



Office for  
Transition  
Ministry

# Ministry Portfolio

*Full Portfolio (last updated Oct 13, 2021)*

## Christ Church Bronxville, New York

17 Sagamore Road, Bronxville, NY 10708, United States

Contact:

Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge | Receiving Names until 11/08/21.

[search@ccbny.org](mailto:search@ccbny.org)

Weekly Average Sunday  
Attendance (ASA)

**269**

Number of Weekend  
Worship Services

**3**

Number of Weekday  
Worship Services

Number of Other per Month  
Worship Services

Current Annual  
Compensation

Cash Stipend

Housing / Rectory Detail

Utilities

SECA reimbursement

Compensation Available for  
New Position

Housing Available for

Pension Plan

**We're in compliance with  
CPF requirements.**

Healthcare Options

**Full family**

Dental

**Yes**

Housing Equity Allowance in  
budget

**Yes**

Annual Equity Amount

Vacation Weeks

**One month, including 5  
Sundays (standard)**

Vacation Weeks Details

Continuing Education Weeks

**2 (standard)**

Continuing Education Weeks  
Details

Continuing Education  
Funding in budget

**\$1001-\$2000/year**

Sabbatical Provision

**Yes**

Travel/Auto Account

**Yes**

Other Professional Account

*We are calling a Rector, compensation & benefits according to diocesan guidelines.*

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

One of the most meaningful traditions at Christ Church Bronxville is the annual pilgrimage our youth group (EYC) makes to the Monastery in Taizé, France. Our teens, together with our clergy and youth minister, have traveled to Taizé for 15 years. The groups include teens from a number of different area high schools, and scholarships are available so that all who are interested may participate. They experience community prayer, bible study, song, silence, personal reflection and sharing. Most return transformed. Many make the trip all four years in high school because the experience is so moving. Our last group traveled in February of 2020, just before Covid overtook our lives. They too returned energized. When Covid caused the world to retreat into isolation, the brothers at Taizé began to livestream their evening prayer. Some teens continued to participate in those livestreams throughout Lent. We are proud that our youth took the initiative to engage with their community in prayer during this most difficult time, and trust that faithful devotion will remain central to their lives.

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

The Episcopal church is focused on how to engage the community in the fabric of our parishes. We have attended annual CEEP conferences focused addressing the use of church buildings to benefit the community, how church is perceived in the community, and how to use Design Thinking in innovating programs and ministries. CCB has been engaged in this effort for years. We purposely established Young at Arts in 2005, drawing youth from the surrounding area to our grounds and offering significant scholarships to promising students. YAA alumni have earned scholarships to outstanding colleges. During the pandemic, YAA used our outdoor spaces for rehearsals. Other ministries likewise moved outdoors: our monthly food collections were conducted on the church steps. Our annual blessing of the animals took place in our columbarium, as did our magnificent Easter liturgies. What was previously going on inside our walls came outside for all to see and share. We also devote significant resources to developing our youth. We have a full-time youth minister leading our EYC. A measure of our EYC's success is the number of young people who later return to the parish to serve, share, and worship.

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

Inspirational preaching. Compassionate leadership. Open Communication. Skillful administration.

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

CCB's worship is centered around the Eucharist, and we have long been known for our Sarum Use. Before Covid, CCB celebrated three Eucharistic services each Sunday. We are now returning to our normal schedule. The 8 a.m. service is traditional Rite I. The 10 a.m. is the principal service at the high altar with procession, choir, sung Eucharist, and incense. Church school and nursery are offered during this service. The 5 p.m. service is a more contemplative Taizé-style Eucharist. During the summer, one 9:30 service is offered, alternating between Rite 1 and Rite II. During Covid, the parish moved to online worship. Noonday prayer, with musical meditation, was livestreamed weekdays from March through June, and the Liturgy of the Word was celebrated each Sunday through the summer of 2020. Great attention was devoted to these services to maintain the beauty of our traditional in-person services. Our staff singers - masked and distanced - joined livestreams of Sunday Eucharist beginning in September 2020 and resumed monthly Evensong in January 2021. We returned to in-person worship celebrating Easter Sunday in our Columbarium, and in-person worship in the church resumed after Easter.

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How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?

Parishioners of all ages play active roles in weekly services. A diverse lay ministry act as thurifers, healing ministers, altar guild members, greeters, ushers, lectors, musicians, church school teachers, and coffee hour hosts. Our confirmation class act as torch bearers; older teens join the services as clerks (crucifers) and chalice bearers. During Covid, when we moved to online worship, parishioners offered readings from home. Our choir prepared beautiful recordings to elevate our virtual services. And while we could not gather to worship, many parishioners still visited the church for our twice monthly food drives to support our neighbors suffering from food insecurity during the pandemic.

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

Our Guild of Saint Raphael is a ministry of healing prayer whose members pray daily for our confirmation students, and those on the church's prayer list and the Guild's private prayer list. As needed, members administer Holy Communion to the homebound and provide meals and comfort. In Pre-Covid days, a healing service was offered one Sunday per month with individual blessings offered to parishioners after communion. During the pandemic, a team of vestry members and volunteers reached out to other parishioners by phone just to check in and provide warmth and community during the loneliest days of the lockdown. Our EYC is an inclusive and compassionate group offering support to its members. In times of difficulty, whether on a local level such as a death in the community, or one on a larger scale, such as the death of George Floyd or the pandemic, the group has found ways to support and sustain its members. We have recently started yoga for prayer and tai chi groups as we emerge from the pandemic seeking health, healing, and new ways to gather in community.

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

CCB has been a hub of activity in Bronxville for many years and is deeply involved in caring for those beyond our worshipping community. Two long-standing integrated auxiliaries, Eliza Corwin Frost Child Center (ECF) and Young at Arts (YAA) reside at CCB. Since its inception in 1973, ECF has provided children from ages 1-5 with strong foundations of social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development through dynamic, play-based learning experiences and partnerships with parents and the community. YAA, founded in 2005, is a performing arts educational organization dedicated to helping young people expand their horizons and build character, compassion, and commitment through professional level training in vocal and instrumental music, musical theater, and movement. We also have a vibrant food ministry supporting 2 local hunger relief efforts. We regularly support Midnight Run, distributing food, clothing, blankets and personal care items to those experiencing homelessness on the streets of NYC. Our middle and high school students participate in this effort, offering Breakfast Runs, where they distribute breakfast & essential items to those experiencing homelessness and hunger.

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

CCB is active in the NY Diocese and beyond. We supported our former rector's participation on Diocesan committees and as faculty and a board member of the General Theological Seminary. Our youth minister serves on the planning committee of EAST (Episcopal Asian Supper Table), the Asian American ministry of the diocese. She also serves on the Global Mission Commission and was involved in planning the 2021 national leadership conference for Asian Pacific American Episcopalians. Two parishioners serve as board members of Episcopal Charities, including one of our wardens who has been honored by Episcopal Charities for his service. Our EYC has been used as a model for the Diocese. During the summer of 2019, teens from our EYC and Young at Arts program welcomed other youth from the Diocese for a mission trip to Puerto Rico. The group installed solar panels and a water purification system in a community still affected by Hurricane Maria. They also spread love through music, performing a benefit concert at the Episcopal Cathedral in San Juan where they were joined by NY Yankee legend (and accomplished classical guitarist) Bernie Williams.

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

Christ Church's food ministry began in 2019, with monthly collections to benefit St. James Church Fordham. In the spring of 2020, CCB began another monthly collection to benefit the food ministry at Grace Episcopal Church in White Plains. Monetary donations were also accepted for these efforts so that parishioners who did not feel comfortable shopping and delivering food items during the pandemic could still participate. Approximately \$25,000 has been raised for these efforts since their inception. Funds are used to buy much-needed items to supplement generous food donations. Each month volunteers collect, sort, shop, and deliver carloads of shelf-stable items to these churches for distribution in their communities. Social media drew our neighbors to contribute. Dozens of volunteers have participated. In November and December 2020, CCB delivered hundreds of "meal bags" to Grace Episcopal. Each bag contained items to provide a family holiday meal. Some parishioners included cards, gifts, or favorite food items from their own holiday celebrations in the meal bags that they donated, sharing holiday joy during a difficult year. Contact kevincook@optonline.net about our food ministry.

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

In addition to annual stewardship drives, CCB recently completed a successful \$1.8 million capital campaign to fund renovations to our buildings. We have an extraordinary sacred space which includes a magnificent organ, as well as impressive working and performance spaces. All are well maintained, and very little deferred maintenance remains after our recent capital campaign. Proper stewardship of our buildings requires great resources, but in turn, allows us to fulfill our mission. We have an endowment of approximately \$1 million, approximately half of which is unrestricted. We use about 5% of the unrestricted funds annually. Every year we have succeeded in raising the funds necessary to pay our staff and continue our excellent programming. However, our 2021 pledge and plate have not returned to pre-Covid levels. Some traditionally generous members have left the area, and others have reduced their giving. We recognize that our stewardship goals cannot be achieved solely with annual drives. We know that our donor base is changing. We need to increase membership and turn to other income sources to maintain required income levels.

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

In this era of division in the larger population, our community is experiencing some of the same issues. Due to our EYC's work on social justice and the personal experiences of some members, our teens felt strongly that we needed to respond to the murder of George Floyd. They asked our Rector to put up a sign in support of Black Lives Matter. We are proud of this engaged and diverse group of young people, including students from a dozen high schools in the area as well as the local Catholic church, which does not have its own teen program. Many in the community expressed pride in and gratitude for our engagement on the topic. A small but vocal group of parishioners felt that the sign made an overtly political statement in support of a particular organization. We approached this conflict with transparency, respect, and compassion. The wardens explained that the sign was created and displayed temporarily as an expression of love and inclusion that was consistent with Christian values of equity, fairness, respect, and care for others and not as a political statement. Over time the banner was replaced with other messages consistent with our Christian mission and our ministries.

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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?

We are proud that during Covid we quickly found new ways to worship, support each other, and serve others. We installed state of the art streaming technology, which together with our sanctuary's new lighting and sound system, gave us the ability to produce professional quality livestreamed worship. Our livestreams engaged parishioners who could not join us physically. Post pandemic, we will look to produce more events in our space to enhance our online and community presence and diversify our sources of income. Our demographics have shifted as has the definition of church. We face generational changes in giving and the fact that our largest donors are aging or moving away. At the same time we are proud that our congregation is expanding and now looks more like the surrounding community. We recognize that we need to improve our welcome ministry and also re-engage our members to make our community a cohesive one. Pre-Covid, we had planned to inspire and engage our community both in and outside of its pews through community partnerships, events and enhanced marketing and communications. Covid forced us to focus on short term goals and our long-term goals have been put on hold.



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### Prior Incumbents

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Susan Harriss	Interim	2021-01	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Jennifer Brown	Assistant / Associate / Curate	2007-09	

Name	Position Title	Date Begun	Date Ended
Michael Bird	Rector / Vicar / Priest-in-Charge	2004-06	2020-12

*The Eliza Corwin Frost Child Center (ECF) is an integrated auxiliary of Christ Church which operates within our buildings. ECF offers children aged 1-5 a strong foundation for social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development through dynamic, play-based learning experiences and partnerships with parents and the community. The Associate Rector is the Director of ECF, spending half of her time on ECF. CCBNY's Rector will hold a seat on ECF's steering committee.*

Church School	Number of Teachers/Leaders for Children School	Number of Students for Children School
YES	14	60

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
8	99	2	15

Day School	Number of Students for Day School	Number of Teachers for Day School	Number of Total Staff for Day School
Other	78	17	4



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Worshipping Community Web site: [www.ccbny.org](http://www.ccbny.org)

Media Links:

> <https://www.instagram.com/ccbeyc/>  
> <https://www.instagram.com/youngatartsny/>

Online References:

> <https://www.facebook.com/ccbny/>  
> <https://www.instagram.com/ccbny/>

Languages Significantly Represented:

**English**

Provide Worship or Classes in:

**English**

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### References

Bishop:

Diocesan Transition Minister

Current Warden/Board Chair

Previous Warden/Board Chair

Search Chair

Parish/Institution

Local Community Leader