

Rector, Full-time

St. Andrew's, Morehead City, NC

Salary: \$62,437 (includes SECA reimbursement; salary negotiable; salary w/o use of rectory: approx. \$82,000)

Rectory available (use negotiable)

Health insurance: priest only (negotiable)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Morehead City seeks a full-time rector for a congregation of 229 members. There are two Sunday morning worship services, 8:00 a.m. Rite I and 10:00 a.m. Rite II with choir and music. The average Sunday attendance is 110. There is also a weekly Eucharist service in the evenings on Wednesday followed by supper and Christian Formation time. It is truly a multi-generational congregation with close to 35 regular attendees in children's Sunday School and xx attendees in the youth program.

St. Andrew's is a vibrant, welcoming, and inclusive community that deeply values connection, outreach, and spiritual growth. The parish is known for its warm atmosphere, where everyone feels embraced from their very first visit. The church's members are dedicated to fostering a place where people of all backgrounds, beliefs, and levels of spiritual experience can find acceptance. It is a space where inclusivity is celebrated, and all individuals are encouraged to explore their faith without judgment. As one parishioner notes, in our welcome to new visitors and in our bulletin we state "We believe no one comes to a worship service by accident. You are here because God is working in your life. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here."

St. Andrew's ideal priest would naturally embody as many of these qualities as possible:

1. **Gracious and Approachable:** A priest's warmth, humility, and ability to make everyone feel welcome is tantamount. Having an approachable nature that makes them easy to connect with and seek guidance from is important to people of all ages..
2. **Supportive and Caring:** Being a good listener, empathetic, and supportive during critical moments in life is incredibly important for a priest. This person doesn't just offer guidance on Sundays—they are there during the ups and downs of parishioners' lives, showing genuine love and care.
3. **Inclusive and Non-Judgmental:** A priest's inclusive approach—open to all people without judgment—makes everyone feel accepted. They don't just preach a message of love; they live it, embracing diversity and making everyone feel like they belong.
4. **Effective Communicator and Listener:** A priest's ability to speak at all levels and translate scripture into everyday lessons makes their messages impactful

and relatable. They know how to deliver a sermon that resonates with the congregation, hitting home for the majority of people, including kids and youth.

5. **Inspirational and Motivational:** The priest who has a magnetic personality, inspiring and motivating the congregation with their positive attitude and infectious enthusiasm is desired. They need to be able to lead with vision, planning, and encouragement, always lifting people up.
6. **Relationship Builder:** They should be able to build genuine relationships with parishioners, connecting them to one another, and making everyone feel a part of the church community. They are not just a leader, but a bridge that brings people together.
7. **Sense of Humor, Humility, and Joy:** With a sense of humor and a joyful spirit, a priest should be able to lighten the mood when needed and create an atmosphere where joy is present, even in serious moments. Additionally, a leader who is humble allows for the members of the church to rise to leadership positions or opportunities when they arise. This helps make the church feel like a family, full of love and camaraderie.
8. **Calm and Poised:** In times of conflict or difficulty, the ideal priest remains calm, graceful, and poised, always working toward peace and reconciliation. Their ability to handle conflict with grace and follow through on commitments demonstrates a strong sense of integrity.
9. **Family-Oriented and Involved:** We would like a priest whose family is an integral part of the church community, which helps create a model of how to live out faith as a family, further strengthening the sense of unity within the church. If single, the priest should still be able to relate well to all generations and understand the need to build community with families.
10. **Loving and Hopeful:** Living with love and embodying a hopeful spirit, a priest should always be there to remind the congregation of the bigger picture, providing spiritual guidance that uplifts and encourages everyone.
11. **Musical and Talented:** Having a musical inclination also adds an enriching layer to the ministry, making worship even more meaningful and accessible.
12. **Organized and Practical:** The priest's ability to stay organized, lead with intention, and deliver meaningful programs or events shows a practical side to their leadership, ensuring that things run smoothly.
13. **Humble Administrator:** An ideal priest would lead and manage with humility, with a quiet confidence that empowers our administrative team to freely exhibit their unique spiritual gifts. The ideal priest is modest, open to feedback, and focused on serving rather than controlling, working alongside their team. Their leadership style is grounded in empathy, respect, and a willingness to learn.

These qualities combine to create a powerful, caring, and dynamic leader who not only guides the flock spiritually but also makes people feel truly valued and seen. We want a priest's leadership to go beyond preaching and serving God on Sunday—it is about creating a community rooted in love, understanding, and mutual care.

For more information about the parish, please see the OTM portfolio and visit the website: <https://standrewsmhc.org>.

To apply: Send OTM, resume, and cover letter to the Rev. Canon Stephanie Allen, slallen@diocese-eastcarolina.org.