

# CHURCH OF ST. PAUL & THE REDEEMER PARISH PROFILE

## OUR MISSION

We stand for the radical hospitality of Jesus. We hold together a progressive outlook and a rootedness in the traditions we've received from Jesus' followers in all generations. We are woven of different races, economic statuses, cultural backgrounds, faith backgrounds, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations. We seek out and are strengthened by each person's story and voice. We honor both faith and doubt, holding together our highest hopes and our deepest fears. (Parish mission statement)

## OUR PARISH

We are a diverse, dynamic, intellectually curious, committed, and engaged group of people in a program-size parish formed in 1968 through the merger of two nineteenth-century churches, one Anglo-Catholic and one broad church.

## OUR WORSHIP AND MINISTRIES

We celebrate three Sunday Eucharists: 8:00 Rite I without music, 9:15 and 11:15 Rite II with choirs, combining the latter two at 10 in the summer. Liturgy, preaching, and music are important to us and two children's and two adult choirs enrich our worship. We nourish our spiritual and intellectual growth in a continuum of Christian formation programs for all ages. We strive to serve our neighbors through several food programs, partnership with a nearby public elementary school, support for refugee resettlement, and ongoing collaboration with an Episcopal congregation in Haiti.

## OUR STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES

We consider our diversity; the richness of our worship, education programs, and parish life; and our engagement in service, anti-racism, and social justice to be strengths. We believe we are headed in the right direction. Yet we yearn to do more of what we are already doing and ask: How can we be more welcoming? How might we develop a greater presence and wider collaboration in our community? How could we strengthen members' readiness for ministry in the church and the world?

## OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR OUR NEW RECTOR

**Preaching** that connects people, is rooted in biblical integrity, is relevant to our concerns, and balances emotion and intellect.

**Leadership** that helps us identify and realize a strategic vision, draws in new members, fosters meaningful relationships, is visible in the wider community, is non-hierarchical and collaborative, and empowers others—especially lay persons—to meaningful ministry and leadership.

**Pastoral care** that is available in crises as well as accompanying parishioners in spiritual formation and discernment.

**Appreciation of Music** as central in worship with strong support for our music program.

We seek a rector who agrees with the **progressive theology and social views** that are strongly represented at SPR, who also can accept and speak to a moderately broad range of views, and who maintains a connection to the traditions of the Episcopal Church.

**Personal characteristics:** openness, approachability, empathy, maturity, sense of humor, kindness, authenticity, comfort in an intellectual environment, strong commitment to diverse and democratic leadership.

### OUR BUILDING

Our building dates from 1958. Renovation in 2002 included addition of a magnificent Martin Pasi mechanical-action organ and reconfiguration of the worship space—the altar and font became central, surrounded by movable seating, both philosophically and practically reflecting the spirit of the parish. A 2016 capital campaign has enabled us to update old systems and make spaces fully accessible and more hospitable.

### OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

A substantial majority of members live within two miles of the church in the vibrant and culturally diverse Hyde Park-Kenwood neighborhood on the Lake on Chicago's South Side. Public transportation to the Loop and the North Side are conveniently available and the area is bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly. We enjoy numerous parks and the cultural offerings of the University of Chicago, the DuSable Museum of African American History, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Hyde Park Art Center.

### OUR DIOCESE

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago is led by Bishop Jeffrey Lee and has 123 member congregations, spreading from Lake Michigan on the east, to the Wisconsin border on the north and the Iowa border on the west. The Diocese is known for its leadership initiatives designed to support congregational vitality. To this end, the Diocese focuses its energies on four key programs: The College for Congregational Development, Fierce Conversations, Project Resource, and Living Compass. The Nicholas Center, located on the fifth floor of the Diocesan office building in downtown Chicago, provides classroom space and accommodations for these programs as well as other leadership events.

To apply for this position, please complete the Clergy Information Form for Transitions found on the diocesan website: <https://episcopalchicago.wufoo.com/forms/m1poxgz40cwsj2w/>

For more information about this position, please contact Victor Conrado, Associate for Ministries, at [vconrado@episcopalchicago.org](mailto:vconrado@episcopalchicago.org) or 312-751-4210.

Website: <http://www.sprchicago.org> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sprchicago>