

The Rev. Cn. Dr. Rob Droste

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Education

2010 Doctor of Ministry, Advanced Studies in Congregational Development, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL

Three years' intensive coursework and practice in the spirituality of growth, congregational vitality, the missional church, leading change, adaptive leadership, worship for growth, and more.

2000 Master of Divinity, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, CA

1984 Bachelor of Arts, Honors, English, The College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

1979 Graduate of Porter-Gaud School (Episcopal), Charleston, SC

Core Guiding Principles

- Jesus Christ offers every person a life of creativity, courage, meaning and compassion. The Church exists to invite and foster a commitment to following Jesus; every one of our ministries are rooted in and nourished by that commitment. **We're here to join in God's mission.**
- Church at its best promotes rich, collegial interaction; lay empowerment; multi-church partnering; and community collaboration. This way of working grows us individually and as congregations; it is an essential part of our life together. **We're here to develop people.**
- The Anglican/Episcopal tradition is a thoughtful, wholesome, balanced and life-changing way of being Christian. It is needed terribly in today's world, and is more than worthy of our commitment and sacrifice. **We're here to demonstrate kind, thoughtful Christianity.**

Relevant Skills

➤ Strong diocesan leadership , purpose focus, visioning, equipping	➤ Extensive personal, small group, large group coaching , coach training	➤ Successful capital fundraising and stewardship campaigns
➤ Teaching and training on missional church , leadership, spirituality	➤ Sermons that inspire , call to commitment , and call to action	➤ Leadership in family faith development , multi-generational growth
➤ Community organizing and advocacy	➤ Clergy collaboration , clergy/lay collaboration	➤ Methods and processes for innovation

Diocesan Work Experience

Diocese of New Jersey (Diocesan Staff)

2014 - Present

- Canon for Congregational Development and Mission: responsible for all congregational vitality initiatives and programs for 138-congregation Episcopal diocese. Senior advisor to the Bishop and Chief Operating Officer.
- Led the team creating and launching our diocesan flagship church growth program – “The Way of St. Paul.” This initiative, one of a kind in the Episcopal Church, has supported nearly 40 congregational innovation teams as they work towards intergenerational Christian formation – with a special focus on forming new Christians and the use of technology. [WoSP Link](#), [WoSP Testimonials](#)
- Reorganized our diocesan Congregational Development Commission around the missional church, discipleship, and particularly coaching church leaders. (The commission is now called The Coaching Network.) This fall (2021), we will launch our pilot “CAP” (Coaching Assistance for Parents) program, where we pair coaches with families and assist parents in the spiritual formation of their children. [Why I Coach Video](#)
- Guided a major reshaping of our Board of Missions (\$525,000 budget) to base its granting criteria on the missional church and discipleship development.
- Shaped several Clergy Conference topics to reflect diocesan priorities of leading for discipleship and coaching in the congregation. Now partnering with our Fresh Start clergy training program.

Diocese of California (While Rector at All Saints, San Leandro)

2000 - 2014

- Co-chair of 2013 Diocese of California Clergy Conference; member of 2013 Diocesan Nominating Committee; member of Diocesan Commission on Missions and diocesan team assisting parishes with Mutual Ministry Reviews; former chair, Advisory Board of the *Pacific Church News* diocesan news publication.
- One of a select group of senior diocesan clergy asked by the Bishop of California to provide pastoral care to clergy charged with misconduct and help them navigate the canonical process.

Parish Experience

Rector, All Saints Episcopal Church, San Leandro California

2002 – 2014

- Responsible for all aspects of parish life, including liturgy, pastoral care, administration, buildings, finance, Christian formation, and relations with nearby parishes and the diocese. [Parish Site](#)

- Led a major shift in parish focus towards mission and outreach. Led move for older members to regularly provide more than 100 bag lunches for the homeless; for a small group to make dinner for the local women's shelter; for the food pantry which has fed thousands. [All Saints Social Ministries](#)
- Developed national and international outreach work, including leading an adult work group to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and a youth work trip to an AIDS orphanage in Fort Portal, Uganda. Took youth on three trips to Tijuana, Mexico to build houses with other area parishes. [Youth Trip Video](#)
- Built programs for children and youth, including Godly Play, Confirm Not Conform and our innovative Youth Arts Academy that raised awareness of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Raised more than \$150,000 in a capital fund drive for deferred maintenance, disability access upgrades and remodeling of the nave.

Associate, then Interim Rector of Trinity Parish, San Francisco

2000-2002

- Responsible for growth of this historic urban church – one of San Francisco's most beautiful – with an exceptional classical music program and highly diverse congregation. Assisted with major capital campaign for restoration of the Tiffany stained glass and one of the most important pipe organs in the US. Created successful evening Taizé service for newcomers. It concluded this year after 20 years of providing calm and solace in the urban environment. [Taize at Trinity.](#)

Personal Information

- Married to Karla since 1995, no children. Passionate about technology, reading, Apple products, art museums, movies, live theater, rock concerts and the (now Las Vegas) Raiders. Love painting, drawing and printmaking; playing music (usually praise music); and building stuff.
- Widely traveled, including Africa, Fiji, New Zealand, London and Paris.

Useful Links

Click [here](#) for a variety of useful links, including information on programs I have lead (or lead now), training materials, sermons, and more.