

Church of Christ the King



Celebrating
TC

35

*Years of
Christian
Witness to
our
Community*

Church of Christ the King

The History

1968

Two (2) acres of land acquired

1972

Area declared a District

April 29, 1973

Ground Breaking Ceremony

May 23, 1974

Dedication to Christ the King

1980

Balcony added

1982

Full ecclesiastical status

1992

Decision to build new Church

1993

Soil turned

1993

Cornerstone laid

Nov. 1994

New building consecrated and dedicated

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The concept

The existence of Christ the King dates back to the early 1960s when Canon Basil Ullyett, then Rector of St. Stephen's Church, saw the need for a Church in the area to serve the growing community of Anglicans.

In 1968, he initiated the purchase of two acres of land at

what was then Rock Dundo Plantation. His vision was to erect a Church, a Rectory and a Recreation Centre. The funds were made available by the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and the Canadian Church.

In 1972, following a survey carried out by the Rev. Donald George, then Assistant Priest of St. Mary's Church, and with the help of some students of Codrington College, the area was declared a District with Rev. Stephen Johnson, Anglican Chaplain of the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies, as Priest-in-Charge. He spent much of his time familiarizing himself with prospective parishioners, in addition to raising funds for the construction of the 'Parish Centre'



*The first and present Incumbents of the Parish
(left) Rev. Stephen .Johnson and (right) Rev Luther Johnson*

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Ground Breaking Ceremony

On Sunday, April 29, 1973 the Ground breaking Ceremony for the Church took place followed by an Open-Air Mass. Work on the building was started on 7 February, 1974.

Dedication of Church

On 23 May (Ascension Day) 1974 the completed Centre was dedicated to Christ the King by Bishop Drexel Gomez (now retired Archbishop of the West Indies) in the presence of approximately 600 persons. Divine Services began the following Sunday, 26 May. The funds were made available from the Diocese 150th Anniversary Appeal and some other funds from overseas.

First Expansion

Soon after its establishment it became obvious that the seating capacity of the building was inadequate for the rapidly expanding congregation as the surrounding new housing developments attracted more persons. This need for more space was partially met in 1980 by the construction of the balcony seating fifty persons.

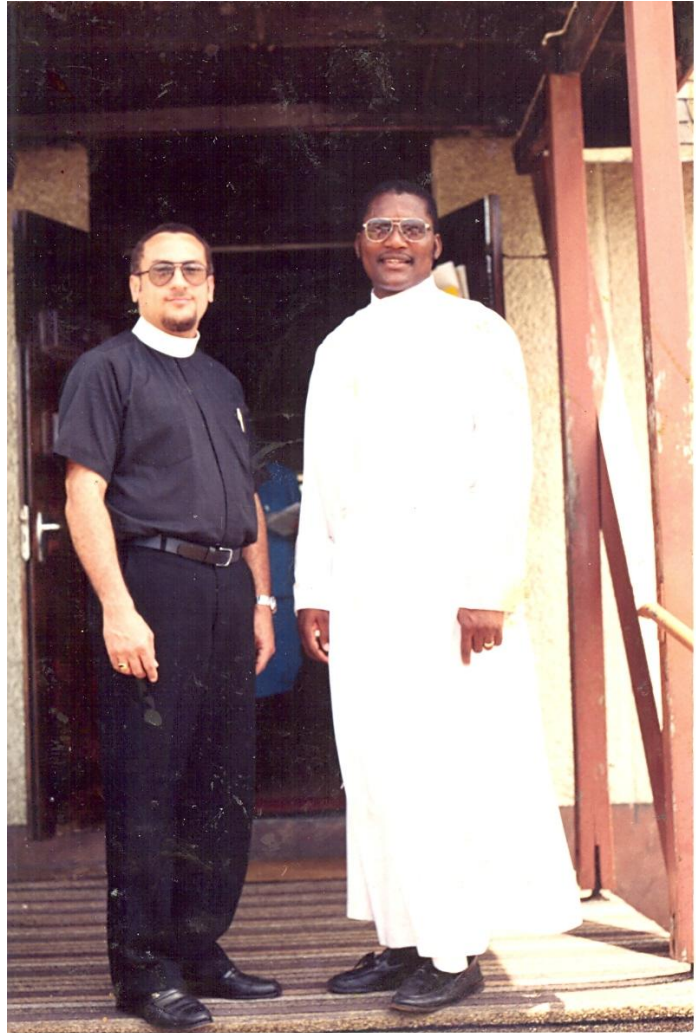
“God has blessed this Church has blessed His Church with many committed Christians whose love for Him and His Church has risen over many a battle; has risen over many a challenge. To many, such may be unknown or even unrecognized”

Excerpt from the Rev. Anthony Jemmott's farewell Pastoral Letter in The Crown, April 1982

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Ecclesiastical Status

In July 1982, the Parish was given full ecclesiastical status with the appointment of Rev. Peter Fenty as its first Rector. Owing to the size of the Church, Rev. Fenty's Institution Service was held on the Church grounds. History was created on this occasion as it was the first time in the history of the Diocese that an Institution Service was held in the open air. In 1992, the stage was reached where more seating and other facilities to carry out the ministry of the Parish were needed. The Diocese, because of its precarious financial position was unable to assist in the building project. After much prayer and with a modest sum in hand the Parish sought to help itself.



*The first & second Rectors of the Parish
(left) Rev. Peter Fenty & (right) Rev. Eric Lynch*

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Bigger church

On May 7, 1993, the Archdeacon and Bishop-elect, the Venerable Rufus Brome, turned the soil to signal the start of the new Church building. Later in the year, on November 22, he laid the cornerstone.

The cost of the new building which has a seating capacity of 500 persons was estimated to be \$750,000. The building was completed at a cost of \$671,300.

Dedications of new church

On November 21, 1994, the building was dedicated and consecrated by Bishop Rufus Brome. Bishop Brome in his Sermon commended the Rector, the Parochial Church Council and the congregation for their leadership, foresight, initiative, and above all their deep and abiding faith in God for undertaking the great task of building the Church. It is to be noted that the congregation at Christ the King is the first in the Diocese to build its own Church.



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Priests who Served

Rev. Stephen Winston Johnson	1974-1976
Rev. Anthony Gordon Edwin Jemmott	1976-1982
Rev. Ian McPherson	1982
Rev. Peter DeCoursey Fenty	1982-1984
Rev. Barclay Lenardo Stoute	1984-1986
Rev. Eric Edwin Lynch	1986-2000
Canon James Levi Springer	2000-2004
Rev. Robert Luther Johnson	2004-present

Seminarians

Monrelle Williams (Diocese of Barbados)

. Peter Scott (Diocese of The Bahamas with Turks & Caicos Islands)

Marcus Lashley (Diocese of Barbados)

Anthony Holder (Diocese of Springfield, Illinois, USA)

Terry Davis (Diocese of Guyana)

Lloyd Periot (Diocese of Belize)

Suzanne Ellis (Diocese of Barbados)

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This is the first time in the history of our Diocese that a Church was built by its parishioners. This effort was commendable in that one of the most recently established parishes undertook this responsibility on behalf of the Diocese. This speaks volumes of what can be achieved through a spirit of cooperation. But it is also a testimony to the Church's response to the needs of people in these changing times."

Rt. Rev. Rufus J. Brome,

in The Barbados Diocesan Almanac, 1995

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of CTK.*

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