights include superb music for all tastes, featuring the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, as well as a beautiful network of Cleveland metroparks rich in hiking trails taking you from the shores of Lake Erie, to the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and nearby Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Our hospitals are recognized throughout the world for their excellence. Our theater district, Playhouse Square, is the largest performing arts center in the US, outside of New York City. The best part of Cleveland is our people - full of grit, warmth, a sense of humor (we are perpetual underdogs after all), and kindness.



# The Diocese of Ohio



The Diocese of Ohio was formed in 1817 as the first diocese established beyond the 13 colonies. It consists of 80 congregations stretching across the 48 counties in the northern half of Ohio. The diocesan offices are located within Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland, just ten miles away from Christ Church.

In 2017, the Diocese dedicated Bellwether Farm in Wakeman Township, near the demographic center of the diocese. Bellwether is a camp, conference, and retreat center situated on an organic, regenerative farm designed to foster innovative community and educational partnerships.

We are led by our 12th Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly. Serving in the Diocese of Ohio means that you join with a visionary, engaged bishop who is inspiring us to be more faithful, healthy, effective, and sustainable followers of Jesus Christ in our unique contexts.

# Christ Church by the Numbers

1

AVERAGE SUNDAY  
ATTENDANCE

87

2

PLEDGING UNITS

54

3

2024 BUDGET

\$260,000

4

CHILDREN & YOUTH  
ACTIVIELY PARTICIPATING

27

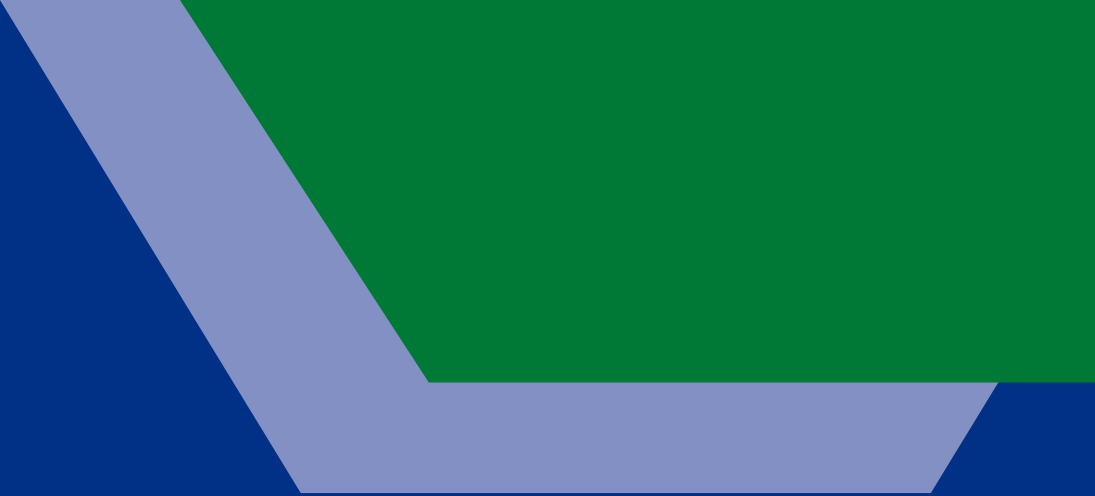
# The Rector We Seek...

- A compelling individual, able to connect with a diverse congregation and inspire them to engage with the church's mission.
- Experienced in leading worship and conducting liturgy in a variety of styles, from traditional to contemporary.
- An able administrator, capable of organizing multiple groups and tasks and groups within the congregation,
- A skilled communicator, able to preach and teach in a way that is both intellectually stimulating and accessible to all.
- Open to new ideas and innovative approaches to ministry, while remaining grounded in the church's traditions and values.
- Dedicated to community engagement and outreach, able to build partnerships and collaborate with organizations and individuals outside of the church to serve the greater good.
- Sensitive to the needs of diverse populations, including the elderly, people with disabilities, and people from different cultural and religious backgrounds.









**Are you ready to continue the conversation? Then please contact the Rev. Canon Jessie Gutgsell Dodson, Canon to the Ordinary, at [Jdodson@dohio.org](mailto:Jdodson@dohio.org) with a resume, cover letter, and your OTM profile.**