



ALL SOULS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH PARISH PROFILE 2018



The Episcopal Church on the Beach

4025 Pine Tree Drive, Miami Beach, FL33140-3601

Phone: 305.520.5410 ▪ Fax: 305.520.5414

Email: parishoffice@allsoulsmb.org ▪ Website: www.allsoulsmb.org

MISSION, VISION AND GOALS

Our mission statement is reflective of the core values of All Souls'. We are a welcoming and inclusive community of faith, committed to creating a deeper sense of belonging with God and embracing others in community. We are a people of warmth and welcome where all join together in worship, fellowship and ministry. We celebrate many paths to the sacred, particularly through worship, relationships with one another, and outreach; all shaped and guided by the life, teachings and spirit of the Gospel.

In our Vision we claim and continue to grow toward becoming a diverse, inclusive, and radically welcoming community of faith committed to creating a deeper sense of belonging with God and embracing others in community.

Diversity is not just a word here, but a way of life on Miami Beach and the surrounding cities. It is no different at All Souls'. We are African-American, Anglo, Latino, Caribbean, Hispanic, Spanish, Russian, we are LGBT, we are straight and we embrace all peoples. It is a testimony to the fabric woven into the All Souls' community that we are able to welcome all of these cultures and mold them into a cohesive community of faith.

As part of a self-assessment process, we undertook the use of the *Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT)* to gain organizational intelligence about our congregation. This was followed by a congregational World Cafe conversation. We took all the data gathered into a strategic planning process, and in preparation for our clergy transition. In reflection on the data, a key principle for our Strategic Vision is: *Making Faithful Disciples*. As we continue to make faithful disciples among us, we will encourage each member to become a:

- Worshiper of God
- Student of scripture and involved in education/formation
- Witness of faith stories
- Neighbor to one another and the world
- Prophet and advocate for social change
- Generous steward of resources

Our strategic vision focused us on key areas for exploration, planning and change. We created strategic teams to work on goals and implementation plans on the following:

1. How we explore our spirituality and Episcopal tradition of faith
2. How we live in community
3. How we put our faith into action in the world
4. How we communicate and educate
5. How we steward our congregation's vibrancy

The work of these teams now informs the work of the Vestry and various groups within the congregation.

The CAT results revealed that we are a transitional church. We have strengths on which to build, including hospitality, morale, governance, conflict management and worship. We have challenges to work on, including our readiness for ministry, engagement in education and our size. We also learned that we are somewhat clergy-centric. We have relied on our Rector to make things happen. With our engagement in strategic planning, we began the journey of more intentional mutual ministry.

The CAT results also provided our congregation's priorities:

- Reaching New people
- Making the necessary changes to attract younger members and families with children
- Improve our Christian education/formation
- Develop more outreach ministry to those in need in the wider community
- Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships

Succinctly, All Souls' is a welcoming and giving community. We are a small but dedicated parish and over the years have seen a transitioning of our members due to retirement, ill health, and the distance to church. However, we are blessed to have a core group of faithful who are always ready to answer the call to serve when needed.

We are a destination church as most of our members do not live on Miami Beach, and more than half travels anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour to get to church.

We are part of a larger family and this is never more evident than at Hospitality Hour immediately following our 10:30 a.m. worship.

The rector who chooses All Souls' can expect the support, enthusiasm and sense of community which is the embodiment of All Souls' Episcopal Church, Miami Beach.

OUR COMMON LIFE and MINISTRIES

Our Worship:

The Eucharist is the heart of our worship. We hold two services every Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.



The 8:00 a.m. service is a contemplative celebration of the Eucharist without music and hymns, and follows the order of Rite II from The Book of Common Prayer. At 10:30 a.m. the service also follows the order of Rite II, and the celebration is accompanied by our choir with music and hymns, and appropriate ritual to engage our hearts, minds and all of our senses in the worship of God who is present in the Word and Sacrament.

Healing prayer occurs each Sunday immediately following the 10:30 am service and communion. Those who seek prayers, laying-on of hands and anointing kneel in the side chapel for healing prayers and the anointing of oil.

All Souls' has a small group of lay leaders who are called to serve in various and sometimes overlapping capacities.

ACOLYTES: We currently have five members of the congregation who serve as acolytes.

ALTAR GUILD: There are five faithful women who are responsible for taking care of the altar linens and vessels for Sunday services, weddings and funerals.



CHOIR: There is a wide variety of music at All Souls' and the choir is an integral part of the 10:30 am service. Although small in number, this talented and diverse group is blessed with a plethora of musical skills which allows for the incorporation of a variety of musical instruments

such as the flute, oboe, organ, piano, trumpet, harpsichord, portativ organ, and even a five foot rain stick – all designed to enhance the worship through the music ministry.



In addition to *The Hymnal 1982*, the service is enriched with music from additional hymnals including *Wonder, Love & Praise*, and *Lift Every Voice and Sing*. This wide variety of music is geared toward satisfying both the traditional and contemporary tastes. This versatile

group of people is led by the very talented and enthusiastic Choir Director, Gregory Spiess.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: The three Eucharistic Ministers participate in the administration of the Eucharist as chalice bearers, and one of the members is trained and commissioned to administer the sacraments to parishioners who are shut-in or hospitalized.

INTERCESSORS: There are currently four intercessors who lead the congregation in the Prayers of the People.

LECTORS: Lectors are assigned to read the Old and New Testament lessons and the Psalms each Sunday. The readings are preceded with very enlightening description of the assigned passages, and resonates well with the congregation.

Our Outreach:

All Souls' has a very busy campus sharing some outreach projects with members of the community. Our website gives a great overview for visitors seeking to know more about the All Souls' community. Visit us at www.allsoulsmb.org

- **Feed my Sheep:** Every 3rd Sunday, parishioners are asked to bring hard boiled eggs to feed the homeless in collaboration with the congregation from Trinity Cathedral.
- **Socktober:** Each October parishioners also provide the homeless with long cotton socks.
- **Harvest Drive:** During the period leading up to Thanksgiving, we kick off our Harvest Drive project which is a collaborative effort in partnership with Harvest Drive Florida, local schools, private individuals, and corporate sponsors to raise funds and food to feed needy families for at least a week including all the fixings for a complete Thanksgiving meal.
- **AA Meetings:** The Church is host to AA meetings on Sunday afternoons.
- **Angel Tree:** During the Christmas season an angel tree provides gifts for the children and families affected and living with HIV/AIDS.



Girls Scout: All Souls' has long hosted Girls Scouts Chapter 1239, for their special events such as parental training, and other selected events integral to their work. The closing ceremonies are conducted in our sanctuary. It is part of All Souls' Commitment to community outreach.



- **Hospitality** is one of the strengths of All Souls'. The congregation rotates on a weekly basis with the surnames divided to ensure participation of all. Because of the cultural diversity, folks are treated to great cuisine from many different countries. In addition to the regular Sunday Brunch, All Souls' has a Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday to herald in the season of Lent.



Service with a smile is the hallmark of All Souls' Hospitality Hour. Delicious food is served every Sunday after the 10:30 am service, and there are willing helpers, especially among the young people. Hospitality hour is more than partaking in a meal. It's a time for catching up with each other regarding the events of the week, and relaxing before going home.



Expectations & Challenges for the new Rector

Our former Rector came to us 11 years ago and during his tenure we saw challenges and fluctuating growth. As we move into a new chapter in the life of All Souls', *we are prayerfully seeking a Rector who has the vision, ability and potential to transform and lead us in the next era of our spiritual journey.* In addition, we seek a Rector:

- who has apparent faith in Jesus Christ
- who as a person with a deep prayer life, is a spiritual guide to lead us collectively and individually in our spiritual growth
- who is compassionate and knows how to listen and support the congregation
- who has the ability to lead effectively and delegate as needed
- who has proven entrepreneurial skills, or who shows promise in this area and is willing to learn
- who has the necessary skills to ensure the Parish's fiduciary responsibility is maintained
- who is an efficient and effective communicator not only in delivering a sermon but in being able to relate to the congregations' spiritual needs
- who has a gift for pastoral care and the sensitivity to know how to apply that gift
- who will help us to expand our outreach capabilities

- who will be approachable and relatable to all members of the church
- who is a good ambassador for the values of All Souls'
- who is joyful with a great sense of humor

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

The members supporting the parish are a small but mighty group and are somewhat of an aging population. However, the Church has been blessed with astute leadership which has been very creative in finding ways to improve the finances over the years. Sources of income include:

- The All Souls' Episcopal Church Foundation whose mission is to support the church, its physical plant, and mission. All Souls' maintains a healthy, stable foundation composed of emergency funds and diverse investments. The Foundation has been constructed to provide for short term, intermediate and long term needs of the church. The purpose of the foundation is to ensure the vibrancy of the church and our parishioners.
- In 1997, a Montessori School, Casa dei Bambini, was started as a pre-school for 3-6 year olds. Over the years the curriculum has grown and now offers classes from Kindergarten to Grade 6. The steady income from the school has gone a long way to allow us to maintain our Operating Budget annually.
- In addition, the church sits on prime parking space, and in 2011 an agreement was reached with King's Parking to manage the parking lot for weekdays and weekend, except in the event that the full use of the parking lot is needed by the Church.

All Souls' currently has 114 members of record. Plate offering is often increased due to a significant number of visitors who pass through All Souls' as we are the only Episcopal church on the Beach.

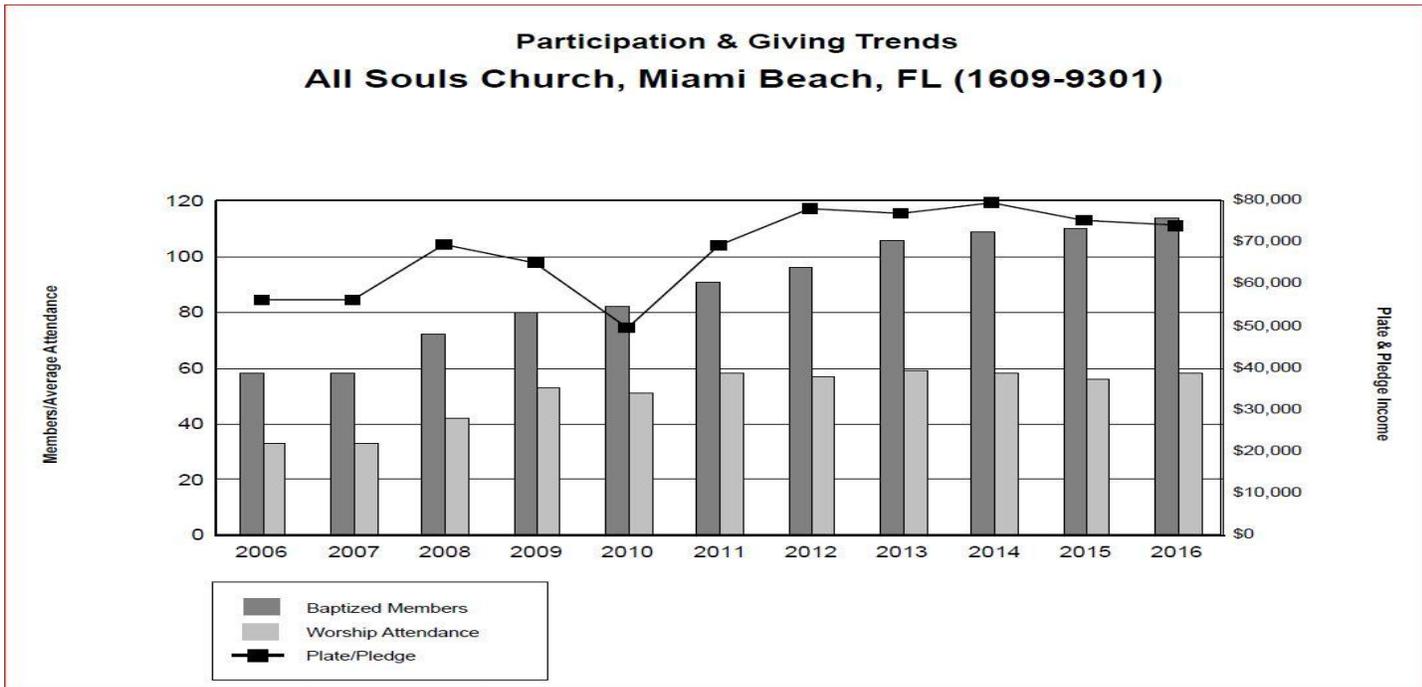
Our revenue sources are derived from

- Foundation
- Giving
- Rental Income
- Parking

Expenditure includes:

- Salaries
- Diocesan Assessment
- Outreach Programs

Average weekly attendance is typically 50 – 60, except on holidays or special events where attendance averages over one hundred.



History

When Miami Beach was incorporated as a beach resort city across Biscayne Bay from the City of Miami, there was no Episcopal Church on the Beach. In 1937 Bishop Wing of the Diocese of South Florida sent the Rev. J. Mitchell Taylor to survey the area to ascertain whether a church should be established on Miami Beach. Father Taylor was the then Rector of St. Andrew’s in Fort Pierce, and the former Vicar of Holy Comforter Church in Miami. Father Taylor found that there were over 300 Episcopalians living in the area who were eager to have their own church on the Beach.

Just as a suitable location for a church was identified on Belle Isle, the United States entered World War II and plans for the church were put on hold. In December 1941, Father Taylor and eight founding members met and agreed to proceed with the lease of the winter home of the late Dr. Joseph H. Adams at 18 Belle Isle on the Venetian Causeway between Downtown Miami and the Beach. The mansion contained a large music room, enough to seat three hundred people, and was equipped with a pipe organ.

The first service was held on February 28, 1943, after the installation of an altar, lectern, pulpit and pews, and so began a new mission with four hundred and fifty people attending two services that day. In April of that same year a Sunday School was instituted, and at the Diocesan Convention in May 1943, All Souls” was consecrated as a parish.



After the war the site of the present church located on the banks of Indian Creek was acquired, and on April 11, 1951, ground was broken for the construction of a new sanctuary and parish hall.

The construction for the parish hall was completed in time to hold Christmas Eve services. The altar from the Belle Isle mansion was

moved and installed in the new sanctuary. Coincidentally, the first service in the new sanctuary was held on Christmas Eve 1954.

In 1958, All Souls’ hosted the 59th General Convention of the Episcopal Church and took the opportunity to celebrate its consecration which was held on October 5, 1958, and conducted by Bishop Henry Loutitt, and Presiding Bishop Henry K. Sherril. The new buildings and grounds cost \$780,000.00, but had become debt-free the week before the consecration.

The Church was named All Souls’, given the founding vision that it would be a place for “all the good souls in Miami Beach to meet”. Today, the congregation is smaller in number but its membership still reflects the rich cultural diversity, style and color that epitomize the current City of Miami Beach.

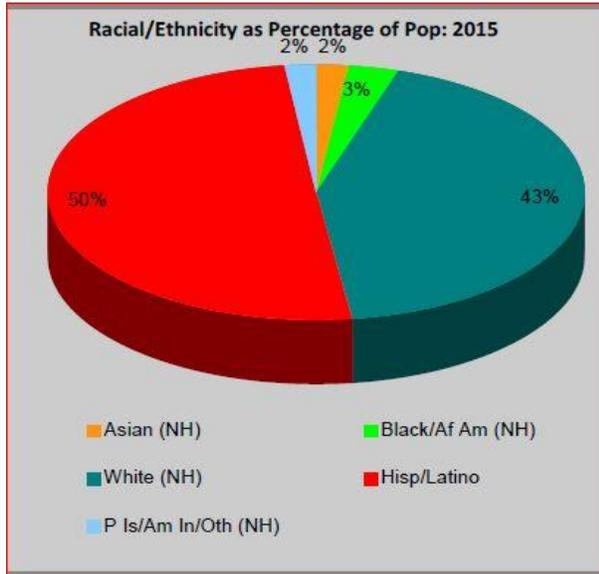
OUR COMMUNITY

All Souls’ sits in the midst of a residential neighborhood, schools and businesses on Arthur Godfrey Road. In addition to homes, we are positioned in close proximity to an elementary, middle and senior high school; businesses such as banks, physician practices, hardware stores, and of course a coffee shop.



In 2015 the US Census Bureau showed our geographic area code 33140 - which consists of the area south of North Bay Village and north of Dade Blvd, inclusive of Mid-Beach and Bayshore - to have a population of 22,577 containing 10,876 households and 5741 families. By year 2020, our area is anticipated to have a total population of 23,426 containing 11,294 households and 6005 families.

The racial-ethnic population trends of this area are projected to remain about the same (<0.1% change) over the next five years consisting of 51% White/Non-Hispanic, 44% Hispanic/Latino, 2% Black/African American, 2% Asian, and 1% Pacific Islander/Native American/Other.



The average age of our community in 2015 was 43 and is projected to increase to 44 by 2025.

Children 17 years of age and younger, as well as adults 55 years of age and older are increasing as a percentage of the total population. Within the population of school aged children,

there is some evidence of a resurgence in the younger years of 5 - 9, and a decline in ages 10 - 17. Of note, *Casa dei Bambini* – our onsite Montessori School – is Pre-K through Grade 6.

Current household and family yearly income trends show the average to be \$118,641 and is projected to grow by 6.4% to \$126,246 by 2020. In households with children under the age of 18, married couples number 63% and single parents number 36.9%. These numbers are estimated to change by 2020 to married couples at 62% and single parents at 38%. In this community, the current year estimate of marital status reveals a community of adults more likely to be married than the state average for adults.

The overall educational attainment of adults in our community is greater than the state. It has been rising over the past few years and is projected to rise over the next 5 years by 0.9%. As of the 2015 Census, 26.7% of adults in our community had Bachelor's Degrees and 27.6% had Graduate/Professional Degrees. We are well above the state average for White Collar workers at 72% and well below for Blue Collar workers at 12%. Our employed population by occupation numbers reflects 31.3% for Professional Specialists as compared to the state average of 19.7% from the 2015 Census.

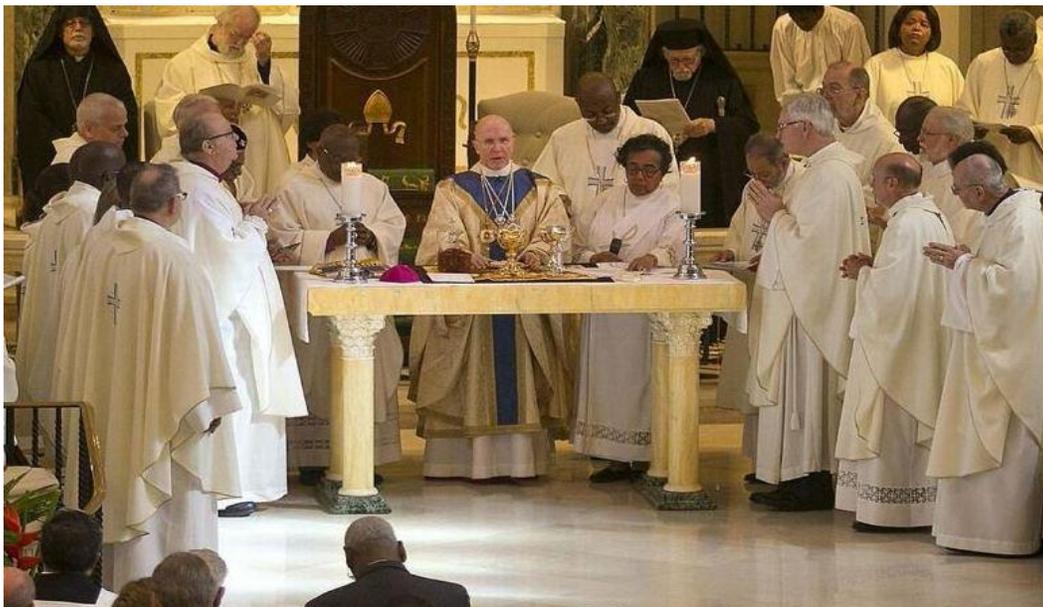
From a recent survey conducted by Mission Insite of US Religious Preferences, 34.4% of our community believes Religious/Spiritual Programs to be of modest importance, while 19.7% believe it to be of great importance. Further divisions of

the Religious/Spiritual Programs of great importance section are as follows: Traditional worship services – 32.4%, Spiritual discussion groups – 15.2%, Contemporary worship services – 18%, Christian education for children – 23%, Bible or Scripture study/prayer groups – 23%, and Alternative spiritual practices – 6.6%.

Overall, it is estimated that households in our community are well above the state average in their contributions to charities, while somewhat below in Religious contributions.

OUR DIOCESE

The mission of the Diocese of Southeast Florida is to make known to all people the transforming power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, including all. It is the vision of the diocese to build up and enable the Holy Spirit's continued transformation in the lives of the people; to tend to their needs by engaging in a ministry of compassion and comfort, especially to the needy in our midst; to be a truly mission-focused entity both within and beyond our borders; and to harvest God's fruit by welcoming new disciples and new congregations in the future. (*From the official Diocesan website: <http://www.diosef.org>*)



The bishop's seat is located at the Trinity Cathedral, downtown Miami. All Souls' has always maintained a collaborative relationship with the Cathedral and shares much the same vision and mission.



FACILITIES & RESOURCES



Among All Souls' distinctive features are the beautiful stained glass windows which surrounds the church. The windows depicts the twelve disciples in their various roles.



The columns are interspersed with equally beautiful inlaid tablets chronicling the 14 Stations of the Cross. These tablets are an integral and meaningful part of services on Good Friday as we retrace the steps of our Lord.

The beautiful Rose Window sits just above the Altar and is a majestic sight with the backdrop of the sun shining through. Visitors are often drawn to the view of this window to take pictures after the service.

This visual picture is further enhanced with the beautiful bouquets which grace the Altar each Sunday except for during the Lenten and Advent Seasons.



The structure houses the church, sacristy and Choir Room and seats approximately 360 people. There is a quadrangle on the left side of the church which houses a serenity garden and columbarium where the ashes of deceased parishioners are interred.



The Parish Hall, fittingly named Taylor Hall for our founding and longest serving Rector, the Rev. J. Mitchell Taylor, doubles as classrooms for the Casa dei Bambini Montessori School during the week, and is the place where the congregation gathers after Church for fellowship hour.

SERAPHIC FIRE



In recent years the nave was repaired and refinished and is now blessed with spectacular acoustics and is currently the Miami Beach venue to for the twice Grammy nominated Chamber Choir *Seraphic Fire*.

They are entering into their 16th season and are regarded as one of the preeminent professional vocal ensembles in the United States.

Other community musical groups and schools utilize our facilities as well.

PAID STAFF

All Souls' currently has the following employees:

- Choir Director
- Office Personnel
- Hospitality Help
- Cleaner

VESTRY

The Vestry is comprised of eight members serving three-year terms. The Nominating Committee each year is made up of those members whose terms are ending. The slate is presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting in January, at which time all member vote for the new members. The Vestry meets once per month and the Treasurer is present at these meetings, but is a non-voting member.

SEARCH COMMITTEE PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, prosper with your blessing the mission of All Souls' Episcopal Church. Deepen, we pray, our love for Christ Jesus and for one another. As we lift the members of the Search Committee to you, we ask that your guidance and light may be upon them. Fill them with wisdom, and grant them courage and boldness as together they discern your will for a new Rector and Pastor for this congregation. Surround them with your unconditional and abiding love and illumine them with the glorious light of your salvation. We ask these things in the Holy and sacred name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen