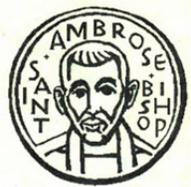


# St. Ambrose



# Parish Profile

Foster City, California • January 2022



*St. Ambrose is a part of [The Episcopal Diocese of California](#) which serves a diverse community of faith encompassing the greater San Francisco Bay Area*



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church of Foster City is to proclaim the good news of God in Jesus Christ as we care for each other and our larger community. In the Episcopal tradition, we extend an open and inclusive invitation to all people. We care for others and the stranger, we welcome children into our family, and we serve those in need.

## **INCLUSION & DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

At St. Ambrose, we welcome difference in our congregation, clergy, and staff; in gender, race, ethnicity, age, and sexual orientation. This is central to our mission as we seek to make this world a better representation of God's Kingdom.



# **CONTENTS**

[The Invitation](#)

[Our Parish](#)

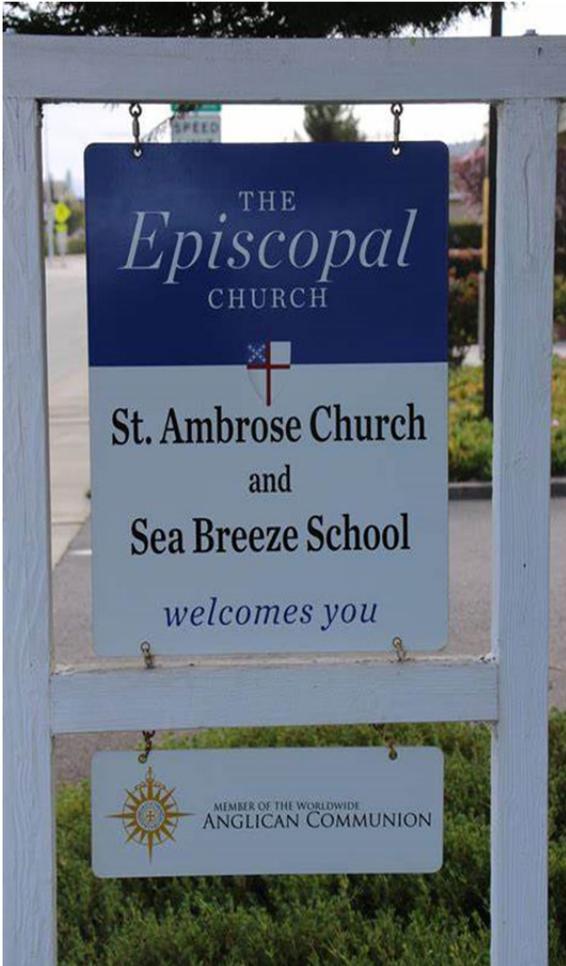
[Our New Rector](#)

[Financials /  
Sea Breeze School](#)

[Ministries](#)

# The Invitation

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Are you a **collaborative leader** who can help us discern a common vision, and reach out to the community around us?

Are you a **person of deep faith** who is called to be with us on our spiritual journey?

Are you drawn to the **new energy** and **new freedom** that are present at St. Ambrose?

**Come talk with us.** We are ready to partner with you. Over the past few years, we have thought quite hard about our parish and have planned for the future by putting together funds to assist with housing.

*Our application process can be found here.*



# Our Parish

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## *Town Hall Feedback*

*“St. Ambrose is a small parish and it’s allowed us to get to know the members and it’s just all ages, all ethnicities and I always feel at peace.”*

*“I love the diversity of the church.”*

*“People are unique and so different – at the same time we all come together and are good to each other.”*

*“The sermons make scriptures relevant to my life.”*

*“I came to St. Ambrose for the community.”*

*“We work together to do the things we do.”*

*“Everybody knows everybody.”*

*“To me it’s just that tight community feel that I get.”*

*“Our Bible Study and Contemplative Meditation are highlights of the week.”*

*“The voices of our Sea Breeze School children fill the church with joy all week.”*

Today, we average about 65 adults and children each Sunday between the two services, and 200 preschool students during the week. The congregation is a diverse assembly of families from all over the nation and the world. We worship in the Episcopal and Anglican tradition, and have an active and vital Vestry and Deanery.

We gather to worship God as revealed to us through our Lord Jesus Christ. We gather to sing God's Praise, hear God's Word proclaimed through the reading of scripture and sermon, to offer our prayers on behalf of God's World, and to break bread with one another in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Though we are a diverse and welcoming [church](#), we are always looking for ways to expand our membership and make participation in church activities a more meaningful experience.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we have made repairs and renovations to the facilities and added a few new members. We all look forward to our future and a positive expectation of working with a new rector.



# Our New Rector

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At both the parish and the school, we are seeking a rector who is drawn to the sense of community within the congregation, and who conveys the love of God to adults, youth, and children who walk through our doors and to our community. Additionally, the rector we are seeking will encourage mentoring relationships, commit to spiritual formation, and communicate seasoned faith.

We value a personal and professional maturity, along with the ability to provide pastoral and engaging messages from the pulpit that will inspire us to learn more, do more, and become better people. A sense of humor will be helpful, along with a willingness to engage in community life.

Collaborative leadership will be essential to help guide the parish and school through renewed growth and change, challenging the parish to do more as stewards of God's blessings. With a genuine and enthusiastic welcoming spirit, the rector can help to maintain the characteristics that have attracted parishioners to St. Ambrose as their spiritual home – loving community, diversity, and the possibility for newcomers and long-time members to participate actively in parish life.

It is important to us that our rector exhibit a life deeply informed by a personal journey in faith, demonstrating the disciplines of personal study, reflection, and spiritual nurturing that model care for self, stewardship of talents, and spiritual growth. We seek someone who possesses a gift for communication, manifested especially in theologically informed, inspiring sermons that strengthen parishioners on our own

spiritual pilgrimages. Additionally, strong pastoral skills will include the ability to reach out to all parishioners, students, and [staff](#): to counsel those in trouble, to help give purpose to life, recognize the unique gifts of each individual, and celebrate occasions of joy in parishioners' daily lives.

As an administrator, the rector we seek will possess a stewardship view of financial management and will share leadership with the vestry and the congregation to meet our budgetary needs.

We are looking for someone with sufficient managerial and leadership skills and a vision to lead a staff of creative and experienced persons ministering to a diverse population in [Foster City](#) – a leader who can help us to lead ourselves.

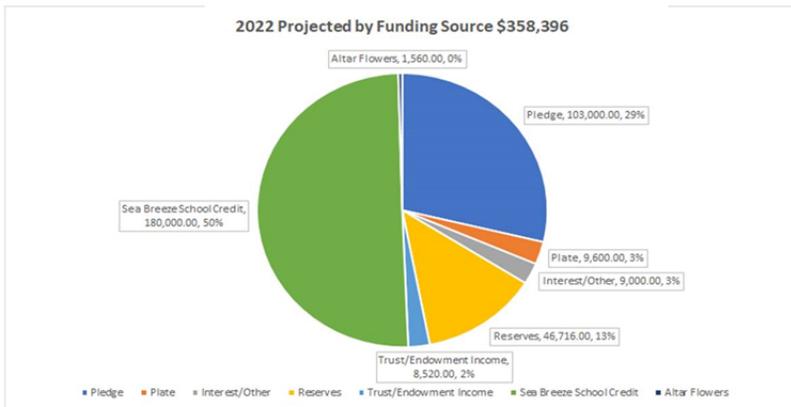


*St. Ambrose Episcopal Church welcomes all candidates to accompany us on a shared journey of faith and discovery.*

# Financials / Sea Breeze School

One of the most important tasks the Vestry undertakes in the fall of each year is conducting the Stewardship Campaign and preparing the budget for the upcoming year. The following charts give insight into where the money comes from and where it goes to, with Sea Breeze School as our main funding source.

## Projected Income for 2022



Pledge	103,000.00
Plate	9,600.00
Interest/Other	9,000.00
Reserves	46,716.00
Trust/Endowment Income	8,520.00
Sea Breeze School Credit	180,000.00
Altar Flowers	1,560.00
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>358,396.00</b>

[St. Ambrose Sea Breeze School](#) is an outreach program of our church which offers Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten, After School Care and Summer Programs to over 200 children. Spiritual development is promoted through weekly Chapel Services conducted by the Rector. The school has a staff of nearly 20 educators lead by a Principal and Preschool Director, and an operating budget of over \$2,000,000.

Sea Breeze is licensed by the State of California, Community Care Licensing Bureau and maintains very high standards of quality childcare.

Sea Breeze and St. Ambrose share a large campus that includes five large well designed classrooms, two large outdoor areas that include a playground with climbing equipment and a grassy area for running and playing. Sea Breeze supports St. Ambrose with a payment of approximately \$180,000 a year (with plans in 2023 to increase their payment an additional \$23,000).

The Sea Breeze School Board consists of the Principal, the Rector, a designee from the Vestry and five elected members (three from St. Ambrose and two parents of students who are presently attending the school).

## 2021 Budgeted Expenses \$363,042



Diocesan Assessment	Outreach
Clergy Leadership	Staff Leadership
Programs	Building Expenses

# Ministries

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Giving of ourselves to our church community and to our neighborhood communities is essential to our way of living out our faith. Below are some of the [ways we do it](#).

## *Blessing of the Animals*

St. Ambrose has celebrated the Feast of St. Francis (October) from 2005 to 2019 at the Foster City Dog Park. An average of 30 pets and their owners from the community come forward to be blessed by one or two priests from St. Ambrose.

## *Sandwiches on Sunday*

On 4-5 Sundays per year, St. Ambrose serves hot lunch to 60 – 90 people at the Fair Oaks Community Center in Redwood City.

## *Home and Hope*

Home and Hope provides shelter for families who are faced with unemployment, family breakup, loss of their house, and other crises. Over 30 Peninsula churches and synagogues participate. St. Ambrose members serve meals, dine with the clients, and sleep over at the Hope Lutheran boarding facilities in San Mateo four times a year.

## *Samaritan House Family Sharing*

St. Ambrose parishioners make Christmas a little brighter for 2-3 San Mateo families who are clients of Samaritan House. We contact the families, then purchase and deliver gifts to them a week before Christmas, typically spending \$1,000 in total.

## *El Buen Pastor*

## *Cambodia Academy*



## *Music Ministry*

The choir is an all-volunteer group who love to sing, led by the Minister of Music and the Choir Director. The choir sings every Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. service.

## *Children and Youth Ministry*

St. Ambrose is about being present with our youth where they are and inviting them to grow in their awareness of what is right in the world and to live into the Love of God. Our program includes mentoring youth, pastoral care, creating opportunities for service and mission, teaching the Christian traditions of the Episcopal Church and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

## *Lay-led Bible Study and Prayer Group*

Lay initiatives have included an evening home Bible study group (suspended by the pandemic), and a recently revived intercessory prayer group meeting after church on Sunday mornings.

## *The Altar Guild*

The Altar Guild is a group of dedicated parishioners who prepare the altar for each service and provide beautiful flower arrangement for the sanctuary.