



Office for
Transition
Ministry

Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio (last updated Mar 20, 2023)

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Church, Kingston, New York

30 Pine Grove Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/01/23.

snydercharles656@gmail.com

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	Number of Weekend Worship Services	Number of Weekday Worship Services	Number of Other per Month Worship Services
75	2		
Current Annual Compensation	Cash Stipend	Housing / Rectory Detail	Utilities
SECA reimbursement	Compensation Available for New Position	Housing Available for	Pension Plan
		4	We're in compliance with CPF requirements.
Healthcare Options	Dental	Housing Equity Allowance in budget	Annual Equity Amount
Vacation Weeks	Vacation Weeks Details	Continuing Education Weeks	Continuing Education Weeks Details
One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)		2 (standard)	
Continuing Education Funding in budget	Sabbatical Provision	Travel/Auto Account	Other Professional Account
\$501-\$1000/year	Yes	Yes	

We are calling a Priest-in-Charge, compensation & benefits according to diocesan guidelines.

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Church, Kingston, New York

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/01/23.

snydercharles656@gmail.com

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

Our church has been through many special times of triumph. A very poignant one is the success of the most recent First Communion class, which was the largest class the Latino congregation has ever had. It was very different from previous classes in that it was taught in two languages, English and Spanish, because there were children who only spoke English or only Spanish. It was a very beautiful time due to the dedication not only of the parents, but of the children as well. Many parents reported that their children were so engaged that they would rather come to class than go to parties on Sundays. It was so beautiful for the teachers to see the children's devotion to studying, participating, and asking deep questions about God. They were so excited to learn more about God and the Bible stories! And it was so beautiful for the entire congregation to see so many children at their First Communion.

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

Our commitment to our parish is to fully engage in truly becoming ONE congregation that worships in two languages. After enduring many years of low church attendance, our parish is now growing. New members find their way here, for both the English and the Spanish services. Young families are excited and engaged by a Gospel centered on social justice and equity. It is this aspect of Holy Cross/Santa Cruz that draws families in, and we hope to continue that into the future. The lifeblood of any church is its youth, and we see our young people as the key to our future as ONE congregation. Many of the Latino and Anglo children know each other from school, soccer, band, etc. Spanish is taught in the middle and high schools in the Kingston City School District, and many of our Latino children are bilingual or English-dominant. We really hope to create and foster programs like a youth group, bilingual communion and confirmation classes, and other activities or retreats. We hope that our new rector will be interested in and engaged with our young people, to shepherd this process!

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

Engaging. Inspiring. Humble. Optimistic.

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Church, Kingston, New York

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/01/23.

snydercharles656@gmail.com

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

Holy Cross was founded as one of the Anglican Catholic parishes in the Diocese. As such we consider ourselves High Church, a place of ritual. We celebrate Holy Communion, Rite 2, every Sunday in both an English and a Spanish service. Each service has a choir/music accompaniment, with much singing and chanting involved. On High Holy Days we usually do a joint Eucharistic service alternating languages and using incense, held on the appropriate day.

How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

We are a very welcoming community! After the morning/English service we have a coffee hour to which all are invited, and special efforts are made to welcome all newcomers. Fellowship and food for special events like parishioners' birthdays occurs after the evening/Spanish service. Bilingual services are always followed by a potluck supper. The bulletin regularly includes invitations to join in the different ministries (altar guild, lector, acolyte, etc.). We also encourage our members to volunteer with UIDN, or our other long-standing outreach services such as the thrift shop or the soap closet. Currently, a Bible study is being offered by Zoom, twice weekly. At our annual meeting this year, we made the explicit commitment to involve the entire parish in some sort of ministry or service, and we will work toward that end moving forward.

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

Our spiritual, emotional and physical well-being is closely connected with our outreach projects. A significant part of our identity involves living the Gospel as service to others. The congregation is involved in the service as greeters, lectors, acolytes, choir and altar guild members. Our services embrace Christ's presence in a forgiving, loving and healing way. Bible study is offered at a variety of times throughout the year. Music is also integral to our spiritual well-being. Our church is blessed with excellent acoustics, and we have an accomplished organist, active choir, talented Latino minister of music, and much of our service is sung. We enjoy food and fellowship in our parish hall. We have a "Ladies Night Out" once a month when the women of the congregation (both Anglo and Latino) meet at a restaurant or home and share a meal. One parishioner started a monthly newsletter to keep us updated on each other's lives during COVID (which has continued to the present time, by popular demand!). We also have a writers' group. It's not uncommon to hear someone say, "I came here and was so warmly welcomed that I decided to make it my new church home."

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Church, Kingston, New York

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/01/23.

Contact:
snydercharles656@gmail.com

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

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz, as mentioned above, is committed to being a church-in-the-world. Through our various outreach programs (soap closet, thrift shop) and our involvement in community organizations (UIDN, the Kingston Interfaith Council, the Black Ministers' Alliance) we are involved in pastoral care beyond our parish. Our rectors have always made an effort: pay home or hospital visits, help community members with immigration issues such as writing letters or doing translations, and to make Holy Cross/Santa Cruz a presence in the wider community.

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

Our involvement in our community is centered in our existence as a congregation that worships in two languages but otherwise acts as a single community. In the tumultuous political climate after the 2016 presidential election, faith leaders and congregants in our community founded a network of safe churches/synagogues/mosques/temples to protect our neighbors from seized deportation. The original intent was to provide traditional sanctuary, but as the demand was not high for this service. Later, the organization pivoted to meet the needs of people for transportation to court hearings and legal support; domestic support in the form of housing assistance, food, and clothing; education support and tutoring for school-age children; and a bilingual helpline. Holy Cross/Santa Cruz has been involved every step of the way - we provide the physical space for UIDN's office and food pantry, and we shepherded all monetary donations to UIDN until their 501(c)3 status was established. There is a strong sense among our congregation that Christian faith involves welcoming the stranger, and supporting the oppressed. We challenge our new rector to embrace and continue this work with us.

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

The aforementioned establishment and support of the Ulster Immigrant Defense Network embodies Holy Cross/Santa Cruz's worship life and Christian witness within the broader community and its commitment to relevancy, current events, advocacy, and social discourse. UIDN now has two part-time staff members: a caseworker and a fundraiser, and serves over 1,000 immigrants in Ulster County. Through its weekly market, UIDN distributes food to hundreds of families each week. Community members access direct services through its bilingual helpline. These services include transportation for medical and legal appointments, such as ICE check-ins and court hearings; legal representation in selected asylum cases; rent and utility payments for those in urgent need; and donation of furniture, clothing, toys, gift cards, backpacks, and school supplies. As UIDN was born in our parish hall, we take our commitment to this organization very seriously, and look forward to our new rector doing the same.

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Church, Kingston, New York

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/01/23.

snydercharles656@gmail.com

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

Several times a year, the entire congregation comes together for a bilingual service, followed by a potluck supper. Before the pandemic, these gatherings involved food, music, and fellowship. Due to the inability to social-distance in our parish hall, we stopped doing them during 2020 and 2021; but we recently held our first one in several years in December 2022, and we hope to revive the tradition. In the months leading up to pledge season, several volunteers speak during Sunday services to give testimony to what Holy Cross/Santa Cruz means to them, and how important our church community is in their lives. As our congregation is just recently emerging from financial insecurity and hardship, we are especially grateful that we are finally able to support ourselves, and have the potential to call a new full-time bilingual rector to unite our entire congregation.

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

One of our very low moments was losing the priest of the Latino congregation. Due to the circumstances for which he had to leave, the congregation, and the community, lost faith in the parish as a whole. Many congregants felt betrayed, and either quit coming to church entirely or found a different church. Attendance at the Spanish service plummeted, and some Sundays saw nobody in attendance. It has taken us many years to rebuild trust and respect within the Latino community, and the current increase in our membership is due to the hard work and dedication of our clergy and a few devoted families. We try to be as welcoming and inclusive as we can to encourage new people to want to return. A big goal is trying to promote inclusivity and the sense of a family. Before the departure of the former priest, we were not just a congregation, but a family, and we endeavor to re-create those relationships. We do this by making sure we acknowledge new members, being there for people when they need us, and participating in the traditions of many Latino cultures (posadas, ofrendas, quinceañeras) to make us unified.

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?

While the dismissal of a priest is one that would challenge any congregation, the loss alluded to above was particularly difficult, as the priest was beloved by both the Latino and the Anglo congregations. The timing was also unfortunate because the Latino congregation was just beginning to solidify and had grown to include a substantial base. The void left the Latino congregation without leadership, and all but a few of those congregants were lost. Fortunately our Anglo priest has passable Spanish and he stepped in to continue the Latino service schedule until such time that a replacement could be identified. Change is difficult, and it is magnified in parish life. With change a natural attrition, while painful, is sadly predictable. This obviously stressed the parish, but remaining steadfast in faith, the damage was stemmed and as further stated above we are stronger than ever.



Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio
(last updated Mar 20, 2023)

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Church, Kingston, New York

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/01/23.

snydercharles656@gmail.com

Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Frank Alagna	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2011-01	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Filomena Servellon	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2013-01	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
The Rev. Frank Wallner	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	1987-01	2008-01

Church School YES		Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School 4	Number of Students for Children School 15
-----------------------------	--	--	---

Number of Teachers/Leaders for Teen/Young Adults School 2	Number of Students for Teen/Young Adults School 6	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Adults School	Number of Students for Adults School 9
---	---	--	--

Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School
------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------



Ministry Portfolio

Full Portfolio
(last updated Mar 20, 2023)

Holy Cross/Santa Cruz Church, Kingston, New York

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 05/01/23.

Contact:
snydercharles656@gmail.com

Worshipping Community Web site: <https://www.holycrosskingston.org/>

Media Links:

> <https://ulsterimmigrantdefensenetwork.org/>

Online References:

> <https://www.facebook.com/HolyCrossSantaCruzEpiscopalChurch>

Languages Significantly Represented:

English, Spanish

Provide Worship or Classes in:

English, Spanish

References

Bishop:

Diocesan Transition Minister

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader