



St. Thomas Episcopal Church Berea, Ohio



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Our Diocese

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The Diocese of Ohio was formed in 1817 as the first diocese established beyond the 13 colonies. The 12th and current bishop, the Right Reverend Anne B. Jolly, was ordained and consecrated as bishop on April 29, 2023. She is the first woman to hold that ecclesiastical post in Ohio. Serving in the Diocese of Ohio means that you join with an engaged, visionary Bishop who is inspiring us to be more faithful, healthy, effective, and sustainable followers of Jesus Christ in our unique contexts.

The Diocese of Ohio consists of 76 congregations stretching across the 48 counties in the northern half of Ohio, an area approximately 170 miles wide and 95 miles deep. The diocesan offices are located within Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland. We welcome everyone to our doors, from lifelong Episcopalians to seekers looking for God, to those with a less specific sense that something is missing in life.



In 2017, the Diocese dedicated Bellwether Farm in Wakeman Township, near the demographic center of the diocese. Bellwether is a camp, conference, and retreat center situated on a regenerative farm designed to foster innovative community and educational partnerships.

Our Faith Community



St. Thomas Episcopal Church, a small but active membership with a rich history in the Diocese of Ohio, seeks a 3/4 time **Priest-in-Charge** to lead a congregation of dedicated Christians who seek to serve Christ in all persons, both in the parish and the community.

We are seeking a priest who wants to connect more deeply with our neighbors and the community at large.

We hope our next priest will be a compassionate leader who will help this warm, welcoming parish find innovative ways to grow. This person would also help us listen to how the Holy Spirit is directing us, not only in growth, but also in caring for each other.

Pastoral care is important to this congregation, but we also see this as a priest-parish partnership. We seek someone who connects well with young people, and will help us expand our community and college outreach.



Our Community

Worship is central to our identity, and our congregation values preaching that is thoughtful, engaging, and faithful.



The church itself sits between the north and south campuses of Baldwin Wallace University, which is home to the oldest collegiate Bach Festival in the country. Berea is a small-town gem with a healthy sense of community. Multiple cultural and recreational opportunities await.



The Cleveland Metroparks cuts through the town with miles of bike paths, lakes and hiking trails to be enjoyed year round. Additionally, Berea is just 16 miles from downtown Cleveland and Lake Erie. Cleveland's Playhouse Square is the second largest theater district in the country, following New York City's Broadway.

Qualifications

This priest-in-charge position is 3/4 time.

Primary areas of responsibility include: sharing in pastoral care, worship leadership, preaching, teaching and sacramental ministry; and equipping, encouraging and mentoring lay leaders in shared leadership.

Salary and benefits are competitive and follow diocesan guidelines.

The qualifications for this position include: being an ordained priest in The Episcopal Church or a church in full communion, strong communication skills in preaching, teaching and relationship building, commitment to inclusion, justice and the dignity of every human being, a pastoral presence marked by humility, emotional intelligence and warmth, and a vision for creating connections with the surrounding community.

By the Numbers



Total Baptized
Members: 256



Average Sunday
Attendance: 26



Number of
Pledge Units: 35



Total Income:
\$202,659



Annual Expenses:
\$180,031



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Interested candidates are invited to submit cover letter describing their sense of call, along with a resumé and current Vocation Hub profile to the Rev. Canon Jessie Gutsell Dodson, at jdodson@dohio.org.

www.stthomaschurch-berea.org
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