

Parish Profile

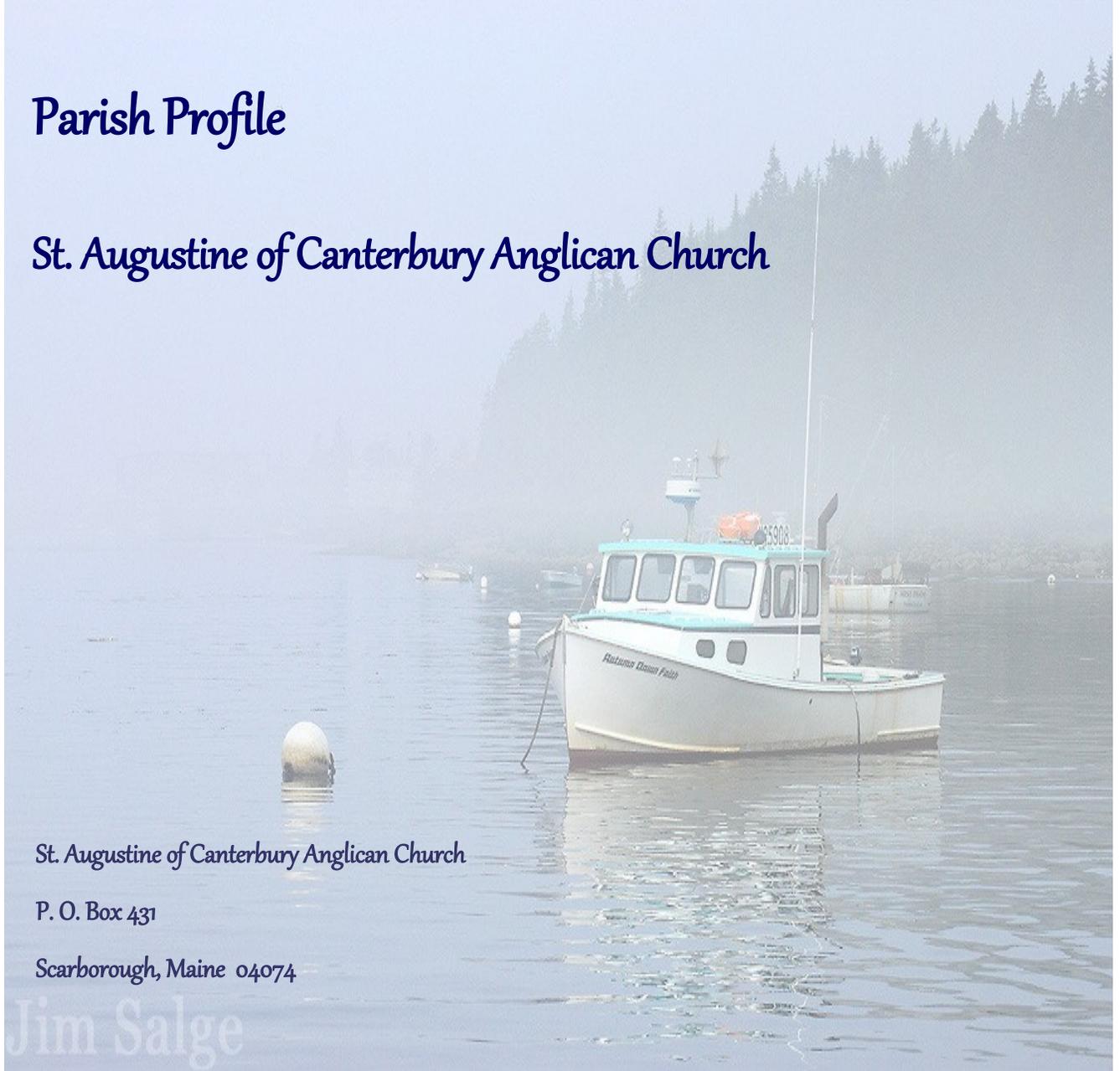
St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church

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St. Augustine Anglican Church Saco, Maine

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Section 1

Why is Our Church So Special?

We strive to be a caring, Christian community, empowered by the Holy Spirit, which joyfully encourages people to live out and lead others to new life in Jesus Christ.

Greetings from the members of St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church in southern Maine! Thank you for taking the time to discover who we are, our history, our expressions of faith, and our aspirations for the future as we collectively live out God's calling in this small Maine coastal town.

The primary purpose of this document is to educate, and hopefully inspire, our next Rector to assist in making the right match between our church and our new Priest. To that end, we have focused on honestly representing St. Augustine's to the best of our abilities, presenting areas in which we are successfully carrying out Christ's work while also noting the areas that provide opportunities for improvement in our current congregation.

Spiritual vitality is our strong suit at St. Augustine's. The variety of our Sunday services reflects our broad theological diversity, a trait that can be a once difficult to maintain yet inviting to a wide range of persons outside our membership. We are excited to leverage these two positive characteristics toward strengthening our existing ministries while being open to new opportunities to help our community neighbors.

Our challenge is to discover and implement the changes that are needed to fully extend Christ's hand to all persons in our diverse community while still maintaining the core traditions that have made us a strong, stable presence here in York and Cumberland Counties. We look for our new Rector to help us clearly discern and meet that challenge as we enter a new chapter in our congregational life.

Peace be with all who read this profile and we ask for God's guidance in our search process.

Blessings,
St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church Vestry
on behalf of the entire church community.

Section 2

The Rector We Would Like To Have

***Our Vision Is: Through Traditional Worship for all,
to grow in Christ, to grow in faith and to grow in strength.***

One of the steps we took as we developed this profile was to conduct a parish survey. It was very important to us that we accurately determine the expectations for our new clergy. The questions focused on two major categories: What we expect of a rector and our preferences for a service. While a copy of the survey summary is attached to this document as an appendix, provided below is a brief indication of the kind of rector we would like to have.

- We know we are looking for either a deacon or a retired priest. He should be able to be on call seven days a week as well as officiate at our Sunday services.
- The most important issues for the parish is that our clergy provide a strong public presence representing the parish at community events and provide pastoral care visiting our shut-ins and caring for our people.
- We do not expect our clergy to be a theologian but we understand that he will need time for his own prayer life, Bible study and growth.
- Someone who will work cooperatively with the vestry as it works toward growing the parish and on fundraising would find a welcome home with us.
- We hope that our clergy will be interested in helping to organize community services, youth events, and work for the general growth and betterment of the parish.
- We are willing to consider clergy from a different faith tradition and while a degree from a Christian University is moderately important it is not required.
- We are a flexible group comfortable with preaching from either the lectern or the nave.
- We hope we will find clergy who will help us with outreach, has ideas for growth and is committed to joyful and uplifting services.
- We like lectionary based sermons that are thought provoking, joyful and apolitical.

Section 3

Who We Are

We Are Evangelical

As Biblically faithful Anglicans, our church teaches the whole Bible and how it applies to our daily lives. We believe that God's love for the whole world, expressed in Jesus Christ, is Good News that we are called to share with everyone.

We Are Spirit Filled

We believe that the Holy Spirit is active in believing, enabling, teaching, healing and calling us to love our neighbors and that it changes the world. This is a form of Christianity that emphasizes the work of the Holy Spirit, spiritual gifts, and modern-day miracles.

We Are Catholic

We are not Roman Catholic. We are Traditional Anglicans sharing in the same heritage of the Church of Rome, the Church of England and the Eastern Orthodox Churches. We emphasize elements of our Catholic heritage and identity as well as our Reformed heritage. Our emphasis includes the sacraments, three Creeds of Christendom, Marian devotions, apostolic succession and solid Biblical theology.

1. The Church and Its People

At our church, we are a committed, supportive and welcoming community. We are open to people of all ages and the building is accessible to people with disabilities. There are currently 14 members with an average attendance of 10.

The Parish Vestry oversees the management of St. Augustine's. Ad hoc committees are appointed to discuss matters referred to them by the Vestry.

Although we manage our finances on a break-even basis, we have a strong savings ethic.

Our regular Service Times are as follows:

1 st , 2 nd and 4 th Sundays	10:30 a.m.	Deacon's Service
3 rd and 5 th Sundays	10:30 a.m.	Prayer Service

Wednesdays	5:30 p.m.	Family Prayer and Bible Study
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We use the 1928 Book of Common Prayer for worship. Our music program relies on the 1940 Hymnal, although our organist/Music Director is free to choose hymns from other traditions when appropriate.

We have regular monthly Vestry meetings and we have a Ladies Luncheon, open to all,

which is held generally every month.

2. The Church and The Community

The parish has two active community projects which are actively supported by the members. One is its well developed community outreach effort called Vine and Branches. With its focus on the homeless, the parish donates clothing to the area homeless shelter and has been described as the shelter's major donor. We donate backpacks stuffed with school supplies to area homeless students and each Christmas we donated bicycles to area foster children during Christmas. These projects rely completely on our own bottle drives and outside fund raising.

Our second community project is our Food Basket. Filled regularly by parishioner donations, we donate needed food items to the area Food Pantry. We have several times responded to emergency requests from the Pantry with gifts as large as we could donate. The basket is a constant presence in the church and is a visual reminder of the needs of others.

We have had two Christmas Fairs which have been able to raise much needed funds both for our Building Fund and our outreach activities. We make crafts during "Crafty Sundays" throughout the year in preparation for the Christmas craft area of the Fair. This is our biggest project of the year and our biggest fundraiser.

3. Worship Traditions

Throughout the church year, St. Augustine's engages in a variety of worship services and experiences. For example, we recently had a Memorial Day Service and we are looking forward to having our first Healing Service. We would like to expand these experiences and look for a priest who is willing and able to help us do this.

Our traditions include Blessing of the Animals to observe the Feast of St. Francis and a Service of Lessons and Carols, generally held at the beginning of Advent.

4. Fellowship

Our coffee hours after church are very well attended and are always a wonderful time of friendship and fellowship. On occasion it turns into a discussion on the sermon or a lesson, sometimes it is followed by Bible Study or parish business. But it is always a truly warm occasion and well received by all who attend. In addition our parishioner frequently gather informally over a meal for fellowship – and a bit of church business.

5. Youth Ministries

We warmly welcome and value children and youth. We believe they are an important part of our community and we strive to have them involved in all aspects of the service.

We recently had two young people who have grown with us for several years but had to leave for family reasons. One had served as an acolyte for several years and the other was just getting to an age where altar service is possible.

Our congregation has expressed the importance of children and youth at St. Augustine's. We seek someone who can build on what we have with new ideas and a fresh perspective - someone who respects children, can speak their language and engage the youth.

Section 4

Whom We Want To Become

St. Augustine's is still a young parish in that we were organized only seven years ago. We have a mature congregation with a number of young members. We are made up of people from all walks of life and income levels and our congregation represents a full spectrum of passionate parishioners. We, like all churches, strive to make our parish as accommodating and welcoming as possible for all people. Our challenge is to make changes in a way that preserves our identity and St. Augustine's rich traditions.

St. Augustine's places great value and importance on Christian education for people of all ages and in all stages in their spiritual journey. We seek to take our current strengths of programs and empower our next generation. We need to become inspired by our lay people, our new Rector and their desires for increased spiritual growth and direction. Our church wants to strengthen our Christian Faith formation programming. Our parish would like to build even more opportunities for fellowship and spiritual formation both to St. Augustine's members and to our outside community.

St. Augustine's also places high priority on developing implementing new strategies to reach out to new people in our community and bring them into the life of our church. We strive to make the necessary changes to attract families with children and older youth to our church, as well as people from all nationalities and ethnicities in our community. St. Augustine's has so much to share spiritually and we need to discern what changes are needed to make that possible.

Our church has great potential in that we have a an eager and active Vestry and faith community.

Section 5

St. Augustine's History

In 2008, Fr. Jeffrey Monroe met with several folks from the Biddeford-Saco area who had been attending Bible study at St. Paul's Church about the possibility of a parish in Southern Maine. Talks began in early 2009 between the Most Rev. Dr. Brian R. Marsh, Bishop Ordinary of the ACA Diocese of the Northeast, and Fr. Monroe, then Vicar of Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Fairfield, Maine, about the possibility of a mission church. This eventually led to the idea of founding a church to minister to the needs of the people between the New Hampshire border and Portland and along Maine's south coast. At the time, the closest Anglican Church to the Southern part of Maine was St. Paul's in Portland, and travel between this area and Portland, particularly in winter, was a concern. After a diligent search by David Brennan, a member of St. Paul's, a location was identified at St. Mary's Catholic Church who was willing to share space for the mission. St. Mary's closed later that year and a new location had to be found. Once again, David Brennan, who was a funeral director, identified a funeral chapel known as Hope Memorial Chapel Annex as a possible location.

Fr. Monroe and David Brennan met with the owners of the chapel who were willing to allow the mission to use the seldom used space for services. The Cathedral Pines Funeral Chapel in Old Orchard Beach was negotiated as our start-up location. To accommodate Father Monroe's schedule, it was decided that Sunday Mass would be celebrated at 3:00 p. m. Fr. Monroe had been called to St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Conway, NH and would cover both communities. With the approval of Bishop Marsh, proposed the mission church was granted status as a start-up mission of the Diocese and named "St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church" and our first Mass was celebrated by Father Monroe on October 18, 2009 with 45 members and well-wishers in attendance. Since the "Beginning" in 2009, we have had weddings, baptisms and four confirmations.

By 2011, the church had made the decision to change the Mass time to 10 a.m. to encourage growth. A series of temporary priests was assigned to St. Augustine's since then. Our growth, as with any mission church, has been slow but steady. Our average Sunday attendance (ASA) in 2011 was 11.98, in 2012 was 14.62. For the first quarter of 2013, it has climbed to 16.7. However, with the vagaries of church attendance, ASA figures tend to wander in the short term. The trend, however, was decidedly up. Parish clergy consistency has been an issue since 2013. In 2013, Fr. Monroe stepped down as the Vicar and first Fr. Joseph Bizimana and then Fr. Kevin LaMarre filled the pastoral gaps. In late 2013, Deacon Al Ryan was assigned as the Deacon in Charge.

In the summer of 2014, due to the sale of the Cathedral Pines Chapel, the parish home was moved to the Grange Building in Saco, Maine. Deacon Ryan remained Deacon in Charge until later that year when Fr. Andrew Faust became the Priest in Charge. Fr. Faust left in early 2015 to become the interim priest at Trinity Rochester (NH) and Fr. Monroe was asked to return as Vicar. Deacon Ryan was assigned as curate.

Since moving to the Grange Hall, attendance has not grown and may have, in fact, gone down slightly. During Deacon Ryan's tenure, the service was changed from the Alter Service Book format to the Missal format. In addition, the challenges of the Grange Hall not having the atmosphere of a church as well as having to work around their function hall rentals have increased the challenges. In late 2015, Fr. Monroe met with the Church Council of the West Scarborough United Methodist Church in regard to possibly sharing space. The parish had several services there during Lent in 2016 and decided in April, 2016 to accept the Methodist's invitation to church-share with them. We had our first service in the church on May 1 and have enjoyed the facility since then.

Section 6

Our Facilities

“The West Scarborough United Methodist Church, also known as the Dunstan Methodist Episcopal Church, is a historic church on [U.S. Route 1](#). The church building, built in 1839 and extensively altered in 1907, is one of the few surviving works of Maine architect and artist [Harry Hayman Cochrane](#). The building was listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#) in 1989 for its architectural significance.

The West Scarborough United Methodist Church is located in southern Scarborough, on the south side of US 1, between Orchard and Church Streets. It is a basically rectangular single-story wood frame structure, with a front-facing gable roof and an exterior finished clapboard and wood shingle siding. The front facade, facing north toward US 1, has a single large lancet-arch window at the center of the gabled nave section, and a slightly project square tower at the northeast corner. The tower houses the main entrance, sheltered by a shed-roof porch accessed by a low flight of wooden stairs, with a narrow lancet-arch window above and open belfry capped by a pyramidal roof. The east wall of the nave has five lancet-arch windows, of varying sizes, and the west wall has three symmetrically placed windows. The parish house extends from the southwest corner. The building interior has stained wainscoting on the walls, topped by pressed metal walls and ceiling. A raised platform extends from the chancel into the nave, housing space for the choir and organ, and curved rows of pews line the main space of the nave.

The church congregation was established in 1802, and initially met in an abandoned Congregational church. This church, the second built by the congregation, was built in 1839 as a Greek Revival structure. In 1907 the congregation undertook a major renovation of the building, retaining [Monmouth, Maine](#)-based architect and artist [Harry Hayman Cochrane](#). Cochrane was a prolific designer, and is believed to have worked on an estimated 300-500 commissions. This church is one of only nine known to survive, and is the only one outside Monmouth. Alterations to the building included changing the roof to a steeper pitch, adding the tower, and replacing sash windows with Gothic stained glass. The interior walls, which might otherwise have had murals painted by Cochrane, may have been finished in metal as a cost-saving measure." (Wikipedia)

The sanctuary has an adjacent “Fellowship Hall” which is used for small meetings, gatherings and coffee hours. The downstairs level is made up of a Sunday School Room, a small meeting room and a nice dining hall with a complete commercial kitchen. There are a number of closets and two bathrooms. The main part of the church building is handicap accessible. Adjacent to the church is a small building, the former rectory, which has been converted into a number of meeting rooms, a library and several offices.

Section 7

The Wider Context

Our parish is located in Scarborough in Cumberland County, Maine. The County is traversed by both Route 1 and the Maine Turnpike (US Route 95). Travel between the parish and other parts of the county are well served by roads, buses, and the Amtrak. In recent years, there has been strong growth in housing within the area. There is also easy access to The Lakes Region, The Mountains and the Beach. There is theater year-round as well as swimming, amusement parks, shopping and restaurants and skiing all within easy access.

High Schools in the area are highly ranked in the State of Maine. Scarborough's high school is ranked #9, South Portland is #16 and Portland's is #18 in the ranking of the "2016 Best Public High Schools in Maine" offered by NICHE.

Universities in the area include The University of Southern Maine, The University of New England, Southern Maine Community College, Bowdoin College, Maine College of Art, University of Maine Law School, and St. Joseph's College.

The elementary schools in Yarmouth, Falmouth and Kennebunkport rank in the top ten state-wide according to the 2014-2015 ranking done by School Digger.

Area demographic information is provided in the following pages.

Appendix

1. Clergy Compensation and Financial Statement
2. Parish People
3. Survey Results

Appendix 1

Clergy Compensation and Financial Overview

We pay our deacons \$50 for each service and priests \$100 for each service. We have \$1,000 budgeted for supply clergy in case it is needed but generally we are able to abide by this budget. Also, we have been blessed in the past by having a number of clergy that has been willing to donate their time. Given our experience, clergy compensation is open to negotiation.

We have been blessed by God in many ways in the ministry of our church. One of our blessings is that, through strong fiscal management and the generosity of our parishioners, we have been able to maintain a positive cash flow and have experienced financial growth since the beginning of our Ministry in 2009.

Our financial surplus by year is:

2009	\$1,919.64
2010	\$6,144.17
2011	\$4,258.27
2012	\$6,279.87

Appendix 2

Parish People

James Audiffred, Esq.	Senior Warden
Valerie Kazarian	Junior Warden
Roy Haugen	Treasurer
Jane Haugen	Clerk
Jean Kazarian	Vestry Member
Barbara "Bobbie" MacLean	Vestry Member
Jane Haugen	Organist
Jean Kazarian	Vine and Branches Co-Chair
Valerie Kazarian	Vine and Branches Co-Chair