



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
THE INCARNATION



2017
Parish Profile

1835 NW 54 STREET, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33142 • P.O. BOX 420050, MIAMI, FLORIDA • 305.633.2446 •
WWW.INCARNATIONMIAMI.ORG



This Profile is the result of:

- thorough research of church records
- deliberate review of the structure and activities of church organizations
- careful analysis of the parish's self-study questionnaire

Meticulous attention given to the details necessary to insure that this document is a true representation of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. The process began over two years ago when the committee to whom this charge was delegated commenced deliberating at length over how it should proceed with its responsibility.

Be assured that parishioners of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation love it dearly and enjoy worshiping within the sacred walls of its beautiful edifice, finding serenity in the quietness of its nave and comfort in the spoken words that emanate from the lectern and altar. Consequently, worshipers usually leave services uplifted, enlightened, and renewed. We welcome you to join us and experience this yourself.

Search Committee

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A PRAYER FOR THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION

Almighty and everlasting God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for our parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Moreover, guide the minds of this committee that we may choose a rector who will be faithful to his/her calling, lead this parish to loftier heights in the faith community, and equip us for ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. AMEN.

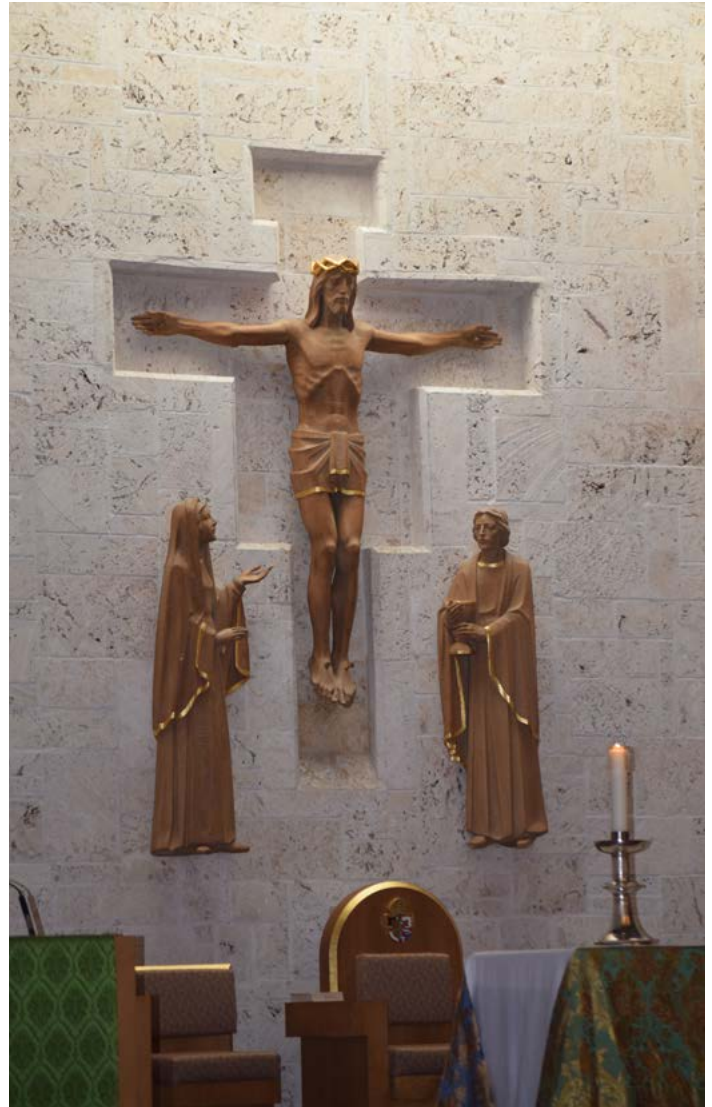
MISSION STATEMENT

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation is a community of believers whose mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ; and seeks, through the ministry of its membership, to carry out this mission as it prays, worships, proclaims the Gospel, promotes justice, peace, and love.

INTRODUCTION

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation has grown over the past sixty-seven years of its relatively short history from a struggling diocesan mission without a permanent place to worship and a succession of priests as its leaders – to one of the largest parishes in the diocese of Southeast Florida. Each Sunday, the sound of melodious voices singing from The Hymnal 1982, Lift Every Voice and Sing II, and other musical resources along with excellent preaching attract over 175 worshippers. The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, moreover, is a parish where all are welcomed and where everyone can become involved.

The parish, is proud of its past, confident of its future, and determined to identify a priest whom God has called to direct this great congregation to even greater achievements and loftier heights in the faith community.



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

During the early 1930s, the New Deal administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt built public housing in Liberty City to relieve overcrowded and sub standard housing conditions, a situation The Reverend John Culmer, rector of St. Agnes' Episcopal Church, had exposed in a series of articles in a local newspaper in Miami's "Colored Town." Many parishioners of St. Agnes, who subsequently moved to Liberty City, discovered to their dismay that they could no longer walk to church, that public transportation was unreliable, and automobile ownership unaffordable. Hence, they appealed to the Diocese of South Florida to establish an Episcopal mission in Liberty City, and their requests reached The Right Reverend John D. Wing, diocesan bishop, who stated in his annual message that since "Liberty Square cannot go to church, the Church must go to them." (visit churches website for history).

The parish's ministry extends beyond the walls of the church with outreach that includes donations of Thanksgiving baskets; angel tree gifts to underprivileged children; and an annual Thanksgiving dinner for the area's elderly; and donations to victims of natural disasters. Most recently, the church reached out financially to support the Bahamian Relief efforts. The church has been host to many cultural events, including a Handel's Messiah Community Choir concert which annually benefits a local non-profit organization. All these projects are designed to spread the good news of the gospel and strengthen the faith community.



So from its humble beginnings, The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation has moved forward because of faithful members and supporters, both living and dead. By the grace of God, we will continue to advance the church's mission, proclaim the gospel, and promote justice, peace and love.

WORSHIP, MUSIC AND RELATED MINISTRIES

Worship is central to the corporate life of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation and we welcome all who come. The Holy Eucharist is the principal form of Sunday worship at our church. Moreover, our services bring together the rich gifts of the Anglo Catholic worship as contained in the Book of Common Prayer. Annually, a special joint community service commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is held in January on the Sunday nearest to the national observance of his birthday.

Baptism, Confirmation and Reception

Christian baptism makes us members of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic' Church that we speak of in the Creed. Several times during the year Baptism is scheduled and administered within the context of the Sunday Eucharist to persons who wish to be baptized. Baptismal Instructions are offered for adult candidates, as well as parents and sponsors (godparents).

Any baptized person is welcome to receive communion, to enter fully into the life and activities of the congregation, and to make a financial pledge in support of the Church. At such time as they are ready, however, baptized persons but not yet confirmed are expected to become a confirmed member of the Church.

All baptized congregants are required to prepare for Confirmation or Reception by enrolling in Confirmation Classes. These series of classes are usually held annually, well in advance of the bishop's visitation for confirmation.



Marriage

Premarital counseling is required in accordance with the canons of the Church for all couples planning to marry. Diocesan regulations are followed in the case of divorced persons who wish to remarry.

Burial

The funeral liturgy is intended to serve as a source of comfort for the bereaved. For deceased persons who were active in the life of the church a Eucharistic or burial without communion is offered.

LAY PARTICIPATION

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild, or The Guild of Our Lady, is responsible for the care of the liturgical objects needed for worship; linen, vestments and the preparation of the church for all services. Training is provided for all new members.

Acolytes

The Order of St. Vincent Acolyte Guild, or Servers, is made up of youth who assist with the services. Ongoing training is provided.

Chalice Bearers/Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Chalice Bearers and Lay Eucharistic Ministers assist at services. Both ministries require licensing by the bishop after completing a course of study. Lay Eucharistic Ministers provide communion to the sick and shut-in following Sunday Services.

Choir

Worship services are supported by music led by St. Cecilia's Choir Under the direction of an Organist and Choirmaster. The choir is renowned and in demand to sing at churches and community affairs. The fifth Sunday has been designated for the male choir of the church.

Lectors/Lay Readers

While Lay Readers are required to be licensed by the bishop, other lay persons may share in reading the lessons and leading the Prayers of the People during the services.

Ushers

Ushers are responsible for the maintenance of religious decorum during worship and assist at services by greeting people, passing out church literature, taking up the offering, directing people during communion and doing whatever is needed to make worship services move smoothly.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The Church of the Incarnation's Christian Education program provides learning opportunities for individuals as they seek to live out their baptismal vows and carry out the ministries to which they have been called. We welcome and invite both children and adults to join us.

Church School

Church School classes are held on Sunday mornings for children of all ages. The Book of Common Prayer provides the foundation for all lessons and is enhanced with other current curriculum resources.



Adult Forum

The Adult Forum follows a study of programs, which includes discussion of the Bible and contemporary issues as they relate to today's society. Classes meet on Sunday mornings prior to church services and on Wednesday evenings.



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is held annually for one week during the month of August for children of all ages. Each year the staff focuses on a theme that includes music, arts and crafts as part of the curriculum.



Caring Hearts Health Care Ministry

This ministry provides educational information and health related services to parishioners and interested persons in the community. Two persons from this group are assigned to be on duty each Sunday to render assistance.

Helping Hands Ministry

This ministry administers the outreach program which provides emergency assistance to those in the parish and community who experience hardship or need.

Retirees and Affirmative Aging Ministry

This organization deepens the spiritual life of those members who have retired and support the church in its mission of caring for senior citizens. This ministry enhances their quality of life through fellowship civic and recreational activities. Their monthly meetings include speakers for health and wellness information, safety for home, identity fraud & theft, and many other activities.

PARISH LIFE AND CHURCH-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

A variety of activities are offered to enhance the parish life at The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation and support the mission and ministries of the church. Church related organizations such as the annual Mardi Gras Festival, All States Tea, and Parish Picnic which provide opportunities for parishioners to fellowship.

Mardi Gras Festival

The Mardi Gras Festival, which began in 1958, is held the Friday preceding Ash Wednesday. A festive occasion, as the name suggests, is well attended by adult parishioners and community members who join in to share their favorite Caribbean inspired cuisine and dance to the music of a local DJ and energetically step to the music of the Bahamian Junkanoo Band.



ECW All States Tea

The All States Tea, held the first Sunday in November, began in 1956 and over time has become the parish's premier annual cultural event. This signature fundraiser is sponsored by The Episcopal Church Women.



Birthday Clubs

While all parish organizations are important and offer a ministry, the basic unit of membership and ministry are the parish birthday club groups. The birthday clubs are a means for members to promote fellowship and support for one another and learn about how giving makes Christ's love and work in the church possible. The coffee hour is hosted after service on Sunday mornings by each birthday club.



Episcopal Church Men

The mission of the Episcopal Church Men (ECM) is to serve and encourage fellowship and unity among the male members of the parish. The men seek to provide spiritual and moral guidance to the parish youth and contribute to the maintenance of the church as well as sponsor activities that support these efforts.



Episcopal Church Women

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is the governing body that coordinates the work of the women of the parish and is made up of the chairpersons of its various chapters. Its purpose is to support the outreach ministries and provide outreach to the community.



Daughters & Junior Daughters of the King/St. Monica's Chapter

St. Monica's Chapter of the Daughters of the King is an order of women who follow a rule of prayer, service and evangelism but also assist with instructing parents, godparents/sponsors in understanding their duties and responsibilities for the person(s) they present for baptism.

During the month of November 2015, eleven young ladies were reinstated as Junior Daughters of the King/St. Monica's Chapter.



Sacred Heart Guild

Sacred Heart Chapter's purpose is to enhance the spiritual life of the women of the parish through fellowship and worship. The women support the work among children and sponsor the Annual Easter Fashionetta.

Saints Ann-Margaret Guild

The purpose of Saints Ann-Margaret Chapter is to deepen the spiritual life of the churchwomen of the parish and to enlist their support in the mission of the church. Through its Prayer Partner Program, it seeks to promote love and fellowship among its members and strengthen the spiritual life of the parish through projects.

Saint Elizabeth Guild

Saint Elizabeth's Chapter purpose is to strengthen the spiritual experiences, fellowship and support the church's programs and projects. The group's outreach ministry includes its annual Thanksgiving Memorial Dinner for senior citizens of the parish and community on the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day.

Saint Mary's Guild

Saint Mary's Chapter seeks to enhance its sisterhood and the fellowship of the women in the parish. Its purpose is to continue the membership spiritual growth and development by supporting the priest, parish members, youth, and other church projects.

Saint Theresa's Guild

Saint Theresa's Chapter's mission is to deepen the spiritual life of its membership and the churchwomen of the parish and support the mission of the church.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

The rector is ably assisted in administering the parish by an associate (part-time), office assistants, sexton (part-time), and bookkeeper (part-time). The wardens are available to provide expertise and service to the parish. The Vestry of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, is the agent and legal representation of the congregation in all matters concerning its property and the relationship of the congregation to its clergy.

The 2016 operating budget is approximately \$450,000. For the past several years, we have worked diligently to increase the total amount of pledges and the number of pledging household units. Our parishioners are generous in giving both time and talent to one or more of the churches' many ministries, including facility maintenance, building and grounds, assistance to the church office, community outreach, and other support activities.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information on The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, please visit our website at: <http://incarnationmiami.org>.

Links:

[Church History](#)

[Advertising & Application](#)

[OTM](#)

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION, MIAMI, FLORIDA, SEEKING A RECTOR

The Church of the Incarnation is celebrating its 67th Anniversary this year. It has been blessed with excellent leadership both clergy and lay. Following a long tenure, Incarnation was quite deliberate in learning and growing through an Interim period over the past few years. We are now ready to call our permanent Rector, who will join, guide and lead us in our walk with Jesus Christ, fulfilling the ministry we are charged to carry out.

To this end, we seek a visionary rector who will be a well-equipped leader and inspiring pastor and teacher for our congregation. Our Rector will guide and direct our leadership in growing our youth and family membership, church and community involvement. Further, we are pursuing a Rector who will influence The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation's leadership in the development of a continuing vision and strategic planning to meet the challenges of the changing landscape of our community, positioning our church for the future.

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation is located in Beautiful Southeast Florida where beaches, fishing and water activities abound. Incarnation is located in the Liberty City area in the City of Miami. The city of Miami and the surrounding area offers a full range of cultural and entertainment activities. The University of Miami [UM] is one among many well-known colleges and universities in the near vicinity providing ongoing educational possibilities and atmosphere. The Liberty City area is predominately African-American, yet the area has a large and growing population of Hispanic/Latino residents. The church has an average Sunday attendance of 150 with an active lay involvement for our many ministries. We ask each potential candidate to view our parish website www.incarnationmiami.org and other informational materials, and if you discern a potential call to this ministry, please provide the following documents digitally in 'Word' or 'PDF' format.

Letter of Introduction

OTM Portfolio

Resume

4 References

Digital Photo

2015 Parochial Report Info: ASA & Total Pledge & Plate (Current Parish)

Links to video or audio recordings of Sermons

Answers to the four Essay Questions [see below].

ESSAY QUESTIONS (Approximately 250 words per answer)

1. Inspired Preaching is an important element of The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation's search criteria. Please give us examples of your preaching style, its priority to the liturgy and means of pastoring a community
2. What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?
3. What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? What did you learn?

4. Tell us about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can we contact about this?

Please email completed application information to:

The Ven. Thomas A. Bruttell
Archdeacon for Deployment
Diocese of Southeast Florida
tbruttell@aol.com

&

Ms. Diane Paschal
Search Committee Chair
Church of the Incarnation
dipaschal@aol.com

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 10, 2017

A Prayer for the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Almighty God, giver of every good gift; Look graciously on your church and so guide the minds of those who will chose a Rector for this parish that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Bring us together to be of one heart, mind and spirit, united in the holy bond of love and faith in you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OUR PARISH IN ACTION



Blessing of the Animals



Palm Sunday Procession



Graduate Recognition Sunday

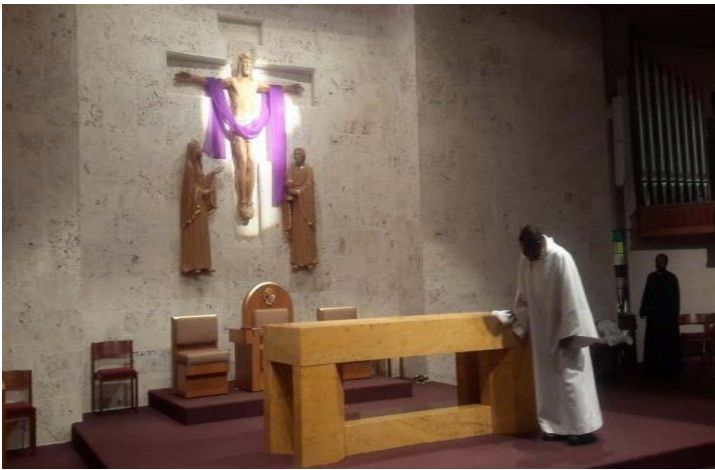


Pre-Mother's Day Dance

Harbour Island Reunion



Maundy Thursday, Washing of Feet



The Bread of Life



Hosting Community Award Program in the J. Kenneth Major Parish Hall



**Bishop Eaton celebrating
Mass with Us**



**Ms. Gloria Green retires from choir
after 60 years**



Mother's Day

Father's Day



**Class Reunion Worship
with the Incarnation Family**

**Alpha Phi Alpha Worship at
Martin Luther King Service**



Church Picnic



Hosting and supporting community activities.



STRATEGIC PLANNING AND SEARCH COMMITTEE

Mrs. Diane Dyes Paschal, Chairperson

Mr. David J. Cheesborough

Mrs. Ingrid Cheesborough

Mrs. Lettie Cogdell

Ms. Cheryl Collier

Mr. Hollot Ferguson

Mr. Frank Hall

Mrs. Ethel Ingraham

Mrs. Carmen Jackson

Mrs. Joyann Major-Days

Ms. Karen Moore

Mr. Dana Moss, Sr.

Mrs. Marcia Saunders

Ms. Priscilla A. Thompson

Ms. Andrea Walker

Ms. Kathleen Walker

Ms. Marsha W. James