

Meet Our New Rector:

Reverend Peter Gachira

Below is Rev. Gachira's Interest letter to St. Michael's in which he shares his background. Please read in preparation for his first day with us on Sunday May 5th. Meet & Greet Fellowship with refreshments will follow the Service. Come to welcome Rev. & Mrs. Peter Gachira*!*

"Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ,

I am writing to express my sincere interest in the part-time Rector position at St. Michael & All Angels. My name is The Rev. Peter Gachira, and I am an ordained priest in the Anglican Church of Kenya, Diocese of Nairobi. My diverse ministry experiences have equipped me with skills and insights that align well with the needs of your parish.

In Nairobi, I served as the assistant vicar at St. Gertrude's Parish and later as the vicar of St. Stephen's Parish. These roles provided me with extensive experience in leading mid-sized and large congregations. In 2015, I relocated to the United States to pursue a Master's Degree in Theological Studies at Virginia Theological Seminary, graduating in 2017.

After graduation, I became the Vicar of the International Anglican Congregation at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill in Alexandria, VA. In this role, I engaged with the Kenyan and East African communities, as well as other international groups within the Washington, D.C. metro area. Additionally, I served as a CPE Intern at Inova Alexandria Hospital, offering one-on-one pastoral care.

In September 2020, I was called to the Diocese of Toronto as the Incumbent at St. John the Baptist Church in Lakefield. Leading the congregation through the COVID-19 pandemic, I initiated a restorative practice to rebuild relationships and strengthen community bonds. This process facilitated conversations that explored both strengths and areas for growth, fostering a renewed sense of unity and understanding.

Currently, I am an intern at St. John's Ellicott City, Diocese of Maryland. My cross-cultural experiences in Nairobi, Washington, D.C., and Toronto, combined with my theological training, have deepened my ability to lead in diverse and multicultural contexts. I am excited about the opportunity to serve in a Bible-based church that actively engages with the community through various ministries. I am committed to being a reliable, welcoming, and warm presence and am confident in my ability to inspire and empower the congregation through God's love.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of discussing how I can contribute to the vibrant ministry at St. Michael & All Angels."