



LIST OF RECTORS

Rita Teschner Powell: 2026 -
Vincent G. (Chip) Seadale: 2010-2025
Robert D. (Bob) Edmunds: 1992-2008
William W. (Bill) Eddy: 1988-1992
Paul L. Berg: 1986-1987
John A. (Jack) Greely: 1976-1984
John T. Golding (emeritus): 1975-1976
D. Norman Brady: 1974-1975
John T. Golding (emeritus): 1973-1974
Thomas Fuller: 1969-1973
William R. Krogstad: 1964-1969

Ministers who led the original Episcopal parish of Martha's Vineyard, which from 1895 to 1939 included St. Andrew's Church in Edgartown, Grace Church in Vineyard Haven and (seasonally) Trinity Episcopal in Oak Bluffs. St. Andrew's officially became its own parish in 1965:

Henry L. Bird
Thomas Lehman
Halsey DeW. Howe
Carlton N. Jones
John T. Golding
Robert W. Nicholson
Arthur B. Papineau
John Cabot
William Cleveland Hicks (missionary-in-charge)

A PRAYER

"ALMIGHTY GOD, WHO DIDST
BLESS SOLOMON IN THE
BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE, AND
DIDST GIVE HIM WISDOM FOR
THE WORK, GIVE WISDOM AND
FAITHFULNESS TO THOSE WHO
PLAN OR LABOR IN THIS
PRESENT WORK, UNDERTAKEN
FOR THE GLORY AND THE GOOD
OF SOULS: OPEN THE HEARTS
OF THY PEOPLE THAT THEY MAY
GIVE LIBERALLY OF THEIR
SUBSTANCE, AND GRANT THAT
THE OUTWARD HOUSE BY THE
BLESSING MAY BE
INSTRUMENTAL IN BUILDING UP
MANY PRECIOUS STONES FOR
THAT TEMPLE OF WHICH JESUS
CHRIST IS THE HEAD CORNER
STONE. WE ASK IT FOR THINE
ONLY SON, JESUS CHRIST'S
SAKE."

WHITSUN-TIDE 1898. USED BY
THOSE INTERESTED IN BUILDING
A CHURCH FOR ST. ANDREW'S-
BY-THE-SEA

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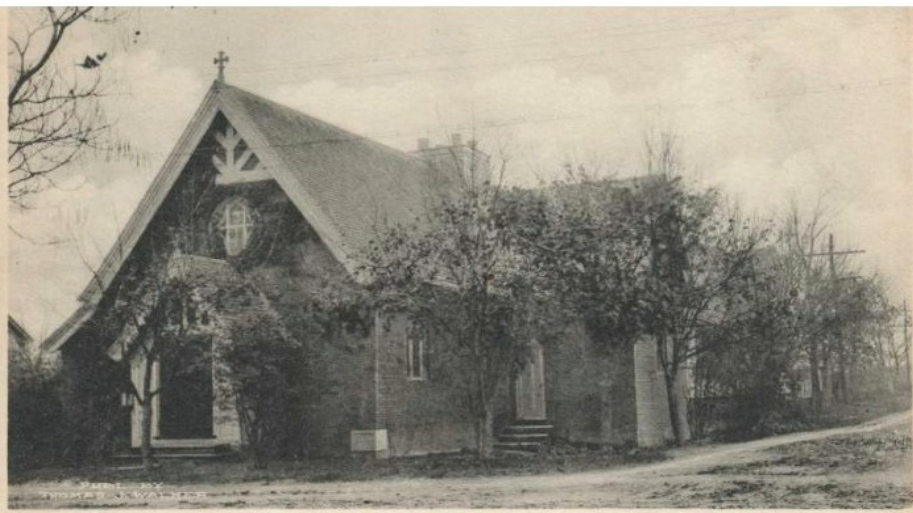


ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EDGARTOWN
MARTHA'S VINEYARD
MASSACHUSETTS



2026



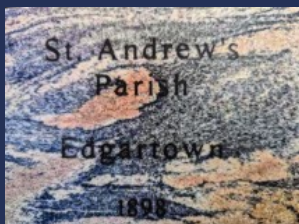
"SAINT ANDREWS BY THE SEA." EDGARTOWN, MASS.

FOUNDING ST. ANDREW'S

As early as 1895, an organization known as the Episcopal Society is holding services in the homes of parishioners, and later the Gothic Hall above the former Sundog store on Main Street.

The first name chosen by these worshippers is St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea, in use by 1898. Congregants choose the name because Andrew was a fisherman, and Edgartown had been a famed whaling port from early in the nineteenth century until just after the Civil War. St. Andrew was also the first man to be chosen by Christ as His disciple.

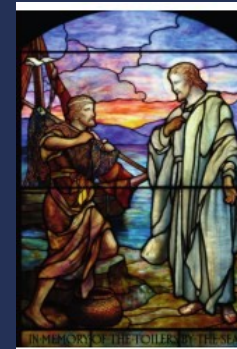
Year-round congregants soon fill the hall to capacity, and it becomes clear that the organization must build a church, especially to accommodate a growing number of summer visitors. From the heirs of Captain Henry Colt, the leadership buys adjoining parcels of land at the corner of Summer and Winter streets in Edgartown for \$400 (~\$13,000 in 2025).



The cornerstone of the church is laid September 7, 1899, by The Rt. Rev. Ethelbert Talbot, bishop of central Pennsylvania and a summer resident of the town. The architect is G.A. Swift. Construction requires an order of 150,000 bricks. The initial cost is unknown, but construction begins with St. Andrew's still facing a shortfall of \$4,000 (about \$152,000 today).

The church sends out an appeal as building begins: "[Parishioners] have given liberally . . . but the church is needed, and greatly needed at once." The existing Gothic Hall regularly fills with resident congregants, "and there is no provision for the many summer visitors who would attend and support our services if we had a church in which to invite them. We have started the work with the determination not to run in debt, nor to resort to fairs or entertainments . . . [and we] have planned a building which can be enlarged to meet the needs of future generations."

A deed from 1914, conveying the church from two trustees to the board of directors as a whole, stipulates many conditions, the first of which is that the property must be used for a church or parish rectory "by the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, in perpetuity."



HISTORY

- ♦ **1895:** First Episcopalian meetings begin in Edgartown homes, then move to the Gothic Hall as attendance increases, prompting fundraising efforts for a permanent church site.
- ♦ **1898-1910:** St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea mission is formally established, with a cornerstone laid on September 7, 1899. After eleven years of effort, the bishop, The Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, dedicates the finished church on August 22, 1910.
- ♦ **1913-1927:** The church receives a tracker organ and Tiffany windows, including the iconic Christ blessing a child, with Louis C. Tiffany personally overseeing the latter.
- ♦ **1939-1940:** St. Andrew's mission and Grace Church unite as one Episcopal parish, followed by the construction of new facilities, including the parish hall, kitchen, and offices.
- ♦ **1958-1967:** Major renovations include new pews and oak flooring, a replacement belfry and bell, a brass St. Andrew's cross above the altar, and a Swampscott dory bow used as the pulpit.
- ♦ **1965-1990:** St. Andrew's incorporates as an independent parish with The Rev. William R. Krogstad as its first rector. Needlepoint cushions and tapestries, begun in 1975, are completed by Betty Hitesman and twenty parishioners.
- ♦ **2001-2009:** Without debt, St. Andrew's builds a new \$1.3 million parish house across Winter Street from the church. It includes a kitchen, showers, meeting rooms, staff housing, and classrooms. It also buys the present rectory on Bold Meadow Road.
- ♦ **2014-2022:** St. Andrew's co-founds Houses of Grace to shelter the unhoused and provides emergency aid to 49 Venezuelan migrants sent to Martha's Vineyard.