ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

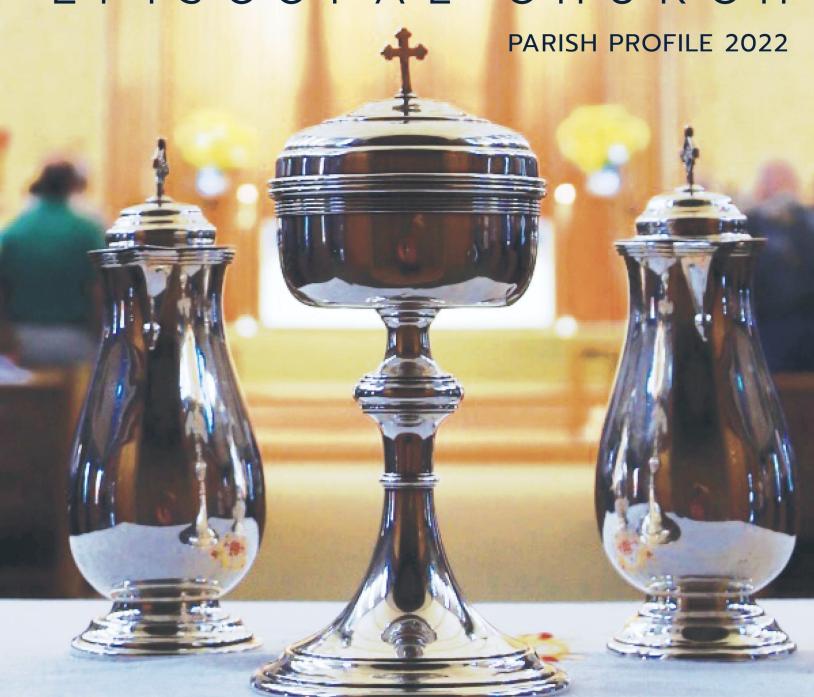


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Who We Are

St. B's is a community for all who seek the love and grace of God in Christ Jesus.

Many parishioners drive from other parts of Nashville and the surrounding counties to attend our church. This commitment stems from what we find to be life-giving about St. B's. For many, it is our beautiful liturgy and music. Families feel supported by our children's and youth formation and programs. Others are drawn to our hospitality and the centrality of prayer in our life together. Most note that the blended style of worship appeals to our broad range of faith backgrounds. Our worship is genuine, liturgical, and Spiritfilled. Additionally, a group of South Sudanese call St. B's home and worship in Dinka, their native language.

A spirit of creativity and faith has buoyed our congregation during COVID. Parishioners held differing views while still agreeing on the importance of worshiping Jesus. With lockdowns, we embraced technology, pivoting to online worship for Sundays and morning prayer. Feast days that typically brought us together on

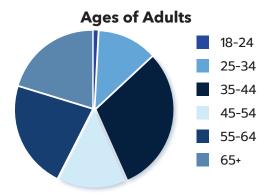
campus became opportunities for smaller outdoor gatherings in neighborhoods. St. B's staff created home worship kits for Advent, Lent, and Epiphany to keep parishioners connected even when we were apart. Our ever-inventive music ministry continued to bless us, showcasing our singers, musicians, and technicians.

As we emerge from the COVID pandemic, we remain strongly connected through our interactions and our desire to be transformed by God's grace. At our heart, we are a relational church.

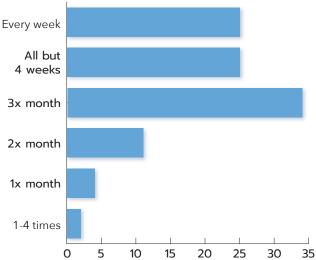
The spiritual journeys that have brought us together are vastly different. We come from numerous denominational backgrounds and have theologically diverse views. We acknowledge the natural tension inherent in this fact. Yet faith in Jesus is what holds this community together. A spirit of unity and respect accommodates a wide range of perspectives as we focus on Christ.

Parish Demographics

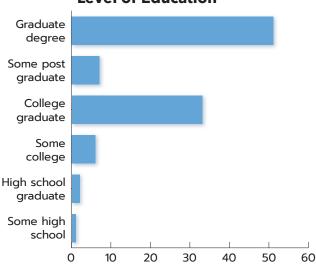
From 268 responses to our most recent parish-wide survey.







Level of Education



Children & Youth

3-4

year years years years years years

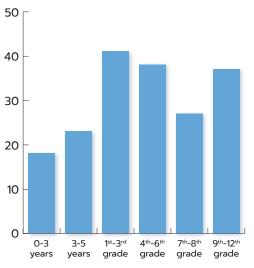
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Our Mission— The Barque of St. B's

St. Bartholomew's is a community of people being formed into the likeness of Jesus and moving toward God, the poor, and the world. As a church, we exist for the flourishing of others.

WORSHIP GOD THE POOR COMMUNICATION

During the first year of the pandemic, Rev. Sammy Wood, the ninth rector of St. B's, had the vision of the Barque

THE BARQUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW MOVING TOWARD GOD, THE WORLD, AND THE POOR.

of St. B's. A barque is a ship with three masts and is an ancient symbol for the church.

The Barque of St. B's is the visual representation of how God is shaping and sending us as a church. It describes our threefold responsibility: to share the gospel, to serve the poor, and to worship God. These are the three sails on the barque. The masts that raise those sails are Christian formation. The hull that holds it all together is our church community.

The barque helps us refine what we do, where our resources go, and how we connect with the world.







Leadership

Clergy

Rev. Serena Sides, our associate rector, currently leads St. B's as our interim.

Staff

Our staff includes seven full-time and five part-time employees and four staff-level volunteers. They oversee the areas of Administration; Children and Family Formation; Community Life; Justice Ministry; Liturgy; Music; Pastoral Care; St. B's Preschool/Parents' Day Out program; and Youth Formation.

Vestry

The way we elect our vestry illustrates our reliance upon God in our decision-making. Each year, we vet and screen candidates for the vestry. At our annual meeting, four new vestry members are selected by drawing lots, a process of anonymized voting that removes egos and conflict and relies on the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Clergy and staff work closely with our vestry, composed of a clerk, treasurer, and twelve people who serve three-year terms. The vestry commissions the Stewardship, Facilities, HR, Finance, and Mission and Outreach committees.

Priorities for the Future

I have attended church from childhood and have never had as many (and as enriching) friendships as I have had at St. B's.

Building the Community of Christ

Hospitality is a strong point at St. B's. Because of the strong relational nature of our congregation, the highest priority for the future is to design more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships.

The COVID pandemic paused programs like supper clubs, life groups, and parishwide celebrations. In addition to restarting these programs, we would like to create more programs to connect and strengthen the body of Christ.

Our new rector will help us build dynamic opportunities to worship Jesus in smaller groups and develop a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into church life.



As a person engaged in full-time ministry work, St. B's has been a respite and a harbor that anchors me in the bigger story of God's work in the world through nourishing liturgy and worship.



Being a Prayerful Refuge

For many, our church has been a place of restoration, healing, and growth. This is especially true for people coming from other church settings. St. B's welcomes newcomers looking for Jesus' love and peace. In our focus groups, numerous parishioners noted they felt "loved and seen."

Part of what draws people here is the importance of prayer. Beyond the prayers in our Sunday liturgy, we pray for newcomers by name and offer prayer stations for parishioners during Sunday services.

Our new rector will continue to make St. B's a safe haven for all who seek the risen Christ and continue and expand ways of incorporating prayer into our common life.

We acknowledge the saving work of Christ, the power of God in our lives, and the call to respond to others with love.

Loving Others as Ourselves

We want to show Christ's love beyond the church's walls. In the past few years, St. B's has intentionally worked to make stronger connections between worship and daily life by aligning our Christian walk with service opportunities.

Looking ahead, we want to advocate for social and institutional changes so that society might better reflect the values of the kingdom of God.

Our new rector will cultivate personal spiritual formation and provide opportunities for those living on the margins of society. At St. B's, we call this love in action. We want a rector who will value our diversity and mentor us to be the hands of Jesus to others.





We Seek A Rector Who

- Loves Jesus and our community
- Listens to the Holy Spirit and the needs of the parish
- Teaches through sermons that connect us to God's love
- Engages in social justice as an outgrowth of our faith
- Cares for people empathetically
- Values our diverse and collaborative culture
- Has strong relational and administrative skills
- Helps us to identify and grow our spiritual gifts and empowers us to go out and use them





Worship

Worship is the heart of St. B's.

Our weekly gatherings are intentional times of reorienting ourselves to God through liturgy, music, preaching, and sacrament. Our worship is grounded in the Book of Common Prayer and saturated in Holy Scripture, prayer, and music. From the ringing bell that begins our service to the dismissal after the final hymn, the Episcopal liturgy engages all our senses and our whole bodies. While our worship is led from the front by priests and an altar team and from the back by musicians in the loft, our liturgy is truly the work of all the people.

In addition to worshippers in the pews, dozens of lay ministers of all ages assist the clergy as vergers, chalice bearers, acolytes, lectors, altar and flower guild members, ushers, welcome team members, and musicians. An AV team runs multiple cameras and computers to live-stream Sunday and special services. Intercessors at prayer stations provide immediate prayer and support for parishioners during the Eucharist.

We gather for two Sunday morning services (combining for one service during the summer). Keeping with our vision of being *one* family in Christ, both services provide the same offerings in the liturgy (Rite II), music, and preaching. Nursery and children's homily is also offered during our services.

Weekday Morning Prayer led by clergy and staff has been a regular part of our worship for the last decade. Currently, we offer midday Eucharist on Wednesday, lay-led morning prayer during the week, and online compline seasonally.







The music ministry inspires my connection to the Lord.

Music

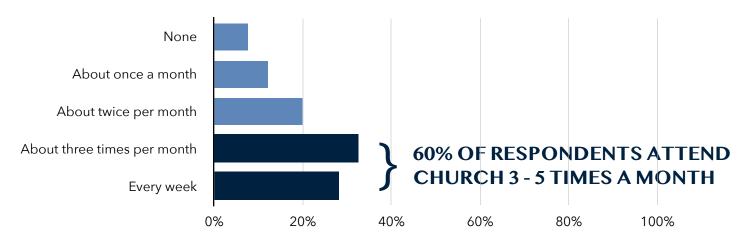
The primary function of music at St. B's is to invite participation—heart, soul, mind, and body—as we respond to God through song.

St. B's is known for its blending of traditional and contemporary styles, supporting our worship as one liturgical act with many distinct but harmonious parts.

We have a paid professional staff that includes a Director of Music, Organist, and Sound Engineer, as well as over sixty talented volunteers with a wide range of musical styles. Teams of vocalists and instrumentalists lead music during Sunday services. We have a regularly performing chamber choir that offers choral music monthly on Sundays and during special services.

One of the highlights of music beyond Sunday worship is our St. B's Family Christmas, a joyful celebration of musical gifts in our parish—young and old, amateurs and professionals.

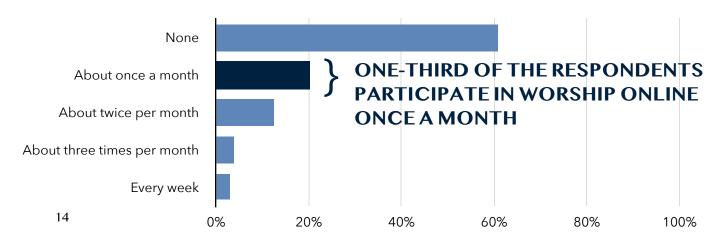
In the last 3 months (March, April, and May), how many times have you attended St. B's Sunday morning worship services in person?







In the last 3 months (March, April, and May), how many times have you attended St. B's Sunday morning worship services on-line?







Formation

St. B's is committed to lifelong learning. Formation programs occur on Sundays during services, between services, and during the week. Classes are led by layleaders and clergy.

Children and Youth Formation:

Children and youth are led by two full-time staff and learn the wideness of God's love through Scripture, singing, corporate and individual prayer, and service.

- Nursery: (Infants to 3 years old)
 During services and the formation hour, infants begin their experience with Jesus by being cared for and prayed for.
- **Children's homily:** We have a separate lesson for children ages four to twelve during the sermon.
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: (3 years to 3rd grade) Children experience the joy of relationship with Jesus through a Montessoribased approach.
- **456:** 4th 6th graders learn and grow in a traditional Sunday school mode. 456 also meets monthly for service and fellowship opportunities.
- **Youth:** 7 12th graders grow as a community that loves Christ,

engages the Bible, serves the poor, and chases fun. Other offerings include summer trips, pickleball tournaments, and confirmation.

Adult Formation:

- **Sunday Mornings:** Recent courses have included: A Bible Study of *Acts*, Art & Faith, Praying Together, Intro to Anglicanism, and Becoming a Beloved Community: The Call to Justice.
- Thursday Women's Bible Study: A long-standing, multigenerational group for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer.
- **Daily Reflections:** For fifteen years, six days a week, St. B's has sent an email with the day's Bible readings, prayers, and a short reflection written by a parishioner.
- Theology on Tap: In an informal atmosphere oriented towards young adults, we think about the intersection of culture, faith, and daily life. Topics have included Augustine and hip-hop music, politics, the Joker, beauty, singleness, Ignatian Examen, prison ministry, and the movie The Mission.



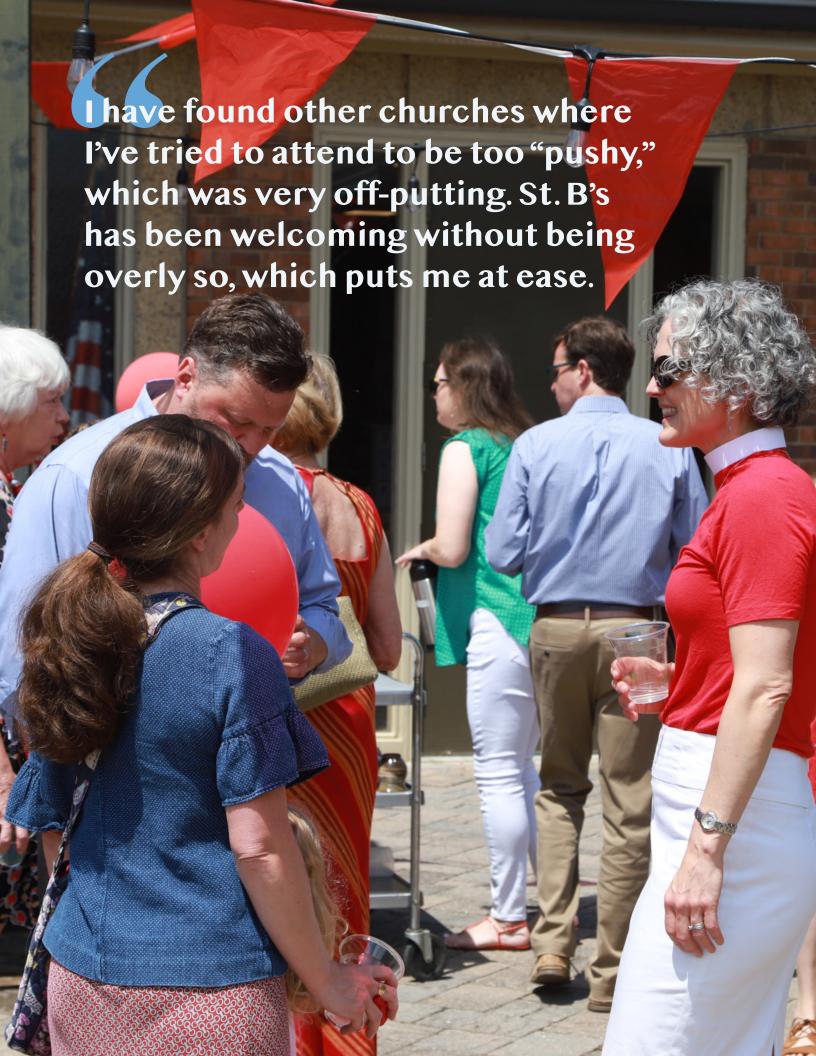




St. B's welcomes and sees me

Preschool & PDO

St. B's Preschool is top-rated and licensed by the Department of Human Services. The program operates from 9:30-2:30 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from late August to May. The Parents' Day Out program serves young children one or two days per week from late August to May. These programs represent 97 children and 77 families, both from inside the church and the wider community. The children are served by fifteen part time staff and a full time Director.





Community

People start coming to St. B's for many reasons, and community is what keeps them here. We are a family held together in Christ's love, and we stay at the table even when we disagree. We love, care for, and accept one another—warts and all.

The South Sudanese

For 24 years, a group of South Sudanese have worshiped at St. B's. Currently, pastors Peter Mangok and John Ajith lead worship in Dinka, and once a month, Rev. Serena celebrates Eucharist with them. Pastors Peter and John are working towards ordination in The Episcopal Church.

In 2021, work began to establish the South Sudanese congregation as a formal Parochial Mission of St. B's, allowing the community to gain greater visibility in the diocese and providing them with a voice and vote at convention and in our vestry.

Pastoral Care

St. B's clergy and laity provide physical, emotional, and spiritual support for parishioners.

- Lay Eucharistic Visitors are volunteers licensed by the bishop to visit and administer communion and pastoral care to those needing to know God's love.
- Manna Food Ministry prepares and delivers meals to families with newborns or people facing health challenges or various crises.
- The Prayer Team prays for the needs of parishioners, their families, the church, neighbors, and the community.
- Bereavement Ministry facilitates hospitality for funerals.
- St. B's Columbarium is in the Family Garden and Outdoor Sanctuary.



Hospitality

- Welcome Teams warmly welcome visitors and parishioners and oversee Sunday morning coffee.
- The Hospitality Team works behind the scenes for parish events.
- The Gallery welcomes guests and members alike with comfortable seating and a prayerful presence.

Gatherings

Our church loves connecting in small and large groups, especially over food.

- Young Adults (20s to 30s without children) at St. B's gather twice a month to share meals, games, theological conversations, and compline.
- Feast Days include full-blown celebrations on the feast days of St. Bartholomew, Epiphany, and Pentecost.
- Life Groups are committed, intentional micro-communities exploring God in our lives.
- S'more Community began during the pandemic and is an

- opportunity to spend time with other members of St. B's around a bonfire on Monday nights.
- Second Tuesdays for Men is a monthly gathering at a local pub.
- Women's Art Nights happen two or three times a year, where women come together for creative endeavors.
- Newcomer Gatherings feature a meal and information about the church and occur on the back patio of the rectory two or three times a year.
- Quiet Days offer space to step out of the day to day traffic on a Saturday morning. Often they include spoken reflections and guided prayer.
- Supper Clubs are groups of about twelve people that meet once a month, developing community around the table. Some groups have been meeting for years and include children.
- Neighborhood Meet-Ups bring together parishioners who live in the same geographical area for fun, food, and connection.





Love in Action

St. B's is committed to reaching outside our walls and walking alongside those who are struggling. We are engaged in personal and community reflection on injustices relating to race, ethnicity, and class and seek to promote reconciliation. Our care extends to the natural world. We send a monthly email with new perspectives and opportunities on mercy, justice, creation care, and mission and outreach issues.

Guided by our Mission and Outreach committee, we cultivate partnerships with local, national, and global agencies committed to producing transformative change by extending hope, healing, love, opportunity, and provision to others.

This commitment is evident not only through the number of St. B's parishioners who devote their skills and time via full-time or volunteer efforts in various outreach ministries but also through our financial support of outreach. Presently, 10% of the church's budget supports Mission and Outreach activities.

Justice Ministry

The national outcry over racial injustices in the summer of 2020 challenged faith communities, including St. Bartholomew's, to respond. St. B's led with a parish-wide book study addressing the church's historical role in racial oppression and its potential as a community for reconciliation and healing. In August 2020, a volunteer Assistant to the Rector for Justice Ministry was named, and several parishioners and clergy attended the five-week diocesan workshop "Becoming A Catalyst" in preparation for promoting racial justice and healing in our diocese and in the world.

Our work continues with involvement in The Episcopal Church's "Sacred Ground Dialogues," as well as education, relationship building, and discernment about the next steps. To further understand the importance of our work toward racial reconciliation, healing, and justice, St. B's has planned an overnight pilgrimage to Montgomery, Alabama for an immersive experience in the history of



slavery and the legacy of racism in America.

Creation Care Ministry

St. B's parishioners try to be good stewards of the earth. In 2019, St. B's stopped using Styrofoam cups and plastic stirrers during coffee hour. Now, hundreds of donated mugs help lessen our impact on local landfills. We use reusable products whenever possible and strive to have zero-waste events. Composting and recycling bins are located throughout the campus.

Room in the Inn (RITI)

In 1986, RITI began providing emergency shelter during winter for people experiencing homelessness. St. B's was one of the first partner churches and continues to welcome guests for food, fellowship, and a warm place to sleep every Saturday night.

Families, preschool teachers, supper clubs, formation classes of all ages, and ministry teams sign up as hosts at least once during the season. Hosts extend hospitality by transporting guests to and from our church, preparing and joining them for a home-cooked meal, staying overnight with guests, and serving breakfast in the morning.

Other 2022 Love in Action partners:

- Barnabas International provides care to global workers in challenging and underserved communities.
- The Branch Food Pantry serves
 1200 families monthly through
 its food bank and helps
 immigrants and refugees gain
 better-paying jobs through its
 ESL program.
- Bridges International addresses
 the challenges of international
 college students through
 connection, ministry, and
 service.
- Charis Ministries delivers food and a Bible to families unexpectedly in need who cannot provide their own transportation to a food bank.
- The Family Reconciliation
 Center provides hospitality for
 family members visiting their
 loved ones incarcerated in
 Nashville's prisons.
- InterVarsity encourages university faculty and mentors graduate students.
- New Life Restoration
 Ministries meet the physical and spiritual needs of the poor



in the Kibera Slums of Kenya, operating an orphanage and school and overseeing 60 church branches.

- Open Table of Nashville disrupts cycles of poverty, journeys with the marginalized, and provides education about homelessness.
- Rooftop Nashville provides

 emergency rental assistance to
 residents of Davidson County.
- Send Musicians to Prison shares the musical language of hope, healing, and restoration with the imprisoned.
- Siloam Health delivers affordable, high-quality health care to the uninsured and immigrant populations through their faithbased, volunteer-supported clinic.
- ShowerUp builds relationships, restores hope and dignity, and shows God's love by providing shower services and personal care to those in need.
- St. Luke's Community House provides services and programs, including early child development, adult education, senior assistance, crisis support, and financial literacy instruction.

- Thistle Farms Residential
 Program provides help and love to female survivors of trafficking, prostitution, and addiction.
- The Village at Glencliff gives people experiencing chronic homelessness a dignified, loving, and safe place to rest after hospitalization.
- Young Life Stratford High
 School introduces adolescents
 to Jesus Christ and helps them
 grow in their faith.

2022 Grant Recipients

- Episcopal Relief & Development, support for Ukrainian refugees
- Justice & Mercy International, support for Ukrainian refugees
- Hopewell Missionary Baptist
 Church, reopening after
 damage from 2020 tornado in
 North Nashville

Past Grant Recipients

- The Haydens serving on mission in Prague
- Rejoice School of Ballet
- Community Foundation of TN, Waverly flood relief (2021)
- Episcopal Relief & Development, Haiti disaster relief (2021)



Financials

Our annual budget is developed mainly around the need to fund our operations, internal programs, and mission and outreach ministries. As a parish, we continue to be good stewards of our resources, limiting expenses while expanding programming.

Because formation and community life are core to our mission, we increased our spending on those activities. In 2021, we shared almost \$270,000 with ministry partners and our diocese.

Five years ago, we increased our engagement with pledging. We are still on that journey, and we are hopeful that that even more of our budget will be covered by pledges going forward. In

October 2021, over 100 families responded to the Stewardship committee's pledge drive. At St. B's, pledges include not just financial giving but donations of time and talent as well.

As our treasurer noted, "At St. B's, while giving is a spiritual activity between parishioners and God, pledging is a budget activity. Pledging a specific dollar amount makes known the intention to support the community as God has led and has provided. Pledges allow us to make informed financial decisions and ensure good stewardship of parish resources."

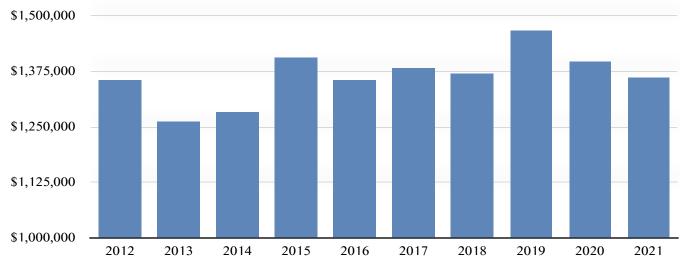


2022 Budget

Personnel	\$752,249
Parish Operations	\$230,744
Office	\$31,129
Community Life	\$20,276*
Clergy	\$12,800
Worship	\$17,475
Formation	\$23,426
Serving the Poor	\$141,415
Diocesan Pledge	\$140,664
Total	\$1,370,178

^{*}includes communications

Giving at St. B's



The Seal & Bell of St. Bartholomew's

The Three Knives

Knives are the historic symbol of the apostle Bartholomew.

Bushel of Wheat

A symbol for the feast of Pentecost and evangelism relates to our charismatic heritage and the former crest of the Diocese of Tennessee.

The Colors

The colors of the banner were selected to match and complement the magnificent jewel tones in our current stained glass windows.

The St. George's Cross

The cross points to our Anglican communion membership and the role of St. George's Episcopal Church in our beginnings.

Chi Rho

The Chi Rho represents our allegiance to Jesus and our shared roots with Christ Church Cathedral.

Inverted Reredos

The banner's shape mirrors an inverted version of our sanctuary's reredos and hints at the bow-shaped roof prominent in our nave.

Seven Hills

The seven alternating green and gold stripes represent our Seven Hills neighborhood.







The iconic bell that calls the community to worship every Sunday was erected in 1957 with the help of parishioner, R.H. Chilton. The bell was purchased from a Nashville junkyard for \$450 with money the St. B's youth had saved. The castbronze bell weights 2700 lbs and was forged in Meneely's Foundry in Troy, NY in 1852.







History

St. Bartholomew's Church began as the dream of Bishop E. P. Dandridge, who wanted to see The Episcopal Church expand into the rapidly growing Leland neighborhood near Green Hills. Members from St. George's Episcopal Church in Belle Meade became some of the first families. With the authorization of Bishop Theodore Barth, St. Bartholomew's Church was founded as a mission. In November 1954, about sixty families in the area gathered for the first service in Glendale School. Seminary students from the University of the South in Sewanee conducted most Sunday services; Rev. Henry Nutt Parsley celebrated a monthly Eucharist. St. B's first parishioners operated the church out of cardboard boxes, taught Sunday School classes in the school hallways, and made their communion wine.

From these humble beginnings, the church quickly outgrew its mission status. At the January 1955 diocesan convention, St. B's was admitted as a

parish, and in September, it welcomed its first rector, the Rev. Bayard Clark. With \$36,000 from a discretionary fund to expand Episcopal churches in Nashville, communicants purchased 12.5 acres between Granny White Pike and Belmont Park Terrace to establish a permanent church home. Approximately half of the east property is in Oak Hill and the western part, including all the buildings, is in Metropolitan Nashville.

The first ten years of St. Bartholomew's parish life were busy building the facilities and the church body. By April 1956, the Parish Hall was completed and became the locus for Sunday services.

In 1960, the congregation purchased an additional acre and built the rectory. Work on the 450-seat sanctuary began in 1964. At the March 1965 dedication service, the St. B's community placed a cross, daily newspaper, Bible, and Book of Common Prayer in the cornerstone of the nave, expressing its communal



identity as followers of Jesus and bearers of the good news in the world.

Throughout St. B's history, nine rectors have supported these principles of faith. Notably, from 1972-1982, under the Rev. Chuck Murphy, St. B's experienced a time of spiritual renewal and rapid growth. The church sponsored conferences and workshops with nationally known speakers, and authors, held weekly prayer and praise meetings, and initiated "house churches" focused on Bible studies, prayer, and intimacy with the Holy Spirit. During that time, St. B's was a leader in the Episcopal charismatic movement.

The St. B's Mother's Day Out program began in 1978 so young mothers could attend a church Bible study. In 1983, it expanded to include a preschool.

Under subsequent rectors, St. B's saw the development of a vibrant music ministry and robust missions, outreach, and discipleship training programs. Through the years, St. B's has sent forth 25

parishioners into the priesthood and four families overseas for ministry. Currently five are in vocational discernment and seminary.

One former parishioner, the Rev. Jill Zook Jones, returned as interim rector during a critical period in the spring of 2004 when almost half the congregation left St. B's over disagreements about human sexuality with those who left forming an Anglican parish. The following January, the Rev. Dr. Jerry Smith became St. B's eighth rector. During his eleven-year tenure, the church not only healed from the division but flourished.

Today, St. B's is the third largest church in the Diocese of Tennessee, presided over by Bishop John Bauerschmidt.



Facilities

The St. B's campus includes three buildings: the sanctuary (with sacristy), Parish Hall, and the rectory.

Staff offices, classrooms, and the kitchen are all in the two-story Parish Hall, as are Wallace Hall and the gym. Wallace Hall is the location for many parish events and meetings, as well as the chapel for the St. B's South Sudanese community.

In 1977, we added the gym and the classrooms beneath it to the campus. The gym is a well-loved and often-used multipurpose space. For over a decade, Jazzercise has used the gym six days a week. Parents' Day Out and the Preschool use it regularly during the week, as do parishioners playing basketball and pickleball. The gym also houses the Gallery and Bookstore.

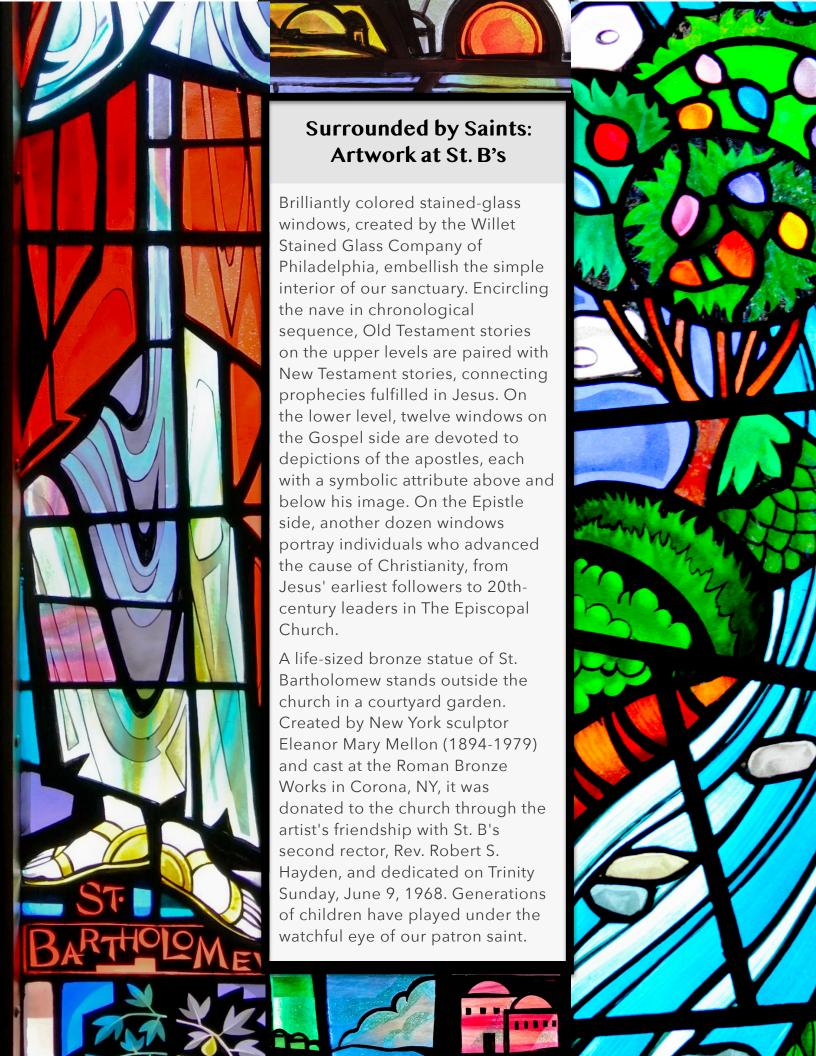
The St. B's Family Garden and Outdoor Sanctuary is the site of weddings,

funerals, feast day celebrations, and the columbarium.

In 2006, we added a circular walking path with Stations of the Cross to the property. It was upgraded in 2021.

Our outside fields are home to the St. B's Soccer Academy with both spring and fall seasons for Pre-K through 5th grade. Other various community groups and organizations use our facilities and walking paths.

The rectory at 4810 Belmont Park Terrace is a ranch-style home with approximately 2,800 square feet, four bedrooms, two and a half baths, a fireplace, large windows, a fenced back yard, a front porch, and a two-car garage. It sits in a quiet neighborhood with mature trees.





Living in Nashville

Our city has many nicknames.

Nashville has been called "The Buckle of the Bible Belt" because it hosts over 700 churches, many religious publishing houses, and the headquarters for several Protestant denominations.

But it's probably best known as "Music City" because of its position as a major recording and production center and home to over 120 venues for live music.

Nashville's cultural attractions are not limited to music. Other popular attractions include the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, the Nashville Ballet, the Nashville Opera, Tennessee Performing Arts Center, the Tennessee State Museum, Cheekwood Arts and Botanical Gardens, and the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Nashville offers year-round spectator sports, including many college teams, the Nashville Soccer Club, the Tennessee Titans, the Nashville Predators, and the Nashville Sounds. Numerous golf courses and over 10,000 acres of greenways and parks with scenic hiking and bike trails dot

our landscape. The city hosts a variety of marathons and fun runs throughout the year.

Nashville is growing more culturally diverse, and one in seven residents is now foreign-born. It is home to the largest Kurdish community in the United States. Many Central Americans, Africans, Southeast Asians, and a large number of Egyptians have also put their roots down in our city.

The famous Parthenon in Centennial Park links Nashville to yet another nickname, the "Athens of the South," and Nashville boasts many higher learning institutions. In addition to two medical schools and three law schools, there are sixteen colleges and universities here, including Vanderbilt University, Belmont University, David Lipscomb University, Tennessee State University, Trevecca Nazarene University, and Fisk University.

Nashville is home to more than 300 health care companies, including HCA Healthcare, the world's largest private operator of



hospitals. We are a hub for major hospitals, notably Vanderbilt Medical Center, the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Centennial Medical Center, and St. Thomas Health Care system.

Although we are known for our hot chicken, there's much more to eat in Nashville. The vibrant dining scene has something for every palette.

Nashville's mild climate, four distinct seasons, strong economy, abundant recreational and cultural opportunities, and family-friendly vibe make it a great place to live and work.



The Diocese of Tennessee

The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee was organized and held its first convention in Nashville in 1829. While originally encompassing the entire state, it now comprises the Middle Tennessee region.

Today, the Diocese has 45 cathedral, parish, mission, and chaplaincy churches, as well as two mission stations and other affiliated ministries. It includes urban, suburban, and rural congregations. The Rt. Rev'd John C. Bauerschmidt is the eleventh bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee.

The Diocese of Tennessee is part of the Episcopal Church, a member of the world-wide Anglican Communion.

