

THE REV. IAN C. BURCH

Milwaukee, WI | ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org | (773) 206-0175

Episcopal priest with significant skills in congregational vitality, pastoral care, liturgical leadership, children's ministry, preaching, music, catechesis, and administration. Special aptitude in adult and youth formation. Passionate advocate and scholar in the field of church hospitality and growth. Significant experience providing pastoral care to people of all faiths and none. Experience in land sale, new construction, and capital fundraising. Expert in systems-based leadership and small-group facilitation.

MINISTRY

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Milwaukee

Rector

January 2016-Present

Accomplishments

- 100% attendance increase in 7.5 years
- Re-focused significant parish resources (staff and money) toward children and youth
- 1 million dollar capital campaign
- Construction of new parish hall
- Significantly increased lay leadership in key ministry areas
- Fully revitalized music program
- Added weekly services—Eucharists, online morning prayer, and monthly Taize

Responsibilities

- *Pastoral leadership.* Accompany parishioners in all the ups and down of life and across all ages from children to elders. Listen deeply. Love as best I can. Remind parishioners that there is no one and nothing that can separate them from the love of Christ. Remind the laity of this in preaching, in worship and at bedsides.
- *Vestry and staff development.* Manage a staff of seven. Provide regular feedback. Advocate for staff salary and continuing education with the Vestry. Deploy staff based on staff interests and skills with an eye toward parish needs. Form and develop staff as department leaders so they in turn form and develop parishioners as leaders.
- *Strategy and vision.* Outline a vision for St. Mark's in conversation with the Vestry. Actively combat a narrative of scarcity with one of abundance. Facilitate difficult conversations around finances, building use and mission. Help St. Mark's discover who

we are in 2023 and how we ought to respond to God's call in the Gospel given the demographic trends in American Christianity. Facilitate land sale, capital campaign, and the building of a new ADA compliant parish hall.

St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church and Day School, Chicago

Associate Rector, Lilly Curate Grant Recipient

June 2013 – December 2015

Accomplishments

- Revitalized youth and adult acolyte corps
- Launched 20/30s social and service group
- Shepherded national preaching series (Brueggemann, Willimon)
- Hired junior chaplain for Day School and Sunday School

Responsibilities

- *Worship leadership.* Make Christ known. Preach and preside regularly at Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday morning services. Support newly re-formed acolyte teams. Support newly re-started Altar Guild. Encourage lay sacristans in their holy work to facilitate solemn, simple and effective worship. Recruit and train new Verger. Educate laity on richness of liturgical seasons and observances. Connect Sunday liturgy with family observance in the home. Connect the work of the liturgy to the justice work of God's reign in the world.
- *Ministry development.* Support and implement the growth vision of the Rector and Wardens. Manage and coach the Director for Youth. Support and mentor worship ministry heads. Develop lay persons for increasing levels of worship and committee leadership. Welcome and connect newcomers to parish life. Accompany 20s/30s members of the parish. Prepare and teach weekly Bible Study. Prepare and teach Adult Education modules. Teach baptism and wedding preparation courses. Implement a new online scheduler. Implement a new online database. Train discernment teams and mentor our new Nominee for Holy Orders.
- *Pastoral care.* Train new Lay Eucharistic Ministers for hospital and home visitations. Integrate professional pastoral care training into a robust parish community. Plan community funerals for members and non-members. Work with memorial gift families. Keep office hours for parishioner joys and concerns.

RUSH Oak Park Hospital & VITAS, Chicago

Acting Director, Lead Chaplain, Staff Chaplain, Resident Chaplain

Nov 2004 - June 2013

Responsibilities

- *Chaplaincy.* Provided spiritual, emotional, and educational support to patients, families and staff. Planned and led bereavement seminars and interfaith staff worship services. Promoted cultural competence among staff people in yearly seminars. Provided spiritual self-care retreats for staff of 400. Kept office hours for staff and families. Educated families about rights, responsibilities and rituals at the end of life. Provided pastoral care during medical crises. Ritually marked significant life-experiences for staff (weddings, memorial services, burials).
- *Leadership.* Acting Director during Director's sabbatical. Facilitated community Mass for 120 worshippers weekly in St. Lucy Chapel. Planned and led weekly interfaith worship. Helped the department stay on or under budget. Managed volunteer Eucharistic ministers. Planned and executed spirituality modules for new employee orientation quarterly. Organized volunteers for yearly food, toy and school supply drives. Served on Ethics Committee.

EDUCATION

2024*	The General Theological Seminary	Doctor of Ministry (Candidate)
2004	Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago	Master of Divinity
2000	Gustavus Adolphus College	BA Religion/Music

INVOLVEMENT

Appointments

- Consultation Committee/Board Member, Episcopal Charities Church Home 2004-2015
- Commission on Ministry, member 2017, president 2019-21
- Cathedral Corporation (managing diocesan investments), 2018-21
- Co-Chair, Diocesan Bishop Search, 2021-22
- Renewal Taskforce, 2021-22

Certifications & Qualifications

- Certificate in Community Organizing from Johnson C. Smith Seminary, 2018
- Anti-racism Training Certificate, Diocese of Chicago 2013
- Board Certified Chaplain, Association of Professional Chaplains, 2008-2015

*Anticipated completion date of the Doctor of Ministry. Project working title: *Why People Stick: An ethnographic study of newcomers in a growing church*