



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated May 19, 2022)

St Paul's, San Joaquin

Modesto, CA, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 06/10/22.

canonanna@diosanjoaquin.org

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
75	1	1	
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
\$68000			
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
\$5202	\$68000		We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options Clergy only	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
	Yes		
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
4		2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$1001-\$2000/year	Yes	No	No

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Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry which you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

In August 2019, we hosted "Modesto Stands Against Hate" which was a "Unity Gathering" of ecumenical and interfaith leaders, elected officials, the NAACP, Faith in the Valley and other community members to stand together in support of the LGBTQ+ community. The gathering was in response to a proposed local gathering of the Proud Boys, who had announced a protest in the city of Modesto. We had approximately 400 people attend our gathering, which was filled with song, poetry, and speeches offered by those in attendance. Likewise, in April 2021, members of St Paul's attended a gathering in support of the Asian American/Pacific Islander community after hate crimes against the AAPI community had happened on a national level. We view these gatherings as "successes" because they speak to the ways in which we live out the Gospel imperative to love your neighbor as yourself.

How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?

COVID was an excellent litmus test of how prepared (or not) we are to be the Church of the future. We very quickly had to pivot when we went into lockdown, shifting services and formation programs to ZOOM (adult formation, VBS, Sunday School and Youth Group) and live-streaming our worship on Facebook. We also started using BREEZE which is an online giving and communications platform, which helped us to continue receiving pledges and what would have been "open plate" offerings, as well as streamline our communications between the staff and Vestry to the rest of the congregation. We continue to do weekly email blasts about upcoming events and have an e-newsletter. Even as we have returned to in-person worship, we continue live-streaming our services, and many of our formation programs are either hybrid (online and in person) or strictly on ZOOM. We pray that the Holy Spirit will help us find a clergy leader who is not only tech savvy, but also forward thinking about the ways in which we can continue to grow and adapt to the future needs of the church and the community.

Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.

tech savvy, community oriented, communications, compassionate

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Describe your liturgical style and practice for all types of worship services provided by your community.

Prior to COVID, we had two services each Sunday—8am and 10am. The 8am service was a more intimate service in one of the small chapels, with no music and the laity would step into roles such as reader and acolyte as needed. The 10am service included the choir, occasionally the Bell Choir (depending on liturgical season) and Eucharist. During COVID and following the protocols outlined by the diocese, we shifted to online worship at 10am with no music. Once we were allowed to return to in-person worship, we continued to live-stream services through social media platforms, and as protocols allowed, music returned first as piano/organ only, then piano/organ and a soloist, and now with the choir masked. We still require that all those in attendance must wear masks and practice social distancing. We hope to resume the 8am worship service with the calling of our next priest. We typically use Rite II of the BCP, along with prayers from *Enriching Our Worship*, and include some Spanish language elements. Our music comes from *The Hymnal 1982*, *Wonder, Love & Praise*, and *Lift Every Voice & Sing II*.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Prior to COVID, we would have a “Ministry Fair” with tables throughout the parish hall during coffee hour. Parishioners could talk to someone directly involved with the various ministries, and then sign up to be included in those ministries. Examples of ministries available include: Eucharistic Visitors and Ministers, Altar Guild, Choir, Acolytes, Food Distribution with Salvation Army, assisting with Family Promise, Newcomers Bread ministry, Dinners with Salvation Army shelter, clean up day at the church, and window washing day. Since COVID, we have not had a “Ministry Fair” and look forward to resuming this important event. We would also welcome our new clergy person to provide formation on stewardship as a spiritual practice, with the understanding that Time and Talent (i.e., ministry) is part of the stewardship calling.

As a worshipping community, how do you care for your spiritual, emotional and physical well-being?

We take formation opportunities seriously at St Paul's! We offer Bible Study on Thursday afternoons and Morning Prayer on Wednesday mornings. We have a book study gathering twice a month as well. Knit One Pray Too meets on the 3rd Monday of the month and each year the group decides what its project will be (blankets to foster children, baby booties and beanies, etc); this year the Assyrian church women will be joining our group. We also have a Thomas Merton poetry group, Sunday School for children via ZOOM, Vacation Bible School, Adult Sunday School from time to time, Lenten soup suppers and study, Shrove Tuesday supper and talent show, Education for Ministry (EfM), and several fund raisers as well—Fall Pasta Dinner, the Spring Tea, the Cookie Walk, and Breakfast with Santa. While we haven't been able to do everything we would like to during COVID (not everything translates well over ZOOM), we look forward to resuming our robust opportunities for fellowship and formation in the days ahead.

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How do you engage in pastoral care for those beyond your worshipping community?

We take the call to love our neighbor as ourselves and Matthew 25 to heart at St Paul's. We live out the gospel by providing dinners as well as toiletries and other commodities to the Salvation Army shelter. We support the Gospel Mission and Church in the Park's shower bus ministry by donating toiletries, underwear, socks, and other items needed for their services. Several members participate as mentors to children who are no longer in the foster care system through the BRAID Mission, which is hosted by the Diocese of CA. We also serve with Habitat for Humanity, Family Promise (temporary housing for families), The Gap (support group for parents of LGBTQ+ youth), and support El Vista School through tutoring and music programs. Our music minister also teaches music at Hazel's Christian Preschool, which is hosted on our campus. We also provide packets of socks, toiletries, gloves, masks and a small financial gift to homeless veterans in the area.

Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical region.

We value the opportunity to be involved in the life of the diocese and The Episcopal Church! On the deanery (regional) level, we have hosted a multi-church EfM program, attended workshops and fellowship gatherings offered by other congregations in our deanery, donated bicycles and food to St John's HUB ministry in Stockton, and attended ecumenical and interfaith events and services. On the diocesan level, members of our congregation have served on Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and Commission on Ministry. Members have also served on the diocesan Finance Committee, the Creation Care Commission, the Anti-Racism Commission and the COVID Task Force. We attend Diocesan Convention and Building Church Leaders (Wardens & Treasurer's workshop) each year. On the wider Church level, we have had members serve as Deputies to General Convention, we have made financial pledges to The Episcopal Church, our deacon is one of our diocesan representatives to the Association of Episcopal Deacons, we support our members in the Union of Black Episcopalians, and we have members who are Daughters of the King.

Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past five years. Who can be contacted about this?

Due to a generous donation, we are able to provide packs of socks, toiletries, snacks, gloves and masks to homeless veterans in the area. Along with these items, the donation specifies that each packet is to include a \$10 bill. The donor believes, as do those who work with this ministry, that this small financial gift provides dignity to the receiver—they are able to purchase food, water, personal hygiene supplies, or whatever they need on their own and are not dependent upon a handout of items that they might not use. This ministry is headed up by parishioners Judy Thorkelson and Michael Thorington.

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What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?

This is definitely an area of growth for us. We subscribe to TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship) through the diocese, and our former priest was a diocesan representative to the Project Resource training offered by The Episcopal Church Foundation, which was a training on year-round stewardship, but we really need some help in this area. We aspire to have a year-round stewardship program and have set aside some financial resources to allow representatives to attend a TENS conference. We aspire to teach the congregation about legacy planning and large gift donations. And most importantly, we aspire to understand stewardship not as a “season” in the church year, but rather as a spiritual practice, and to invite parishioners to tell their stories of why St Paul’s matters to them and the community.

What is your worshipping community’s experience of conflict? And how have you addressed it?

In the narrative profile for St Paul’s we go into greater detail about the merging of Christ the King Episcopal Church with St Paul’s in 2015. While many of the people who came from Christ the King have either moved away or have since died, there are still some hurt feelings from the members of that congregation. In 2017, we invited Eric Law of the Kaleidoscope Institute to work with us on conflict resolution and reconciliation, and we had some important turning points in that process, but there is still work to be done. In the years between the merger and Eric Law’s visit with us, we continued to have issues with communication breakdowns, hurt feelings, criticism of leadership (both within the parish and the diocese), unrealistic expectations and unfulfilled promises...all of which the ghosts of these issues still linger and appear from time to time when the congregation is feeling anxious. While we don’t expect our next clergy person to relitigate the past, we do hope that our cleric will help us continue moving towards resolution and reconciliation through clear communication, compassion and deep listening.

What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?

As previously mentioned, the merging of St Paul’s and Christ the King was probably the most significant change we’ve experienced in our communal life. While there was a plan to make this merger happen, because of the schism attempted by the former bishop, members of both congregations were suspicious of diocesan leadership and decisions that were being made. There were also unrealistic expectations and unfulfilled promises made by congregation members, as well as assumptions about how leadership transitions would take place between Vestry members and clergy. Both congregations have several members with strong personalities, which often made compromise difficult and challenging. What we learned was the importance of deep listening, how to be compassionate and empathetic with each other, how to share leadership responsibilities, and how to have healthy disagreements with one another. We are also continuing to learn how to work towards reconciliation and healing with one another.

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Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Nick Lorenzetti	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2015-01	2021-01

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
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Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
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Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School	Number of Students for Adults School
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Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School
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Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio
(last updated May 19, 2022)

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Contact:
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Worshipping Community Web site: www.diosanjoaquin.org/employment

Media Links:

Online References:

> <https://www.saintpaulsmodesto.org/>

Languages Significantly Represented:

English

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English

Please see the diocesan website for the narrative profile. Please submit resume and OTM profile to: canonanna@diosanjoaquin.org

References

Bishop:

David C. Rice

bishopdavid@diosanjoaquin.org 209-576-0104

Diocesan Transition Minister

Anna Carmichael

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Current Warden/Board Chair

Joyce Bell

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader