



INSIDE **OUT** CHURCH

EPISCOPAL IDENTITY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

THE 129TH ANNUAL MEETING OF CONVENTION IN THE DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES | NOVEMBER 8-9, 2024

Diocese at a Glance

- The Diocese comprises some 40,000 Episcopalians worshipping in 133 congregations in 5-1/4 counties of Southern California and the Central Coast.
- The Diocese covers 29,700 square miles of the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura – home to a combined population of 17.2 million.
- The Diocese includes 400 ordained clergy.
- The Diocese includes 29 schools (9,000 students) and six affiliated service institutions.
- Diocesan Convention held its first annual meeting in 1896 in St. Paul's Church, Los Angeles, with the diocese's first bishop, Joseph Horsfall Johnson, presiding.
- Los Angeles is one of 106 dioceses active within The Episcopal Church in 16 nations. The Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

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Consolidated Budget in Action

‘**W**hat we do on Sundays is the base camp for how we live as Episcopalians in a spiritually hungry world,’ Bishop John Harvey Taylor said as he announced this year’s Diocesan Convention theme: “Inside Out Church: Episcopal Identity in Our Neighborhoods.”

“The church becomes the diaconate writ large when it goes outside its walls,” the bishop added, referring to the unique ministry of ordained deacons to build bridges between the church and the world, interpreting the needs of each to the other.

Similarly, this year’s Diocesan Consolidated Budget, outlined on these pages, highlights the diocese’s work in chaplaincy, service, and advocacy – expressions of Episcopal identity in action.

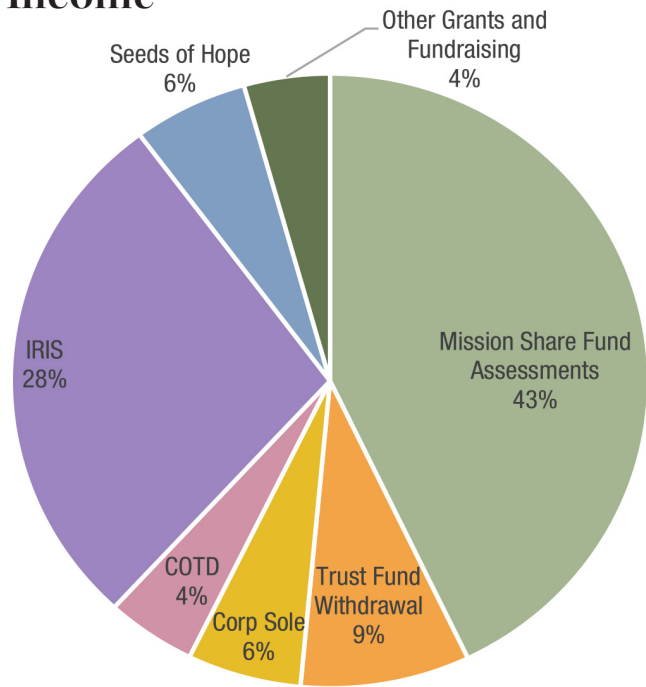
Detailed in this budget narrative are the ways in which diocesan resources are applied to nine focus areas:

- The Church and the World
- Christian Outreach
- Christian Formation
- Missions and Congregational Development
- Community Ministries
- Stewardship and Care
- Office of Formation and Transition Ministry
- Advancement

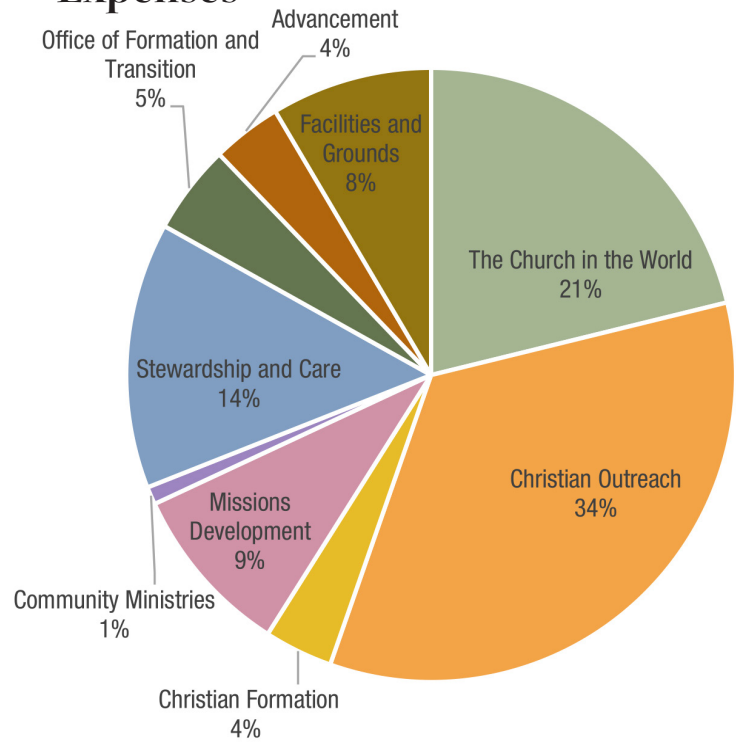
With revenue allocated from three sources – the Mission Share Fund, the Corporation of the Diocese, and the Bishop as Corporation Sole – the Consolidated Budget reflects our common life as a dynamic “Inside Out Church.”

INCOME & EXPENSES

Income



Expenses



Income

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
Mission Share Assessment					
Mission Share Assessment @ 12%	5,072,000	5,225,000	5,225,000	-	-
Less Budget for Assessment Waivers	(127,000)	(125,000)	(125,000)	-	-
Total	4,945,000	5,100,000	5,100,000	-	-
COTD Trust Fund Withdrawal	667,500	1,022,500	395,000	-	627,500
Corp Sole Income	524,535	686,000	36,000	575,000	75,000
COTD Income	794,360	544,000	260,000	-	284,000
Contribution Income	140,395	276,000	88,000	-	188,000
Fundraising Income	1,500	-	-	-	-
Grant Income	79,260	45,000	5,000	-	40,000
Other Income	201,350	171,200	171,200	-	-
IRIS Income	3,125,581	3,329,625	-	-	3,329,625
Seeds of Hope Income	529,519	692,955	-	-	692,955
Prism Income	21,000	25,300	25,300	-	-
Total Income	\$ 11,030,000	\$ 11,892,580	\$ 6,080,500	\$ 575,000	\$ 5,237,080

Expenses

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
The Church in the World	2,019,558	2,501,292	2,178,792	-	322,500
Christian Outreach	3,803,783	4,032,857	95,300	-	3,937,557
Christian Formation	283,020	429,692	58,750	75,000	295,942
Missions Development	1,126,505	1,071,803	847,898	223,905	-
Community Ministries	126,740	110,000	75,500	34,500	-
Stewardship and Care	1,538,112	1,654,485	1,268,485	52,000	334,000
Office of Formation and Transition	495,755	555,837	435,837	120,000	-
Advancement	658,632	436,121	421,121	-	15,000
Facilities and Grounds	962,895	1,008,412	698,817	69,595	240,000
Total Expenses	\$ 11,015,000	\$ 11,800,500	\$ 6,080,500	\$ 575,000	\$ 5,145,000

"Consolidated" refers the full proposed budget, with income from all sources. "Corp Sole" is the Bishop as a Corporation Sole, which holds money donated or willed to the diocese and is under direct control of the current Bishop of Los Angeles. "COTD" is the Corporation of the Diocese, which manages money from grants (principally funding for Seeds of Hope and IRIS), as well as properties owned by the diocese.

Chaplains to a culture in crisis

From Bishop John Harvey Taylor

Our faith calls us to be an “Inside Out Church,” Episcopalians who bring Christ’s love alive in our neighborhoods, workplaces, and day-to-day living. In hospitals, at crisis sites when police and fire chaplains are present, in convalescent-care facilities where so many are lonely and isolated, and in prisons and in jails: How is Episcopal identity changing lives outside the context of what we do in church?

What we do on Sundays, on Saturday evenings, whenever our regular corporate worship occurs – think of it as a base camp. Think of it as a launch pad, a place for inspiration that enables us to go out into the world refreshed and rejuvenated to be the best Episcopalians can be in a spiritually hungry world.

We are collectively – lay, ordained, volunteers, staff, bishops, deacons, and priests, all of us – chaplains to a culture in crisis.

Supporting and uniting us in this work are the resources reflected on these pages, ministries funded by the annual Consolidated Budget of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles. May they strengthen us in partnerships and faith lived inside-out.



Diocese at a Glance

continued from page 1

- Diocesan Convention will meet Nov. 7-8, 2025, to elect a bishop coadjutor who will succeed Bishop Taylor upon his retirement in 2026.
- Diocesan Convention in 2025 also will elect deputies to The Episcopal Church’s 82nd General Convention, to meet in 2027 in Phoenix, Arizona.



Diocesan Convention

In keeping with churchwide and diocesan constitutions and canons, Diocesan Convention is the principal legislative body of the Diocese of Los Angeles. Convention comprises all clergy of the diocese joined by lay delegates elected by each congregation and affiliated institution.

Overseeing Convention business between annual meetings is Diocesan Council, an elected body of clergy and lay representatives who meet monthly to monitor budget, program, and related ministries.

The Church in the World	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
The Episcopal Church	819,900	825,000	825,000	-	-
Bishop's Office	1,013,023	1,458,663	1,136,163	-	322,500
Diocesan Convention	145,835	217,629	217,629	-	-
The Church in the World Total	\$ 2,019,558	\$ 2,501,292	\$ 2,178,792	\$ -	\$ 322,500

IRIS assists refugees, immigrants fleeing war and persecution

Since 2005, Interfaith Refugee and Immigration Service (IRIS) has provided services to refugees, asylum-seekers, and vulnerable non-citizen individuals and families from around the world. As a refugee resettlement agency, IRIS is uniquely situated to provide services to non-citizens, including trafficking survivors, DACA beneficiaries (“Dreamers”), and the undocumented, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable, low-income, disenfranchised, and those facing barriers to meeting their immigration needs.

The IRIS staff is experienced and trained in working with people of different cultures, backgrounds and social-economic status and has successfully helped more than 15,000 refugees and immigrants start new lives in the greater Los Angeles region. Case managers help clients to secure safe and reliable housing, obtain



legal public benefits, and seek employment. IRIS also provides cultural and community orientation and education through its various programs. With IRIS’s help, clients achieve financial independence, build social networks, and contribute to the economy and the community. Learn more about IRIS online at www.iris-la.org.

Seeds of Hope offers food resources

A diocesan ministry of food security and justice Seeds of Hope provides more than 2.2 million pounds of healthy produce and staples each year. Seeds of Hope works not only with churches in the diocese, but also with community-based organizations, including hospitals, city governments, counties, and other faith groups. It also offers clients connections for healthcare and rental assistance. Regular workshops highlight nutrition and healthy cooking, while other hands-on training focuses on composting of food and garden waste.

Looking ahead to the next 10 years, Seeds of Hope plans to expand its ministry beyond food insecurity, and to address other social determinants of health. “We are embarking on an exciting new project focused on the State of California’s new guidance regarding Medi-Cal and community health workers employed by community-based organizations,” says



Steve Trapasso, executive director. “This program has the potential to transform the preventive health landscape for our church communities, and Seeds of Hope plans to leverage the Medi-Cal funding mechanism to create hubs at select church sites that focus on addressing the social determinants of health.”

For more information visit www.seedsofhopela.org.

Christian Outreach	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
IRIS Refugee Resettlement	3,110,741	3,329,141	-	-	3,329,141
Seeds of Hope	530,305	608,416	-	-	608,416
PRISM	162,737	25,300	25,300	-	-
Camp Stevens	-	70,000	70,000	-	-
Christian Outreach Total	\$ 3,803,783	\$ 4,032,857	\$ 95,300	\$ -	\$ 3,937,557

PRISM: Serving the incarcerated

The ministry of PRISM Restorative Justice reaches incarcerated individuals throughout the state of California and is in the process of becoming an independent 501c3.

In the Los Angeles County jails, PRISM chaplains provide weekly individual prayer and counsel, facilitate study groups, and lead worship services.

Volunteer chaplain Peter Juzwiak from St. Michael and All Angels, Studio City is currently leading an enthusiastic group through the book *God and the Gay Christian* in the queer dorm at Men's Central Jail.

"While most of the work we do within the walls of the jails is invisible, we strive to bear witness to the light that shines brightly in the darkness of incarceration," Juzwiak says.

PRISM director Sharon Crandall (pictured above) and chaplain Ann Noble (pictured at right) regularly visit Men's Central Jail in downtown Los Angeles – to lead worship and talk to ever-growing groups of inmates, encouraging them to learn how to take control of their lives. Learn more at www.thecflc.org/prism.



Children, teens and adults find retreat and renewal at Camp Stevens

For seven decades Camp Stevens, located in Julian, California, has been a place of retreat and renewal for people of the dioceses of Los Angeles and San Diego.

Children and teens can swim, do crafts, sing, garden, cook, feed the camp chickens, climb and hike in the camp's 256 acres of oak and pine forests and meadows. Executive Director Kathy Wilder and her staff provide a variety of group activities that challenge young people to learn new skills and build confidence. The camper-ship fund allows Camp Stevens to include children who otherwise might never have a chance to see stars away from city lights or run across a mountain meadow.

Adults attending retreats and conferences meet and relax in comfortable rustic lodgings and enjoy the camp's delicious and healthy food. Parents and children gather for special weekend family camps, with activities for all ages.

Camp Stevens has something for everyone. Learn more at www.campstevens.org.

College chaplaincies: Feeding bodies and souls

Canterbury Clubs are the Episcopal Church's college campus ministries, three of which are active in the Diocese of Los Angeles; at UCLA, USC, and UC Irvine. Other colleges, such as UC Santa Barbara, are served by programs based at local congregations.

Canterbury USC is a blossoming campus ministry at the University of Southern California. Based at St. John's Cathedral, this ministry serves as a spiritual home for Episcopalians, seekers, and friends and as a home for music, fellowship, community activism, and food justice. Undergraduate and graduate students alike enjoy the fun activities, meals, and worship.

St. Alban's Church, located across the street from UCLA, offers a Wednesday noonday prayer service along with Compline and Bible study on Thursday evenings. St. Alban's coordinates meals each Tuesday and Thursday and supports a partnership ministry with the Wesley Foundation under the direction of Jean Roe Smith.

Community Table at UC Irvine offers food, fellowship, and fun, along with opportunities to develop lasting



bonds, learn important skills, and figure out the future. This Canterbury Irvine outreach is a project of St. Andrew's, Irvine; St. Michael & All Angels, Corona del Mar; and St. George's, Laguna Hills, with University United Methodist Church in Irvine.

"Canterbury Irvine decided to be Jesus on the campus by providing food and easing pain and showing the way of love with no strings attached," said the Rev. Glenn Libby, who helped to establish the program. "All the campus ministries in the diocese have ended up doing very similar outreach to students who are in various ways marginalized and under-resourced because that is where the need is."

Christian formation leaders on the diocesan staff

Missy Morain

*Missioner
for Christian
Formation,
Children, and
Youth Ministries*



The Rev.
Ryan Newman
*Executive Director,
Commission on
Schools*



The Rev.
Paul Daniels
*Dean, Bloy House,
the Episcopal
Theological School
at Los Angeles*



Christian Formation

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
Neighborhood Youth Association	38,500	40,000	-	-	40,000
Campus & Youth	76,000	101,000	51,000	50,000	-
Youth Ministry	-	125,567	-	-	125,567
Commission on Schools	134,020	130,375	-	-	130,375
EFM Contract Fees	2,750	2,750	2,750	-	-
Bloy House	25,000	25,000	-	25,000	-
Diocesan Asian/Hispanic Ministries	3,750	-	-	-	-
Bishop's Commission on Liturgy & Music	3,000	5,000	5,000	-	-
Christian Formation Total	\$ 283,020	\$ 429,692	\$ 58,750	\$ 75,000	\$ 295,942

Mission Congregations

Among the blessings of diocesan ministry are the ways in which smaller neighborhood congregations are assisted by larger congregations through the Mission Share Fund budget. Of the diocese's 133

churches, 38 are missions, most of which receive annual MSF grants as determined by the Program Group on Mission Congregations. These grants enable ministry in neighborhoods that benefit greatly from the presence of The Episcopal Church.

St. Thomas' Church, Hacienda Heights

St. Thomas' Mission, Hacienda Heights, is a multicultural congregation celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. This mission is a melting pot of Anglos, Filipinos, Latinos, Taiwanese and Chinese people, including Cantonese and Mandarin speakers. St. Thomas' continues to be a beacon of hope and transformational community to its Chinese-speaking neighbors through regular weekday and weekend programs for children, youth, and young adults, both in person and online.



Missions of the diocese

- Anaheim, St. Michael's Church
- Barstow, St. Paul's Episcopal Church & Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church (ELCA)
- Beaumont, St. Stephen's Church
- Big Bear Lake, St. Columba's Church/Spirit of Peace (ELCA)
- El Monte, Immanuel Church
- Garden Grove, St. Anselm's Church
- Gardena, Holy Communion Church
- Glendale, Iglesia de la Magdalena Mission
- Hacienda Heights, St. Thomas' Church
- Hawthorne, St. George's Church
- Hesperia, St. Hilary's Church
- Huntington Park, St. Clement's Church/Mision San Clemente de Roma
- Irvine, St. Andrew's Church (*moving to parish status*)
- Isla Vista, St. Michael's University Church
- La Crescenta, St. Luke's of-the-Mountains Church
- La Verne, St. John's Church
- Laguna Hills, St. George's Church

- Laguna Niguel, Faith Church
- Lake Arrowhead, St. Richard of Chichester Church
- Long Beach, St. Thomas of Canterbury Church
- Los Angeles, Church of the Epiphany
- Los Angeles, St. Athanasius' Church
- Moreno Valley, Grace Church
- Needles, St. John the Evangelist Church
- Norwalk, St. Francis' Church
- Oak Park, Church of the Epiphany
- Pico Rivera, St. Bartholomew's Church
- Rancho Santa Margarita, St. John Chrysostom Church
- Rialto, St. Peter's Church
- Riverside, St. George's Church
- San Bernardino, St. John's Church
- Seal Beach, St. Theodore of Canterbury Church
- Simi Valley, St. Francis of Assisi Church
- Twentynine Palms, St. Martin in-the-Fields Church
- Wilmington, St. John's Church/Holy Child Philippine Independent Church
- Winnetka, St. Martin in-the-Fields Church
- Yucaipa, St. Alban's Church
- Yucca Valley, St. Joseph of Arimathea Church

Missions & Congregational Development

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
Administration	128,264	136,192	136,192	-	-
Missions-Retired Benefits	19,776	19,776	19,776	-	-
Mission Grants	867,780	862,350	691,930	170,420	-
Missions-Bishop's Discretion	110,685	53,485	-	53,485	-
Missions Development Total	\$ 1,126,505	\$ 1,071,803	\$ 847,898	\$ 223,905	\$ -

St. Michael's Church, Anaheim

St. Michael's Church has seen tremendous change in its 150-year history. Beginning life in a white wood-frame church building – still on the Anaheim campus – the congregation later built a much larger A-frame structure to house its growing congregation.

Today, led by the Rev. Canon Juan Jiménez, St. Michael's is larger than ever, though the middle-class congregation has been succeeded by an all-Latino, all working-class membership. Jiménez offers worship in both Spanish and English to accommodate older members and their American-born children and grandchildren.

St. Michael's is not a high-income congregation, despite its large membership, but is rich in community and love. Its current project, in partnership with St. James' Church, Newport Beach, is a projected affordable housing unit on its large property, being planned with the help of Habitat for Humanity. The new housing will benefit neighbors in need of a secure place to live; the rents will help fund St. Michael's ministries.



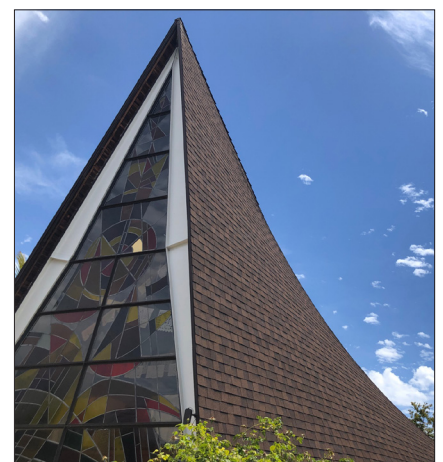
St. Michael's University Church, Isla Vista (UC Santa Barbara)

One of the unusual churches in the Diocese of Los Angeles is St. Michael the Archangel University Church, whose congregation is constantly in flux, peopled as it is with students, as well as many faculty and staff, from the University of California at Santa Barbara. St. Michael's celebrated its 70th anniversary on Nov. 3 with a visit from Bishop John Harvey Taylor.



The upwards swoop of the church roof and its thriving community garden make it a landmark in the university town. In addition to its own education and youth-oriented worship and music events, St. Michael's frequently hosts students from UCSB's music department for senior recitals and other performances.

"With its commitments to food and environmental justice, racial justice, critical thinking (so many from UC Santa Barbara, from freshmen to top professors), interfaith conversation, and radical inclusion, this is a community well acquainted with Christian love in action," wrote Bishop Taylor after a 2022 visit to the congregation.



Culturally Focused Ministries

Hallmarks of mission in the Diocese of Los Angeles include culturally focused ministries that reflect the diverse population of Southern California and the Central Coast. This vibrant outreach, known as “Community Ministries,” is carried forward by these

program groups and commissions:

- Program Group on African Descent Ministries
- The Gathering of Asian-Pacific Islander Ministries
- Program Group on Hispanic/Latino Ministries
- Program Group on Indigenous Ministries
- Bishop’s Commission on LGBTQ+ Ministries

Hispanic/Latino Ministries group strengthens leadership, outreach

Strengthening leadership, nurturing the diocese’s 25 Spanish-speaking congregations, and increasing outreach to primarily English-speaking Latinos are priorities for the diocesan Program Group on Hispanic/Latino Ministries.

“We must step up to a paradigm shift that is reflected by the large presence of English-dominant Latinos of second, third, and fourth generations” in our diocese, the Rev. Carlos Ruvalcaba, program group chair, told Diocesan Council this year. “Looking to the future, the Anglo congregations have the most potential and resources to engage in this new, unique model of ‘Se habla English.’”

A resource for this work was this year’s New Camino conference, coordinated in Los Angeles by program group members and the Rev. Canon Anthony Guillen, missionary for Latino/Hispanic ministries for The Episcopal Church. The conference was strongly endorsed by Bishop John Harvey Taylor.

“All around us, in almost all our neighborhoods in the Central Coast and Southern California, there are second-, third- and fourth-generation neighbors whom we have the opportunity to minister to,” Taylor told Diocesan Council at its February 2024 meeting. “We don’t have to speak Spanish to serve this population. It’s a *metanoia*, a change of attitude to realize what



our responsibilities might be. It’s really of interest to virtually every church in our diocese.”

The program group also offers the Instituto de Liderazgo (Leadership Institute), and El Gran Convivio (the Great Banquet), and sponsors cultural immersion celebrations of the Epiphany season, Día de los Muertos, and the Dec. 12 feast of the Virgen de Guadalupe. Similarly, “Ahora Que Nuestro Mundo ha Cambiado (Now That Our World Has Changed) offers healthy living opportunities, and “A Su Lado” is a Spanish language version of Episcopal Communities and Services’ “By Your Side” training for volunteers to support those facing challenges or end of life.

The Instituto received a \$7,500 One Body & One Spirit Annual Appeal grant in 2023 to purchase computers for its students, many of whom are 60-somethings for whom “this is their first time getting and touching and working with a computer,” Fr. Rubalcava told Council. The institute offers theology, preaching, pastoral care, and liturgy, technology and church leadership, and discernment formational opportunities for lay people.

Community Ministries

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
The Gathering	3,000	1,500	1,500	-	-
Black Ministries	41,500	28,000	28,000	-	-
Chinese Ministries	18,000	15,000	15,000	-	-
Hispanic Ministries	35,760	36,000	11,000	25,000	-
Korean Ministries	12,600	10,000	10,000	-	-
LGBTQ+ Ministries	14,230	10,000	8,000	2,000	-
Native American Ministries	1,650	9,500	2,000	7,500	-
Community Ministries Total	\$ 126,740	\$ 110,000	\$ 75,500	\$ 34,500	\$ -

Asian/Pacific Island Ministries

Some of the liveliest ministries in the Diocese of Los Angeles are those to and by Asian communities: Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean and Pacific Islander. Episcopalians of Asian descent have their own diocesan ministry group, known as The Gathering: A Space for Asian Pacific Ministries, currently moderated by the Rev. Mel Soriano.

Especially prominent in 2024 was the work of Chinese Episcopalians at St. Gabriel’s Church, Monterey Park; Church of Our Saviour, San Gabriel; and St. Thomas’ in Hacienda Heights. Their ministry was highlighted by a new companion relationship with the Episcopal Diocese of Taiwan, which is part of The Episcopal Church’s Province VIII (Province of the Pacific). Bishop Taylor and three Chinese-American priests – Thomas Ni, Katherine Feng, and Hsin-Fen Fennie Chang – attended the Taiwan diocese’s gala 70th anniversary celebration in September. The Chinese-language



congregations certainly will play a major role when Bishop Lennon Chang of Taiwan visits the Diocese of Los Angeles in 2025.

In addition to the support that these congregations provide, the Chinese ministries have requested an allocation in the MSF budget to support outreach and programs for this rapidly-growing segment of the diocese’s population.



St. Gabriel’s Church, Monterey Park

St. Gabriel’s, founded in 1983, is the first congregation in the diocese specifically founded for Episcopalians whose first language is Chinese (both Mandarin and Cantonese). In 2024 the congregation, led by the Rev. Ada Nagata, built up its youth, young adult and children’s programs, its online presence, and its music program, as well as adult education and outreach projects. They hope in 2025 to hire an office assistant who will help support these programs and other work.

Church of Our Saviour, San Gabriel, and the Li Tim Oi Center

The Chinese ministry at Church of Our Saviour, a 150-year-old congregation in San Gabriel, plans to strengthen its children’s and youth programs and expand its outreach ministries in 2025. It will continue to be the site of the Li Tim Oi Center, an educational ministry of the diocese, which early in 2024 hosted a two-day celebration marking the 80th ordination anniversary of the center’s namesake, the first woman priest in the Anglican Communion.

The center is currently offering its 13th Lay Leadership Training Course; a hybrid in-person and online class



on Christian Art and Theology, taught by renowned artist He Qi and certified by Bloy House. Two more lay leadership courses are planned for 2025.



African Descent ministries share music, worship

The diocese’s Program Group on African Descent Ministries, led by Canon Suzanne Edwards-Acton and the Rev. John Limo, co-chairs, in 2023 and 2024 teamed with a local chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE), led by the Rev. Guy Leemhuis, to lift up the rich tradition of Black Christian worship, music and ministry.

Powered by an increased allotment in the diocesan budget, the program group and UBE have hosted special services for occasions such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day; the feast day of the Rev. Absalom Jones, first African-American to be ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church; and Juneteenth (June 19), now a

federal holiday, which marks the end of legal slavery in the United States. These celebrations have featured music groups such as The Episcopal Chorale, a renowned local gospel choir founded and directed by Canon Chas Cheatham, and distinguished speakers, including Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. The services also have featured a libation rite to remember Black ancestors in the faith.

In May 2024 the two ministry groups sponsored a special service in honor of retired Bishop Suffragan Chet Talton, first African-American to be elected a bishop in the Diocese of Los Angeles. “Today,” said Bishop Talton, “I feel loved by The Episcopal Church.”

Indigenous ministry empowers Native women, families

Southern California is home to more Native Americans than any other area in the United States. The Rev. Canon Mary Crist leads Indigenous ministry in the Diocese of Los Angeles, much of it centered at St. Michael’s Mission Center, which recently opened 50 units of affordable housing on its Riverside campus.

Canon Crist, an enrolled member of the Blackfeet tribe and indigenous education minister on Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s staff, also leads women’s Talking Circle groups, one in the Inland Empires and another that gathers on the rooftop terrace at St. Paul’s Commons. The Talking Circle work is primarily



funded by grants from The Episcopal Church as well as diocesan funds.

“Our goal in this ministry is to develop leadership, to connect people with their traditions, to connect people with other urban Natives, and to let them know that it didn’t all go away in the past – that we’re all still here,” Crist said in a report to Diocesan Council. “And we’re strong and resilient. And we’re here to help one another.”



GLEAM celebrates inclusion of LGBTQ+ Christians

The Bishop’s Commission on LGBTQ+ Ministry in the Diocese of Los Angeles includes the task force GLEAM – Gathering LGBTQ+ Episcopalians in Active Ministry. This group creates opportunities for fellowship, evangelism, education, and spiritual growth through various events and programs. GLEAM actively participates in Southland pride events with parade entries, booths, and a large turnout from many

congregations. GLEAM’s annual garden party at the episcopal residence is a joyous reunion and another sign of the diocese’s commitment to inclusion. By fostering a welcoming environment, the commission nurtures a vibrant community in which LGBTQ+ individuals can thrive in their faith. Ultimately, GLEAM embodies the message that all are beloved children of God.

STEWARDSHIP & CARE



Human Resources

At the heart of diocesan life and operations are people, including hundreds of employees of local congregations, schools, institutions, and the diocese itself. A center of support to this labor force is Canon Anilin Collado, diocesan missioner for human resources, who coordinates benefits programs, including healthcare, disability, and other insurance plans. She serves as the diocese’s principal liaison with the Church Pension Group and the Episcopal Church Medical Trust, facilitating open enrollment and processing claims, among other services.

A member of the diocesan staff for more than 35 years, Canon Collado is a highly valued colleague who sees her ministry as a vocation of service. The vital work of the Human Resources Office is one of the most significant departments funded by the diocesan Mission Share Fund budget.

Stewardship & Care

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
Human Resources	338,040	337,968	235,968	2,000	100,000
Administration and Finance	751,072	902,517	852,517	50,000	-
Information & Technology (IT)	215,000	180,000	180,000	-	-
Unemployment Insurance	234,000	234,000	-	-	234,000
Stewardship and Care Total	\$ 1,538,112	\$ 1,654,485	\$ 1,268,485	\$ 52,000	\$ 334,000



Serving the clergy and lay leaders of the diocese

The Office of Formation and Transition Ministry (OFTM) oversees individual discernment and the process for both lay and ordained ministry. The office handles the licensing and transfer of clergy to and from the diocese, provides support for new clergy, and facilitates clergy assignments. It also guides parishes and missions that are seeking new clergy leadership.

Currently 31 people are engaged in various stages of discernment and formation, from seminary to ordination, according to the Rev. Canon Thomas Quijada-Discavage, missionary for formation and transition ministry. Four candidates are preparing for ordination in January 2025, and 12 postulants are finishing their process. About 20 others are exploring their call with discernment committees in their congregations.

More than 50 congregations of the diocese are in the midst of a change in clergy leadership – a number that is likely to grow in 2025, says Quijada-Discavage.

Along with the wider church, OFTM is engaged in discussion, planning and implementation of emerging models for new and vibrant ministry.

Faced with a growing clergy shortage across the church, OFTM coordinates with transition officers in Province VIII and in the wider Episcopal Church. “At present, we need both full-time and, increasingly, part-time clergy to fill our positions,” says Quijada-Discavage. “This office works with vestries/bishop’s committees, transition committees, and search committees as congregations prepare to call their next priest.”

The OFTM coordinates and facilitates History/Story Day events and most mutual ministry reviews in transitioning and non-transitioning congregations. In 2025 OFTM will offer new and continuing support such as FreshStart/ANIMA groups for clergy who are newly ordained or starting at a new church, along with workshops for deacons and matching grants for curacies.

Formation & Transition

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
Office of Formation and Transition Ministry	475,315	535,397	415,397	120,000	-
Deacon Formation	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	-
Deaneries Support	10,440	10,440	10,440	-	-
Interfaith Ministry	8,000	8,000	8,000	-	-
OFTM Total	\$ 495,755	\$ 555,837	\$ 435,837	\$ 120,000	\$ -

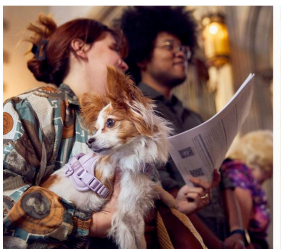
October 13, 2024



Congregations around the diocese mark St. Francis Day with blessings of animals

Dogs and cats, turtles and lizards, and other pet animals joined their humans at church on and around Oct. 4, feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, widely revered as patron saint of animals and the environment.

Pictured at top: Holy Spirit Community gathers pets and people for a brief service in Echo Park, across the street from their meeting place at St. Paul's Commons, before offering blessings. At left: a winsome canine awaits a blessing at St. Augustine's Church, Santa Monica.



More pet blessings (clockwise from top left): A priest blesses two dogs at St. Andrew's, Torrance; a well-vested pooch at St. Peter's, San Pedro poses with the Very Rev. Jeanette Repp, rector, and dean of Deanery 8; a priest appears to counsel a dog before bestowing a blessing at St. Mark's, Upland; the Rev. John Watson, priest-in-charge of St. Athanasius' Church, blesses a tub of turtles in Echo Park; a dog at St. Thomas' Church, Hollywood, and his people join in the service; and a dog accepts a blessing at St. Mark's Church, Glendale. Many other congregations marked the day, which also concluded The Episcopal Church's *Season of Creation*. Photos: Facebook



Interfaith ministers-in-residence build bridges

The Diocese of Los Angeles is enriched by a team of four interfaith ministers-in-residence who assist in coordinating events, developing resources, and consulting with congregations to build bridges of understanding locally and beyond.

Offering a unique model among dioceses of the wider Episcopal Church, the four ministers are (above, from left): rabbinic student Leah Julian; Muslim educator Tasneem Noor; Hindu-Sikh activist Tahil Sharma; and ecumenical/USC administrator Sable Manson.

Each of these four ministers receives a modest annual stipend from the diocesan Mission Share Fund budget. They assist Bishop John Harvey Taylor and the diocesan Program Group on Ecumenical and Interfaith Life in collaboration on initiatives including regular forums and a resource guide for congregations.

ADVANCEMENT

Communications & Public Affairs

Effective sharing of diocesan news and information is essential to the vitality of shared ministries and community-building.

The Episcopal News Update, emailed each Wednesday, provides announcements and feature articles to more than 10,000 readers across the diocese and beyond (an issue is shown at left). All congregations are asked to provide distribution lists that are used solely for diocesan communication. Other digital publications include the monthly Angelus clergy newsletter and the every-Tuesday Resource Roundup, sharing practical "news to use" with clergy, wardens, and other lay leaders. The diocesan Office of Communications and Public Affairs also manages the diocesan website (www.diocesela.org) and social media outreach, produces collateral print materials, coordinates media relations, and supports diocesan initiatives and public events – continuing a ministry begun in 1897 with the first diocesan news magazine.

Advancement

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
Capital Development	255,070	15,000	-	-	15,000
Communications and Public Affairs	311,120	317,182	317,182	-	-
Stewardship	1,750	2,050	2,050	-	-
Retreat Center	90,692	101,889	101,889	-	-
Advancement Total	\$ 658,632	\$ 436,121	\$ 421,121	\$ -	\$ 15,000



The Retreat Center at St. Paul's Commons

A strategic asset in advancing the mission of the Diocese of Los Angeles is the Retreat Center at St. Paul's Commons. Its ministry of hospitality generates both operating revenue and public awareness of the diocese among visitors hosted year-round.

With 16 guest rooms and nearby conference and event spaces overlooking Echo Park Lake, the Retreat Center is a unique venue for both day-long events and overnight accommodations. Meal service and technology support are key facets of onsite facilities serving civic groups, regional conferences, vestry retreats, youth gatherings, national/international ministries, and more.



The sanctuary, Great Hall, and rooftop terrace also regularly host weddings, quinceañeras, memorials, birthday celebrations, and other gatherings of families and friends. More information is available at www.retreatcenter.com.

Property partners

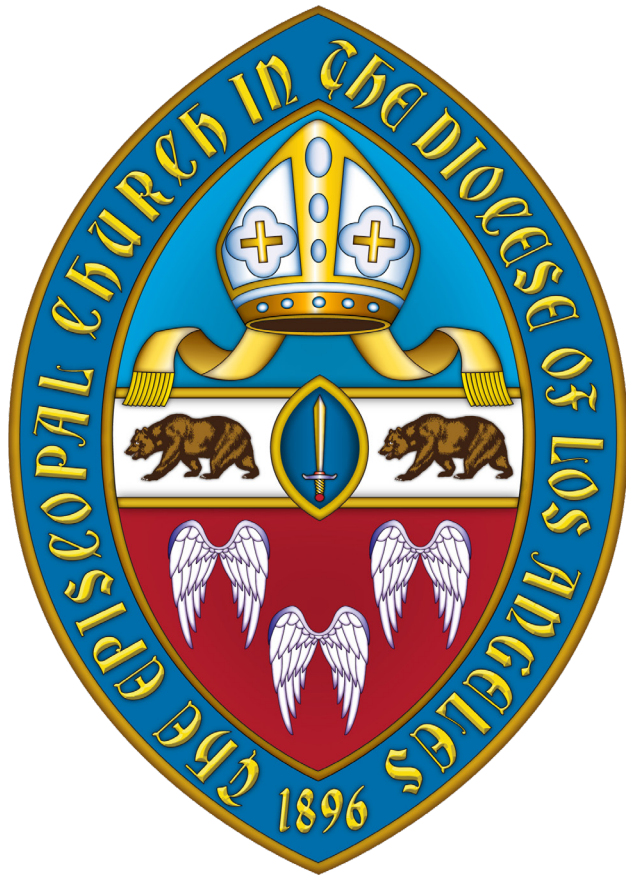
Lease agreements at St. Paul's Commons in Echo Park – with ecumenical, interfaith, and civic groups – yield revenue that helps meet expenses of space shared with diocesan offices.

Allocations from the diocesan consolidated budget are managed by the Corporation of the Diocese, Diocesan Council, and staff to assure cost-effective maintenance of facilities, including energy efficiency, safety, and interior/exterior upkeep of buildings owned and operated by the Diocese of Los Angeles.



Facilities & Grounds

	2024 Consolidated	2025 Consolidated	2025 MSF	2025 Corp Sole	2025 COTD
Building Operations	628,860	689,201	619,606	69,595	-
Episcopal Residence Expense	134,035	119,211	79,211	-	40,000
Capital Improvements	200,000	200,000	-	-	200,000
Facilities and Grounds Total	\$ 962,895	\$ 1,008,412	\$ 698,817	\$ 69,595	\$ 240,000



The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles
St. Paul's Commons
840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90026
www.diocesela.org