



# *Church of the Holy Spirit*

*Orleans, Massachusetts*



## Parish Profile 2022

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# Mission Statement

*We proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord,  
welcome all people, and serve one another with love.*

## *From our invitation to Eucharist:*

*No matter where you are on your journey with God or toward God, you are welcome at this table. No matter where you have been, believe that God has brought you here. No matter how you hunger and thirst, share with us in this meal of God's love and the life of Jesus. Then go your way rejoicing and continue to seek your maker.*





## Who We Are

**A**s members of the Church of the Holy Spirit, we represent a wide range of backgrounds, professionally, educationally, and culturally, and, as many of us are retired, we are willing and able to share our time, our talents, and our treasure with this parish. We value our worship and music and gatherings (which have been challenged during this pandemic). We have a strong interest in outreach, education, and social justice, as well as a long artistic history which is evident throughout our campus.

We are intellectually open and reflective, we are inclusive, we are theologically liberal and socially progressive, and we welcome all people wherever they are on their journey with God or toward God.

We recently used the Church Assessment Tool (CAT) to survey the parish. The results show that at our best, our community can be warm,

compassionate, healing, mentoring, and accepting, and at our worst, we can be overly emotional, overwhelmed, naïve, and stuck in routine.

We are living out our mission statement by our participation in worship, by welcoming all people despite the pandemic, and by serving one another and those beyond our congregation with love. We work as a team with numerous non-profit agencies within our local community, and in other parts of the US and abroad to provide for basic needs such as food, clothing, housing, and education. We have a dedicated team which provides pastoral support to those in need, and we continue to stretch ourselves spiritually through common worship, formation, study, and fellowship, and we gather to celebrate our faith by working together in our ongoing and annual projects.



# *The Search*

## *We are seeking:*

- A Priest who is a person of prayer and who can lead us in manner and mission that reflects the Kingdom of God
- A Pastor who strives to be authentic, approachable and attentive to those in times of emotional, psychological, physical, or spiritual need
- A Preacher who relates the Gospel to our lives with sermons that are relevant and insightful and that comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable
- An Administrator who is technologically astute and will oversee the parish with sensitivity, identifying and mentoring our lay leaders and all parishioners
- A Leader who can lead our parish from being somewhat settled into new experiences of ministry so that our future will be relevant and attractive to those searching for a spiritual home
- A Neighbor who engages with people outside our congregation and relates collegially with those of other faith traditions
- A Counselor who has skills in conflict management and resolution
- A Friend who has a sense of humor and empathy, who can laugh and cry with people of the parish family
- A Partner who demonstrates love of their calling and will love this parish into its future

**W**e seek a strong, experienced rector, who willingly shares their journey of faith and encourages us in our journeys of faith. We seek a rector who loves The Episcopal Church as an expression of the Christian tradition, has a passion for parish ministry, and demonstrates a pastoral love and interest in people; a thoughtful counselor and listener, one who is confident in themselves and in their ministry; who can inspire us and encourage us to achieve the priorities we have set for ourselves; who will be interested in, and will participate in, our local community; and who can help us improve our relationship with the Diocese of Massachusetts. As music and liturgical arts form a large part of our shared experience, an informed interest or appreciation for music, art and creativity would be a plus!

## *What Can Our New Rector Expect from Us?*

**W**e will support the rector and be open, honest and prayerful. We will provide strong lay leadership to work beside them and will work for transparency in all decisions. We are excited and enthusiastic to start this new chapter and will work with the rector who is called to forge a path together into the future that will be change.

Most of us appreciate that we have to make changes to attract more people, and we know that some of these changes may not succeed, but we are committed to trying to meet the needs of those seeking a spiritual home, whether searching, returning, recovering, or rediscovering. And, we are committed to

supporting our new rector in these efforts and to evaluating progress with them through Mutual Ministry Review.

Our new rector will be supported by a staff, consisting of a Music Minister, Office Assistant, Property Supervisor (week-days), and a Weekend Custodian. We also currently have a part-time Assisting Priest.

If you are interested in applying for the position of Rector at the Church of the Holy Spirit, we will be delighted to hear from you at: [search@chsorleans.org](mailto:search@chsorleans.org) or call the office (508-255-0433) for more information.

Names will be received until 06/01/2022.



# Beginning

Our parish story begins in 1933 when, on the Day of Pentecost, we held our first service. It was conducted in the chapel of a girls' camp and accompanied by a piano. We were seventeen in number and were from close by and far away. Some were summer inhabitants of Cape Cod; others lived here year-round.

The original building for the church measured eighteen feet by twenty-four feet and was described by our first Rector as, *"small, rude, rough, rambling, obviously homemade."* It was fashioned from beams taken from the Old Chequessett Inn in Wellfleet which had been severely damaged during a storm. In some ways the building reflected its inhabitants; the original front door came from Chelsea, Massachusetts, and the latch on it from Pennsylvania. One member donated a fanlight from a mansion demolished on Boston's Beacon Hill to be used over the door, and handmade cypress shingles from South Carolina. It was truly a church created (or curated) by the love, dedication, and hands of its first members.

Richard and Florence Kimball were among that original group of seventeen. Kimball, a writer, moved to Orleans from New York City and conducted early services as a Licensed Lay Reader before being ordained a priest in 1940 at age 62. Before Rev. Kimball was ordained, we received pastoral care and communion from The Rev. Sumner J. Brown, who was serving as Rector of St. Mary's Barnstable.

Rev. Kimball served as Rector until his death in

1950. Under his leadership, the original church was built in 1935, a parish house added in 1937 (now the Reception Room), and a memorial Chapel of the Way (East Transept) added in 1949. Meanwhile, Mrs. Kimball established the Galley West Shop and a Craft Guild where local artists taught parishioners skills and created needed furniture and liturgical arts for the church. Creativity and artistic endeavors have always been a part of our life here.

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The parish grew from the 1950s for the next 16 years, through three more Rectors, and then The Rev. G. David White was elected Rector in July 1966 and served until his retirement in 1993. The parish continued to grow and flourish under his leadership and developed a large and very active Church School and Youth Group.

The Youth Group took adventuresome summer trips in rented vans, including one to the Grand Canyon. David+ encouraged numerous church events for the community, and the church community was very active. A group of members attended Cursillo retreats during this time, and led Cape parishes in follow-up events. David+ became Rector Emeritus in January 1999. Our sixth Rector was The Rev. Marston Price, from 1994-1998. During this time the offices were updated, a "Brides' Restroom" was added, and the Parish held a "Forward in Faith" weekend.

In January 1999, The Rev. Dr. David Angelica became the church's Interim Priest and was elected and instituted as our seventh Rector in June of 2000. In



*Mural in Galley West Art Gallery (GWAG) formerly the Parish Rectory*

June 1999, work was begun on the new Parish Center, which included a new Parish Hall, improved Church School facilities, a meeting room, a North Transept to the Church, and provisions for handicapped access throughout the complex. The Parish Center was dedicated in September 2000, and the North Transept and completed building project were blessed and dedicated on Pentecost of 2001. We ran the Alpha Program early in the new century, with small prayer groups continuing for several years. In 2006 and 2007, the Youth Group went to Mississippi, after Hurricane Katrina (August 2005) and spent a week each summer

helping to rebuild where needed. This was a formative period for all who participated.

As with many parishes, our numbers were affected by the election of The Rt. Rev. Gene Robinson as Bishop of New Hampshire in March 2004. Fr. David founded The Angelica Center for Spiritual Living, which focused on formation. We celebrated our 75th Anniversary in 2008 in fine style, holding nine months of events including art exhibits, tours of the church, and ministry and community fairs. Festivities culminated in a celebratory Pentecost service, with commissioned music, followed by a banquet just before David+ retired.

In October 2009, The Rev. Adam Linton became our eighth Rector. Adam+ led us in many formation sessions and series and discussions on a variety of books and films and topics that widened our spiritual horizons. Under his leadership, the Angelica Center held some magnificent offerings with speakers such as the former Presiding Bishop The Rt. Rev. Frank Griswold, The Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor, Walter Brueg-

gemann, Amy-Jill Levine, Kathleen Norris and The Rev. Fleming Rutledge. We launched Food 4 Kids in 2013, providing lunches and snacks in summer, when the government programs had ended. This program expanded throughout the Lower Cape and during COVID increased to assist the schools year-round. For a couple of years we shared the experience of a Passover Meal in our Parish Hall with the Cape Cod Havurah. Following Adam's+ sabbatical in 2017, he led the Vestry in forming a Re-Imagining Committee to review all, and re-imagine many, of the ministries and groups in the parish. Adam+ retired in October 2019.



# Belonging

## Worship

**W**orship forms the heart of who we are as Christians. We are a Eucharistically centered parish.

We strive to have worship experiences that are profound, timely, and sincere, linking our hearts and minds while respecting one another's faith journey. Before COVID, we held three weekend services, one of which was offered on Saturday evening. We currently have one service, widely attended both in person, on zoom and livestreaming. We offer a Healing service each Tuesday on zoom, and on Wednesday there is a lay-led Morning Prayer Service for people to do at home. Our services for Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are well-attended with a Children's Pageant at Christmas and an Epiphany Trope. Pentecost is the Anniversary of our founding in 1933, and celebrated with flying red banners for the Holy Spirit. For each of the special worship events and Festival Days, our sanctuary is decorated for the season and service. The Choir sings each Sunday at the 10 a.m. service and at special services.

Centering Prayer, offered twice-weekly, is an ecumenical gathering for silent prayer held on Mondays at the Orleans Federated Church (UCC) and on Thursdays at the Church of the Holy Spirit.

Supporting all services of worship are:

- The Altar Guild
- The Flower Guild
- Eucharistic Ministers, before COVID
- Eucharistic Visitors, before COVID
- The Ushers
- The Audio-Visual Team, added during COVID
- Nursery Care for infants and toddlers
- Coffee Hour following the 10:00 a.m. service on Sundays, when the pandemic restrictions permit

During the pandemic we enhanced our worship space by completing the plan of 20 years ago: the altar was turned around 180° to face the north transept. We refinished and reused the pews, providing both center and side aisles for better access in the north transept and



wheelchair seating within the body of the congregation. In so doing, we preserved our heritage, remembering and respecting those who prayed here before us.

The centerpiece of our worship on Sunday together is a new open altar and the sanctuary around it, enclosed by removeable altar rails and our original altar kneeling cushions. The altar was recentered for best possible sight lines from everywhere and we used natural white oak to create a bright, inviting space

with new lighting throughout the church. And finally, the organ was moved and retuned and the sound system improved.

When the Church of the Holy Spirit gathers for worship, on the corner of Route 28 and Monument Road, in the seaside town of Orleans, we add our voices to the worldwide, ongoing worship, twenty-four seven, night and day. “The voice of prayer is never silent, nor dies the strain of praise away.” —*The Rev. John Ellerton*



## Music

Music as a part of the worship services has long been an integral part of the Episcopal tradition. This is quite evident here at the Church of the Holy Spirit.

We have been blessed through the years to have been led by many excellent musicians. Some were ordained Ministers and one, a Professor of Music. At this time, our music ministry is led by Joan Kirchner, who holds impeccable credentials in both voice performance and organ.

We enjoy good participation, averaging over 20 choristers, and we incorporate music from Episcopal hymnals familiar to most congregations.

In the past few years, we have occasionally presented Choral Evensong which allows us to include

area musicians and to invite our neighborhood to join us for this gem of the Anglican Choral tradition. Our choir has joined with other choirs in performing incredible masterpieces, including Fauré’s Requiem and Mozart’s Mass in D, in public performance.

Our children have traditionally been involved in music here at Holy Spirit and share their talents in the annual Christmas Pageant and at special services during the year.

St. Augustine said, “The one who sings prays twice.” It is a special way that our hearts and minds are connected to God through our voices. We endeavor to encourage active participation in the congregation to experience this special blessing.

Music is made and experienced joyfully here at Holy Spirit, and our hope and prayer is that it continues to be a valued part of our community at worship.





## *Caring – Reaching in Pastoral Care*

Our lay pastoral ministry is very active and caring in the true sense of the word. Pastoral Care responsibilities fall principally under the purview of the clergy, but our lay Pastoral Caregivers group is designed to carry out follow-up calls and visits. The group is managed by a lay coordinator. We communicate via email and monthly Zoom meetings and have just resumed in-person meetings. The coordinator maintains a confidential log of parishioners in need and the Intercessors' prayer list.

Throughout the pandemic, we maintained close contact with parishioners who reside in nursing homes, with those living alone, and with those we did not see at Zoom services. We made many phone calls to people in need. We send "thinking of you" notes, birthdays cards, and holiday cards designed with humor by a parishioner to members of the parish. We have hand-knitted prayer shawls ready for distribution when the pandemic allows it again. We look forward to visiting those who are shut in soon, and there are plans to train additional Eucharistic Visitors.

In the past, we have had groups giving various services and counsel: a Ladies' Lunch Group (which

met once in 2021 and then had to stop again, and will resume when it is safe), a Men's Group and a Caregivers' Group (which had ceased prior to COVID), and a Living with Loss Lunch Group (which stopped with COVID.)

## *Shepherd Groups*

We have a "fallow" tradition of monthly Shepherd Groups, which, in pre-COVID days gathered members in three local areas for food, drink, and socializing, with some gatherings ending with Compline. This has proved to be an invaluable way to introduce new members to other parishioners living near them.

## *Health Ministry*

**Mission Statement:** The Health Ministry's goal is to empower and encourage whole person health through increased knowledge, personal responsibility, and interdependence among God's people.

The Health Ministry welcomes all who have interests in contributing to wellness in a variety of ways and has members from multiple health-related backgrounds. Beginning in 2007 with our origins in Parish Nursing, our focus has shifted over the years and is now centered on advocacy and education. Recent efforts include a parish survey to assess needs, a year-long program of monthly health topics with take-home

materials, speakers addressing specific health needs, creating and maintaining ten First Aid kits across the church campus with two AEDs and three emergency instruction binders. We also support our clergy and leadership with implementation and reinforcement of COVID guidelines for the church.

## *Formation*

### *Church School/Youth Group*

On Sunday mornings we provide care, sacred stories, and experiences of community for children from infancy through high school. We offer:

- Nursery care for infants and children up to 4 years old
- Godly Play for children in kindergarten through fifth grade
- For youth in grades 6-12, a program of their own with readings, tapes, films, and books of interest, intended to foster their relationship with God and God's creation.

Several times each year, the Church School and Youth Group sponsor special events and activities for the parish, family and friends including: Advent wreath-making, Gingerbread house-making, Christmas Pageant, Epiphany Trope, Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, Easter egg hunt, Beach clean-up, Cook-outs with s'mores.





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“... CHS was a safe space for me to learn and grow. All of the lessons and activities were around the theme of love ... that is something that definitely sticks with me today ... Parishioners know what you're up to and they genuinely care ... I consider CHS a home ...”

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### *Adult Formation*

Each Sunday Morning at 8:45 our clergy facilitate Glimpse of the Gospel. Those who wish to join in-person or via Zoom gather to reflect upon and discuss the Gospel reading of the day and to pray for one another.

At other times throughout the year, classes, retreats, and discussion groups are offered by our leadership. Many authors and other speakers have also been invited to speak, teach, and preach here. Our clergy recently offered a 6-week class on the basic history of the Church, our approach to understanding scripture, the Book of Common Prayer, The Episcopal Church, and the Anglican Communion.

Our Book Discussion group meets after the 10 AM service on Sundays in-person or via Zoom. All who are interested may drop in and participate. We try to pace the amount of reading into manageable bites that provide ample time for reflection and discussion. The group selects the books. Over the past year, we have read *The God We Never Knew* by Marcus Borg, *Reversed Thunder* by Eugene Peterson, *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor, *Love is the Way* by Bishop Michael Curry, *Celebrating Abundance* by Walter Brueggemann, *The Dream of God* by Verna Dozier and *The Book of Joy* by The Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Abrams. Our



current book is *The Bible With and Without Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine.

The Education for Ministry (EfM) program was offered here for 14 years, graduating 27 members, many of whom have gone on to be leaders for groups within the parish. There were already several people who had completed the course elsewhere, and we ran two EfM graduate programs for study and sharing for six years.

We have a tradition of courses and distinguished speakers held through the Angelica Center for Spiritual Living, some of which drew large audiences from the region. A wide number of religious topics chosen by the guest speaker have been addressed. The guest has also been invited to offer the sermon at the main Sunday morning service. One year's series featured leading thinkers discussing issues of medical ethics. This ministry, inactive for several years, awaits rekindling once we are past concerns about gathering due to COVID.

### *CHS Gallery*

This CHS Gallery offers a venue for parish artists to exhibit and even sell their art, if desired.

Parish artists display their works in the gallery for one month, giving us twelve unique shows a year. The Gallery is located in the Reception Room, leading to the east transept of the church.

# Caring – Reaching Out

## Local and Global Outreach

At the Church of the Holy Spirit, we serve our local and global community in a variety of ways.

Our parish was the initiator of low-income housing in 1969 and provided the seed money as well as the text of the Warrant for Town Meeting to create Tonset Woods, a local affordable housing community for people with special needs.

We continue to provide significant financial support to 23 ministries, agencies, and schools and get personally and physically involved with hands-on work wherever we can.

The work we do and/or support includes:

- providing for basic needs like food, clothing, housing
- working to prevent homelessness, domestic violence, child and elder abuse
- educating, treating, mentoring children and young adults with special needs, here and abroad
- supporting those with AIDS.
- In 2020 we shared \$38,530 with twelve organizations in which parish members are volunteering and \$24,600 with eleven organizations in which we are not personally involved, (These figures do not include our Diocesan Assessment which was \$67,841).
- For details on these organizations and how much we give them, see our [Annual Report](#) for 2020.



Examples of our global and local outreach ministries:

### *Two Schools in Tanzania*

One of our parishioners played a critical part in working with the local Bishop to build a primary school for the Maasai tribe in Tanzania in 2008. She has since assisted in building a secondary school there, and we (among many others) help to fund the operation of the schools where there are now over 1000 pupils and 29 teachers (but no running water or electricity!). Just a few years ago, a family of five from our congregation was able to join the annual trip to Africa and shared a wonderful presentation about it on their return.



## Food 4 Kids

Poverty and hunger are hidden and even denied on beautiful Cape Cod, but childhood hunger is very real here. *Feeding America* estimates the number of food insecure children on Cape Cod doubled in 2020 with the adverse effects of COVID. That means 7,460+ children wonder where their next meal is coming from. Of those, 30% do not qualify for federal assistance programs.

**Food 4 Kids** (F4K) works to alleviate childhood hunger on the lower/outer Cape by bringing together the Church of the Holy Spirit and local communities to provide free meals for children and teens in the summer when schools are out. Since 2013, F4K has been serving 400-500 children and teens each day for nine weeks in the summer. Breakfasts, lunches, and snacks are prepared, packed, and delivered fresh each

day from Church of the Holy Spirit to our partners, the community recreation programs and libraries in all eight towns from Harwich to Provincetown. All meals are provided free to the programs and to all the children. F4K not only feeds hungry bodies, but we also feed hungry minds, giving away more than 2,000 new children's books each summer. All of this is possible with a small paid staff of five, and over 100 volunteers each summer from the Church of the Holy Spirit (17 in 2021) and our surrounding communities (86 in 2021). As a USDA Summer Food Service Program sponsor, F4K receives federal funding that covers about 60% of the program costs. Local sources cover the remaining 40%. They include Church of the Holy Spirit, the Diocese of Massachusetts and other faith-based groups, Cape & Islands United Way, Cape Cod Foundation, each of the towns we serve, local businesses and organizations, as well as individuals.





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*“Fellowship, community, history and faith. As someone who moved so many times over my life, CHS was always one steady rock. To welcome and be welcomed defines the community as it is motivated by our common faith.”*

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### *The Free Shop*

The Free Shop is the only one of its kind on Cape Cod. Opened more than 50 years ago, the shop provides clothing for those in need and serves as a clothing recycling center for the Lower Cape. All clothing donations are provided by the Parish and Lower Cape community. The shop’s traditional philosophy is that if you take from the shop – you give back whenever you are able. Located on the lower floor of the Parish Hall – the Free Shop closed during COVID and will reopen in 2022. It is directed by loyal CHS volunteers.

### *The Kimball Guild*

Women of the Kimball Guild continue to produce their fine hammered aluminum artworks that were sold in the Galley West Gift Shop, now sold through the Galley West Art Gallery. This tradition harkens back to the original founders of Holy Spirit as most were artists, and we have a legacy of parishioner artwork in several of our buildings.

### *Annual Events*

A Rummage Sale is held annually in May and serves our community well. A Holiday Bazaar with local vendors and our own offerings of food, books, and jewelry, an Antiques Show with local vendors, and a sale of Christmas greens and decorations round out our Special

Events calendar. These occasions produce important revenue for the church’s Outreach while providing great opportunities for working together and for meeting new people. In addition, for the past 35 years, one of our parishioners has organized a Good Friday walk in Nicker-son State Park to assist local children who have medical challenges.

For more information see our [website](#) and our [Annual Report for 2020](#). The Annual Report for 2021 will be posted after our Annual Meeting in February, 2022.



# Becoming Our Priorities

The recent parish survey stated that:

- Our first priority for the coming years is to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people, incorporating them into the life of the parish, and to make changes to attract families, children, and youth. We need to find ways to attract new people and families to share our enthusiasm and carry this spirit forward to the next generation.
- Our second priority is that our church works as an advocate for social and institutional change so that society might better reflect the values of the Kingdom of God. This means that we see that our future mission includes:
  - providing a dialogue between the Christian faith and how it addresses cultural and political issues in relation to the values and vision of Christ, and
  - providing direct services to those living on the margins of society.

## Challenges

One underlying challenge, according to the survey, is that we may be somewhat resistant to change. That said, we have just peacefully reconfigured our worship space. Reorienting the placement of seating, redesigning the altar area, and rearranging the art under improved lighting were changes that have been well



The survey also indicated:

- That we continue our efforts at providing strong pastoral care, healing those among us who are broken by circumstances of life. With an aging population and many more funerals than weddings or baptisms, this is a constant challenge which the clergy should not be asked to manage alone.

received, with very little upset or division.

A second challenge is that we, like many congregations, have had some events in our parish life which remain unresolved. These include issues around clergy misconduct from the past, a sense of “unfinished story” around some personnel issues

over the years, and a sense of distance and a lack of trust in our relationship with the Diocese of Massachusetts. At present, we are working very hard with our interim priest, several diocesan consultants, our Regional Canon, and others, to understand our history and to prepare our community to experience a sense of healing and new beginning that will free us to focus more faithfully

on the work of maintaining relationships and the responsibility to develop transparency. Our Vestry, Officers, and Parish Leadership are central to this effort, and we are all pulling together to build bridges, heal hurts, and strengthen relationships. We will depend on our next rector to join us in continuing this important work.

It is worth noting that in the same survey, many of our members also felt that “the same small group of people seem to make most of the important decisions in our church.” While this concern finds its roots in past

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*“We are all stewards in this church –  
doing what we can with our treasures, time  
and talents ... preparing now for the future  
of The Church of the Holy Spirit.”*

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glitches in governance, it may have been exacerbated by the isolating effects of the pandemic when only a small group of people were visibly involved in Zoom services. We recognize that we are a high-functioning community with many leadership skills and styles, and we are working to put forth our best skills and efforts into becoming a more transparent, trusting, and inclusive congregation.

Our hope is to become a congregation that sees itself as a welcomed and integral part of our diocesan family, one that is growing spiritually through

worship, music, formation, and all the opportunities that gather us together. This will require leadership that is unwilling to sweep conflict under the rug, but one who encourages and models the peaceful and positive resolution that comes through prayerful conversation, listening, and self-revelation, leading to the building of trust.



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*“You became my family,  
you helped me heal, you loved me,  
you encouraged me, you supported  
me, you gave me jobs—which is  
something this church does well!”*

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# *During the Pandemic*

The year 2020 was a challenge for individuals and organizations because of COVID restrictions and changes in the way we operate. Change for churches meant the cessation of in-person worship, meetings, and the general life of a parish.

Holy Spirit met those challenges in creative, innovative ways. Zoom was the order of the day. Worship, meetings, and general Parish life made great use of this technology. For us, the “church continued to be the church,” in spite of the pandemic.

- Audio/Visual equipment was purchased, and parishioners were trained to operate it. We have recently purchased additional cameras to be permanently placed for a better view of the altar.
- Every Friday via Constant Contact, members received “Worship This Week” that offered a meditation by our Assisting Priest, exploration of favorite hymns by the Director of Music, and the Zoom connection for Sunday worship at 10 a.m.
- Sunday worship was held at 10 a.m. via Zoom and YouTube, followed by a virtual Coffee Hour.
- The Tuesday Healing Services continued via Zoom and added meditation time.
- Every Wednesday via Constant Contact, members received “Being Together-Apart”, a weekly newsletter (that later transitioned to bi-weekly, then monthly) covering pastoral concerns and parish news.
- On Sundays, our Assisting Priest offered “Glimpse of the Gospel” at 9 a.m. via Zoom as a discussion group.
- Church School staff continued to be in touch with the children and youth of the parish with creative notes and projects.
- Prayer Intercessors continued their ministry for those requesting prayer, and regular prayer for those of the Parish working on the front lines at hospitals and extended care homes.
- The Sunday morning Book Discussion met via Zoom, focusing on works by such theologians as Walter Brueggemann and The Rev. Eugene Peterson.
- The Pastoral Care Team continued oversight and tried to keep in contact with those in emergency situations, those in extended care facilities, and those living alone.
- Vestry members were responsible for calling all parishioners to inquire as to any possible needs to be met and “to just stay connected.”
- Committees: Building & Grounds, Church School Team, Finance, Health Ministry, Outreach and Pastoral Care continued their work via Zoom.
- An extensive Solar Project was undertaken and completed under the leadership of the “Green Team,” a part of the Buildings & Grounds Committee.
- The Vestry dedicated \$50K plus to sponsor a Habitat Housing Build in Orleans addressing the need for affordable and workforce housing in Orleans.
- A successful Stewardship Campaign was conducted with the theme The Now and Future Church. An Online Giving option was created for parishioners to continue their financial support.
- The Buildings & Grounds committee worked with custodial staff to address a significant number of interior maintenance projects

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*“I feel so privileged to be part of this church’s ministry and lessons.  
Your humor and humanness have given me a whole new  
dimension that I never thought possible. As a ½ Jewish  
½ Episcopalian who was raised a Unitarian and married a Catholic  
it’s been a long time since I have devoted myself to learning!”*

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including painting the offices, re-fitting the Sacristy, and making repairs as needed. Outside doors and windows were painted and repaired, and grounds were maintained and improved.

- All staff were continued employment with full salary and benefits.
- The Outreach Committee sent out approximately \$132,000 (including the Diocesan Assessment) to 23 programs that CHS supports. In some dire cases, local grant amounts were increased.
- Throughout the school year, and at the request of the local School Board, Food 4 Kids assisted the Nauset schools in serving lunches for children in need.
- The Vestry approved plans to renovate the Sanctuary funded from endowed gifts.

With the conviction that the ministries of the church must continue, the parish faced the challenge and succeeded in doing so. We continue to look forward to the normalizing of our ministries as COVID restrictions are eased and ended.

In early summer 2021, we resumed in-person worship (retaining the option to zoom) in the Parish Hall on Sundays at 10 a.m. with the full choir, following prescribed COVID guidelines.

In-person committee meetings are resuming, and continue on Zoom for those not yet ready. Work on Galley West Art Gallery (GWAG), a community art gallery on the church campus concluded, and the Gallery opened in October 2021. Work on the Sanctuary concluded with a return to worship on All Saints Sunday, 2021. Landscaping at the new front entrance was completed.

# Property

The facilities of the Church of the Holy Spirit were born of humble, simple beginnings. The original church was constructed from materials scavenged by parishioners and lovingly transformed by volunteers into a simple nave without electricity. Today, the Church of the Holy Spirit and parish complex offer up-to-date conveniences including efficient lighting, updated heat and air-conditioning, ADA compliant handicapped access, and a new system for the hearing impaired, while retaining much of the original charm of the first building.

The campus is composed of four landscaped acres, easily accessed at the intersection of Rt. 28 and Monument Road in Orleans, Massachusetts. Over the years, the original sanctuary has been lovingly enlarged with east, west, and north transepts, administrative offices, a large two-story Parish Hall, and classrooms for Sunday School activities.

Below the Church is St. Dunstan's Chapel which houses the Columbarium. Adjacent is the library and access to the Memorial Garden. All of these are accessible from the Church by elevator and stairs.

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*“The church reconfiguration - moving the furniture, the pews, the altar, the organ - the feeling inside the church is openness and readiness to receive. The history, the traditions, the beauty, the intimacy of this once small church building remain.”*

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## Parish Offices and Administration

A Reception Room, also used as our Art Gallery, leads into one entrance to the Church and also leads to a hallway giving access to our recently remodeled sacristy, vesting area for acolytes, and parish offices. These include the offices of the Rector, Assistant Rector, Treasurer, Office Assistant, and Space Manager.



## *The Kimball Craft House*

The Kimball Craft House, adjoins the offices, but with its own entrance. It was started by Florence Kimball and contains all the punches and equipment for making the hammered aluminum products that continue to be made by some of our parishioners and sold in the Galley West Art Gallery. The candle sconces in the church were probably made here.

## *Parish Hall Complex*

The parish hall complex, like the church, bridges the past to the present. This complex includes the Fireplace Room which is used for meetings, and the parish hall itself, capable of seating approximately 200 people. The kitchen is commercial grade with excellent cooking and refrigeration capabilities. The main entrance to the parish hall is handicap accessible and an elevator leads to the ground level housing the Church School, nursery, and Free Shop.

The Parish Hall and meeting rooms are used by community groups on a regular basis: AA, Al-Anon, Harbor Healing Reiki services, and the Red Cross. Various for-profit groups have produced revenue by renting the Parish Hall, including the [Meeting House Chamber Music](#) concerts in the summer.

## *The Church School, Nursery, Playground, and Free Shop*

The Church School has three or four classrooms, depending on use. The Nursery, with crib and play area, is fully equipped with its own bathroom, refrigerator, microwave, and sink; and a children's playground is available across the parking lot.

The Free Shop is a room set aside by the church,

staffed by volunteers, for the distribution of used clothing to anyone in need (currently closed during the pandemic).

## *Solar Field*

An outgrowth of the "Green Team" within the Building and Grounds committee led to an investment in reducing our carbon footprint by installing a solar field opposite the north entrance. It delivers an income stream to the parish while living our values of environmental stewardship. This was partially funded with a significant Green Loan from our Diocese.

## *Rectory*

Overlooking the church complex is a three-bedroom, three-bath, two-story plus walk out basement home with a recently remodeled kitchen and a detached two-car garage. All rooms have been freshly painted and oak floors were recently refinished.

## *Galley West Art Gallery*

The [Galley West Art Gallery](#) opened on October 16, 2021 as a volunteer-run community art gallery dedicated to supporting artists in the Lower and Outer Cape Cod towns. The gallery is located in the newly restored historic Galley West on the campus of the Church of the Holy Spirit. The restoration was made possible by grants through the Orleans Community Preservation Act.

Galley West was the home of Richard and Florence Kimball and the first church building for CHS Founding Members. Richard Kimball became the first Rector while Florence & Vernon Smith created the arts and crafts sold in Galley West. The Galley West Art Gallery will continue the legacy of Florence Kimball, Vernon Smith, and the Founding Members of this church — the deep-seated, enduring tradition of art at the Church of the Holy Spirit.

# Community – Orleans, Cape Cod

Orleans is a rural, seaside town located at the elbow of Cape Cod, which is a sandy peninsula sticking out 35 miles into the Atlantic Ocean from mainland Massachusetts. Orleans was first settled in 1644 by Pilgrim colonists and lies north of Chatham, east of Brewster, south of Eastham and west of the Atlantic Ocean. The town is governed by a Select Board of five elected persons, and Town Meetings are held annually, and for special municipal projects. Local residents are active volunteers on the numerous committees and commissions of the town and Cape Cod. The town's population of 6,200 year-round residents swells to 20,000 in the summer and takes on a peak-season pace. Approximately 50% of the homes are second homes.

The center of town is designated as a Cultural Center, featuring a number of [art galleries](#), some exhibiting museum quality works. There are a variety of [restaurants](#)

serving meals ranging from simple fare to elegant cuisine. [Orleans Snow Library](#) is part of [CLAMS](#) (Cape Libraries Automated Materials Sharing) and provides excellent services. The library also offers a [Lifetime Learning](#) program that features a variety of offerings with a topflight faculty.

Residents and visitors have access to ocean, bay, and ponds for swimming, kayaking, surfing, sailing,

fishing, birdwatching, and clamming. The natural beauty draws both nature and recreational enthusiasts with its unsurpassed beaches, including Nauset Beach, Pleasant Bay in Orleans, and Skaket Beach.

The [Cape Cod Rail Trail](#) runs through Orleans where bikers may pedal all the way to the Province Lands in Provincetown, the tip of the Cape where ocean and bay waters meet. The trail, also popular for hikers and birdwatchers, extends west through Harwich into Dennis.

**Orleans** is the business center of the Lower Cape region with a quantity of shops, including two large grocery stores and one smaller family-owned market. Professional services are offered by doctors, primary care, dental and eye, as well as a number of law and insurance firms, all with offices in town.

Holy Spirit draws members from Orleans and at least six neighboring towns. While Orleans

is the commercial center for the Lower Cape, the other towns offer a similar wealth of restaurants, shops, culture, and recreational opportunities. Summer League baseball and charter boat fishing are popular draws for tourists and residents alike, as are the beautiful golf courses that challenge players of all abilities.

Cape Cod is an attractive retirement location allowing us to benefit from the skills of an accomplished

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*“I’m a ‘church person’ and I’m fulfilled as that person at CHS.*

*I’ve been fed spiritually and socially from the time we moved and began to worship here. I’ve been part of ministries that help others (Hospitality, Outreach, Ladies Luncheon), and those that help me (choir, gardening, EfM). There is something for everyone as we try to live into those ‘Big Shoes of Jesus’.”*

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group of retirees. The median age of some of the towns is among the most senior in the state, and our parish reflects those demographics.

## *Schools*

The Orleans area has several opportunities for preschools, covering extended day also, including the [Learning Garden](#), [Meeting House Preschool](#) and [Nauset Integrated Preschool](#).

Orleans has its own [elementary school](#) (grades k-5) and a [middle school](#) (grades 6-8). The town is part of the excellent [Nauset Regional High School System](#),

made up of Brewster, Orleans, Eastham, and Wellfleet, with many school choice students coming from beyond these towns. A newly updated regional high school is currently under construction at its present North Eastham site.

[Cape Cod Regional Technical High School](#) is located in nearby Harwich. [Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School](#) (grades 6-8) is also located in Harwich, and [Sturgis Charter School](#) (grades 9-12) is a short drive to Hyannis. In addition, the Cape is home to the [Cape Cod Community College](#) as well as many satellite college programs held at area high schools.

## Health Care

[Cape Cod Hospital](#), nationally recognized for exceptional care, is located in Hyannis. The modern state-of-the-art Emergency Room facilities are recognized as one of the busiest and best in Massachusetts. The Cardiac Care unit works directly with Harvard University Medical School and is affiliated with Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital. The Davenport-Mugar Cancer Center and the O'Keefe Surgical Pavilion are located on the campus.

The [Fontaine Outpatient Center](#), located just off Route 6 in Harwich, is available for treatment of a wide range of emergency medical conditions and injuries. Many Hyannis-area physicians also have office hours at Fontaine several days each month for their Outer and Lower Cape patients.

## Orleans Religious Communities

In addition to the Church of the Holy Spirit, Orleans is home to the Federated Church (United Church of Christ), the Methodist Church (United Methodist), the Community of Jesus (an ecumenical Christian community), and the Church of Saint Joan of Arc (Roman Catholic). Am HaYam (Jewish) holds holy day services at the Federated Church. Faith communities throughout the Outer Cape join together for the Martin Luther King Day community service. [Nauset Interfaith Association](#) leads the area in social justice and social action work, and many of our members participate in their activities.

## The Orleans Firebirds

Orleans, along with other Cape towns, belongs to the renowned summer [Cape Cod Baseball League](#). College players are hosted in local homes. Several games are played each week and are very popular and competitive. Orleans is host to one of the playing fields with lighting for nighttime games.

## The National Seashore

In the 1800's, Henry David Thoreau walked the Atlantic beaches of Cape Cod and declared them a treasure; in 1928 Henry Beston published *The Outermost House*, describing his year living in a cottage in the dunes overlooking the Atlantic Ocean; and in 1961 the beaches from Chatham to Provincetown, consisting of 43,607 acres, were claimed and protected as the [National Seashore](#). The lands include ocean beaches, marshes, ponds, and coastal pine barrens. Lighthouses and cranberry

bogs can be spotted and bike trails and hiking trails enjoyed. With proper permits and four-wheel drive vehicles, visitors and residents enjoy driving over the sands to a favorite spot. The seashore is managed by the National Park Service with headquarters and museum/visitor centers in Eastham and Provincetown.

## The Arts

Cape Cod has attracted artists of all kinds, and we therefore have a wealth of excellence in [art galleries](#), [theater](#) and concerts (e.g. [choral](#), [chamber](#) and [symphonic](#) music).

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*"Fellowship, community, history and faith. As someone who moved so many times over my life, CHS was always one steady rock. To welcome and be welcomed defines the community as it is motivated by our common faith."*

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# Community – Boston

About 100 miles from Orleans sits Boston, the capital of the Commonwealth, central to [American history](#). Click [History of Boston](#), [Boston Historical sites](#) and [Visit Boston](#).

By the 21st century the City of Boston's economy was centered in: [education](#) (Harvard University, Boston University, Boston College, MIT, Tufts, Northeastern, UMass), [medicine](#) (Mass General, Brigham & Women's, Beth Israel Deaconess, Lahey, and Tufts), and advanced [technology](#), notably [biotechnology](#).

At the heart of the city and its culture, the [Museum of Fine Arts](#) and the [Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum](#) house iconic collections with great masters on display. Boston Symphony Hall is the home of the Boston

Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops. Broadway shows, dance performances, theater, music and more are performed at the Wang, Wilbur, Huntington, Colonial, and other [Boston venues](#). Boston sports teams are well-known: The Boston Bruins, the Boston Celtics, the Boston Red Sox, the New England Patriots, and the New England Revolution (soccer), etc. Click [Sports in Boston](#).

Boston is particularly exciting and entertaining for children of all ages. [The New England Aquarium](#), [Museum of Science](#), [Harvard Museum of Natural History](#), and the [Boston Children's Museum](#) are family favorites. History buffs will enjoy [The Boston Tea Party Ship & Museum](#), [MFA's American Wing](#) and the [Museum of African American History](#).







## *Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts*

**T**he Diocese of Massachusetts is under the extraordinary leadership of The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates (Diocesan) and The Rt. Rev. Gayle Harris (Suffragan). Along with its leaders, the diocese accomplishes its mission through a gifted Diocesan staff and relates to its 170+ parishes through three Regional Canons. The Rev. Canon Kelly O'Connell has responsibility for the southern region of our diocese, which includes the Cape and Islands Deanery, of which we are a part.

One of The Episcopal Church's Largest Dioceses, our parishes enjoy a robust diocesan relationship that brings us together so that we may do our best work when we are apart. Laity are represented and involved in every level of diocesan structure and governance. Clergy of color and clergy who represent the LGBTQ+ membership in our church are welcomed and cherished. Together, we comprise a diocesan family full of talent and passion.

We are blessed with continuing ministries from our past, and we are always finding new ways to serve the world in Jesus' name. A healthy system of diocesan grants and loans enables our parishes to accomplish much greater things than they might without such support. Are there struggles when this many gifted people meet in a church that takes its call to discipleship in the world seriously? Of course! But these are mostly the signs of creative tension and struggle – and perhaps a spot of hangover from the cultural perspective of New England and its deeply congregational history.

At Church of the Holy Spirit, we are currently working to strengthen and deepen our connections to the diocese and the larger church. We seek a rector who values those connections and whose own relationships

with the diocese will engender new growth and a stronger sense of belonging among our people.

A browse through our [diocesan website](#) will testify to the breadth and depth of inspiring service across our diocese.

The [Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center](#), named after Barbara Harris, retired Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese and the first woman to be consecrated a bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion, is located on the shores of Otter Lake in Greenfield, New Hampshire. Our parish has organized two trips to the Camp: one of about 30 members of church school children and their families in 2017, and one of about 15 youth and church school children and their teachers in 2019.

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*“It didn’t take very long for me to realize that I was privileged to be welcomed to a church where you could witness and be a part of people actually living their faith.”*

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# Holy Spirit – Parochial Report Data

	2018	2019	2020
Adults (16 & over)	446	394	342
Youth (under 16)	40	32	28
Total Communicants	409	363	321
Others who are Active	0	0	0
Average Sunday attendance	173	141	128
Baptisms	4	7	1
Confirmations	6	0	0
Marriages	0	4	0
Burials	9	14	7
Children in Sunday School	50	16	12
Adults Engaged in Religious Education	55	50	83





# Financial Report

The Church of the Holy Spirit has a history of strong financial responsibility toward its parishioners, its clergy, its physical plant, the community at large, and the Diocese.

In 2020, pledges represented 52% of our operating budget, a testament to the dedication of our parishioners toward support for our commitments. The balance of our necessary income is met from our investments, special events held on our grounds or in the Parish Hall, and donations from groups within the parish.

Over the past several years the church has been blessed by a number of large unrestricted gifts which have enabled us to support a number of important ministries using funds invested at the Diocesan Investment Trust. These gifts made possible a Capital Improvements Fund, the Angelica Spiritual Living Fund which promotes programs in the areas of spirituality, health, and education for our parishioners as well as for the community at large, and a \$50,000+ fund for the sponsorship of a Habitat for Humanity build in Orleans, (we made a similar commitment to a Habitat for Humanity build in 2009).

Through these generous gifts, funds supporting the church's operating account have grown to over \$4,000,000 as of the end of 2020. In recent years, we have drawn on these funds at the rate of 5.5% annually, and the funds have continued to grow. The years 2020 and 2021 have seen the impact of the COVID- epidemic which has brought financial challenges among the many difficulties all parishes have borne.

## Financial Numbers

### Actual / Budget 2022

Revenues \$	2019	2020	2021	2022
Pledge Receipts	296,954	283,964	286,308	269,255
Other offerings	58,391	37,032	43,615	46,600
Endowment/ Investment	190,766	214,076	237,585	290,903
Parish Hall Usage	6,473	550	1,750	5,000
Fundraising/ Bank Interest	11,588	6,596	5,604	7,080
Solar Field			13,288	12,500
Operating Income \$	564,172	542,218	588,150	631,338

### Expenses \$

Personnel	373,034	271,020	369,494	385,618
Office Administration	26,056	24,022	34,538	40,604
Parish Mission	44,600	48,684	39,718	53,200
Diocesan Assessment	57,276	61,766	63,998	60,615
Property	65,058	71,448	68,571	77,250
Insurance	16,175	17,315	17,870	19,455
Total Expenses \$	582,199	494,255	594,188	636,743
Surplus/(Deficit) \$	(18,027)	47,963	(6,038)	(5,405)

Total Outreach Grants including Diocesan Assessment	\$101,876	\$110,450	\$129,816	\$113,815
Pledgers	142	131	120	110
Average Pledge	\$2,257	\$2,293	\$2,371	\$2,348
Endowment Funds	\$4,951,475	\$5,168,286	\$6,162,630	

# Who's Who

**Transitional Priest in Charge:** The Reverend Joseph O. Robinson

**Assisting Priest:** The Reverend Gail Smith

## *Staff*

**Music Minister:** Joan Kirchner

**Office Assistant:** Debbi Manning

**Property Supervisor:** Wayne Currey

**Weekend Custodian:** Tony Johnson

## *Vestry Officers*

**Wardens:** Brenda Ridgeway, Celia Calhoun

**Treasurer:** Chris Crighton

**Clerk:** Priscilla Isner

## *Vestry Members*

Nancy Boccia

Tom Dewing

Kathy Goddard

John Harter

Ann Pike-Paris

Michele Puzo

Jack Sasso

Hanna Schneider

## *Search Committee*

**Co-Chairs:** Cynthia Murray, Ike Cole

**Co-Secretaries:** Celia Calhoun, Priscilla Isner

**Chaplain:** Doug Fromm

## **Members**

Brooke Eaton-Skea

Bob Hubby

Sharyn Laughton

Jen Marlin

Meg Nemitz

Rich Weeks



## *The Church of the Holy Spirit*

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THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 

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