

## St. Andrew's, Buffalo

### **What are some significant moments in the history of your church that have shaped its identity today?**

Our parish, which began as a German-language mission of St. Paul's Cathedral, became an English-speaking chapel and parish under the leadership of Charles Henry Brent. He was a newly ordained priest, and a proponent of the liturgical and theological ideas of the founders of the Oxford Movement. In other words, St. Andrew's has been an Anglo-Catholic church from the start.



### **What makes your church unique in the region and the diocese?**

We are an Anglo-Catholic parish, and our liturgy reflects that, not only in the extensive use of chant, and the use of incense, but in the honor we give to the sacramental presence of Jesus in the elements of Holy Communion. We likewise do what we can for the poor and the hungry, remembering the slum priests of London, who spread the principles of the Oxford Movement among London's poor.

### **What are the most vibrant ministries or strengths of your parish today?**

Our worship life is the most obvious strength we have. We are a congregation that sings, not only hymns, but nearly all parts of the liturgy. Our prayers are explicitly offered for those in any need, whether near or far, and people have expressed trust in the intercession we offer. We also partner with other parishes in providing the sandwiches and snacks for the cathedral's Garden of Love ministry to the homeless. We support, to the best of our ability, the food pantry housed by a neighboring church.

### **Describe a moment in your community's life when you felt the presence of the Holy Spirit moving among you. What made that moment possible?**

In the darkness of the earlier portions of the Easter Vigil, and at the proclamation of the Lord's resurrection, the presence of the Holy Spirit has been felt with power.

### **How does your church engage with the local neighborhood, the civic life of your community, or diocesan and/or Episcopal Church-wide initiatives?**

As mentioned, we are a partner of the Garden of Love ministry of St. Paul's Cathedral. We offer our parking lot to the neighborhood on weekdays. We provide space in Brent House for the Queen City Workers' Center.



### **What are the hopes and dreams of your congregation for its next chapter?**

We hope to be able to continue our ministries in our community and hopefully increase our attendance our Sunday services as well as membership so that we can continue our operations and ministries for many years to come.