

THE REV. CANON VICTORIA R.T. HEARD
Curriculum Vitae

EXPERIENCE:

Rector, Redeemer Episcopal Church, Irving TX (August 2016 - Present)

Currently serving as rector to a pastoral size parish. Reversed decline in Sunday attendance, encouraged pledge growth and improved parish confidence. Oversaw the turnaround of Redeemer's Montessori school from four years of deficits to sustainable revenues in 2018. Presented six persons for confirmation and reception at the most recent bishop's visitation and successfully conducted a capital fund to address inherited parish debt, raising over \$350,000. Elected senior deputy for my diocese at General Convention in 2018. Served on Committee 13, addressing issues of Prayer Book revision and equal access for marriage. and served as a consultant on church planting to the Diocese of West Texas. Currently elected and serving as vice president for Province 7.

Canon Missioner for Church Planting and Canon for Congregational Development, Diocese of Dallas (August 2006 - September 2015)

Oversaw new church development, recruiting clergy and lay planters for new suburban plants including Hispanic, Korean, and African plants and revived two abandoned parishes whose Rectors and many parishioners had left the Episcopal Church. Also assessed available real estate for purchase of future church sites. Served as deployment officer for two years and supervised all new plants and a number of parishes in need of revitalization. Elected alternate deputy to General Convention 2009 and deputy in 2012 and 2015. Also served in 2015 on Program Budget and Finance Committee.

Canon to the Ordinary (Acting), Diocese of Dallas (January - April 2010)

Served as acting canon to the ordinary during the sabbatical leave of Canon Michell. Oversaw deployment and discipline of clergy as well as congregational development and assessment and pastoral care of clergy. Performed various other duties as assigned by the Bishop of Dallas. Completed the process to receive diocesan funding from the Lilly Foundation and was responsible for overseeing the ordination process, successfully placing nine of ten curates in the diocese.

Priest in Charge, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Dallas TX (May 2007 - January 2008); Canon in Residence (2008 - 2010)

Assigned by the bishop following the departure of the priest and much of the lay congregation from the parish. Stabilized the remaining Anglo community and overhauled finances by renting part of the physical facilities to an African-American independent community and an Episcopal Nigerian community. Hired and initially supervised an Hispanic vicar who then started a new Spanish-speaking congregation there. Resurrection (since renamed San Francisco de Asis) is now a multi-cultural parish with an ASA of 270.

Missioner for Church Planting, Diocese of Virginia (1997 - 2006)

Assisted in the establishment of new churches and worked toward creation of a diocesan culture supporting church expansion. Supervised newly planted churches, leading to the establishment of fourteen new churches in the diocese. Located, negotiated for and purchased new sites for future churches, e.g., in 2004, negotiated and purchased a former Baptist church for the first freestanding Latino mission in the diocese. Alternate deputy to General Convention in 2003 and 2006.

Vicar, St. Ives' Mission, Arlington VA (2003 - 2006)

Led effort to plant a new seeker-focused church in an inner suburb of Washington, D.C. which unfortunately failed to thrive.

Vicar, South Riding Church, South Riding, Virginia (2002 - 2003)

Appointed to serve as part-time vicar to discern viability of a struggling church plant while continuing diocesan ministries. Stabilized effort and handed it on to next vicar.

Interim Rector, St. George's, Arlington, Virginia (1995 - 1997)

Served as interim rector overseeing all aspects of pastoral, liturgical, and administrative ministry for urban parish of 450 members and a staff of six and large feeding ministry. Oversaw a \$1.2 million renovation and building project. Developed ministry to generation under age thirty-five that grew to seventy participants. Served on Standing Committee, the diocesan Commission on Church Planting and demographic group.

Associate Rector, St. George's, Arlington (1994 - 1995)

Involved in all aspects of parish life and pastoral care. Strengthened youth ministry, began junior high school ministry. Taught adult forum, bible studies. Introduced parish to evangelism training. Initiated new outreach to area retirement communities.

Canon Assistant to the Bishop of the Armed Forces (1992 - 1993)

Designed and coordinated Episcopal conferences for military community in Europe. Served as consultant on church growth for parishes in Belgium and Germany; supply ministry to congregations in Heidelberg and Frankfurt.

Priest-in-Charge, Episcopal Community, Vicenza, Italy (1990 - 1991)

Began and maintained a small but active congregation of Episcopalians assigned or employed at the U.S. Army installation in cooperation with the base chaplaincy, established weekly Eucharist and other services, conducted bible study classes, etc.

Missioner, St. David's Ashburn, Virginia (1988 - 1990)

Advocated new parish in fast growing suburb. Organized nucleus of new parish; negotiated and secured \$700,000 site without cost to the diocese. Obtained initial zoning, secured budget and worship space. Worked with suffragan bishop to interview and hire my successor.

Assistant for Mission Development, Diocese of Virginia (1988 - 1989)

Served as diocesan staff for strategic mission development. Served as chair of Diocese Evangelism Committee. Catalyzed diocesan interest in church growth and evangelism. Also served as curate of Pohick Church, Alexandria with special focus on youth work.

Assistant Rector, Acting Rector, St. James, Leesburg, Virginia (198 - 1988)

EDUCATION:

1982 - Master of Divinity (honors), Virginia Theological Seminary

1978 - Bachelor of Arts (major in philosophy), University of Virginia (Echols Scholar)

CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Student: College of Preachers in 1980s, Oxford University, Course on Story-Telling 1984, Two immersion Spanish Courses in Costa Rica and in Mexico 2012, 2015; Nashotah House, Conference on St. Augustine's City of God, 2015; numerous Church Planting Conferences; attended Roman Catholic Anglican conference in Rome, 2016.

Instructor: Taught church planting courses at Virginia Seminary, Sewanee, Church Divinity School of the Pacific and at national conferences.

DIOCESAN INVOLVEMENT:

Devoted roughly half my ordained career as a diocesan staff member serving at various times directly under three different bishops, with duties ranging from acting Canon to the Ordinary, Canon Assistant (non-stipendiary) in Europe to the Bishop for the Armed Forces and primarily as a missionary in Virginia and in Dallas as Canon for Church Planting and Congregational Development. Established an annual dinner for retired clergy residing in the Diocese of Dallas. Arranged to save an historically significant chapel from demolition, instead having it transported and rededicated as the new chapel at the diocesan camp and conference center. While in various parochial ministries, also served on the Standing Committees of Virginia and Dallas, Church Planting Committee, Commission on Ministry and finance committees and as a deputy and senior seven times to General Convention.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Member, White Rock Rowing Association, Dallas, TX; Member, Ecumenical Clericus, Irving, Texas; Member, Gateway of Grace, Dallas, Texas, an outreach ministry to refugees.

SKILLS:

French, working liturgical and tourist knowledge of Italian and Spanish.

HOBBIES:

Reading, especially history and literature; travel; gardening, swimming, writing icons