
NEWS

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

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Biography: THE RT. REV. ROY F. CEDERHOLM JR.

Born in Brockton, Mass., on July 1, 1944, Roy F. Cederholm Jr. (known familiarly as Bud) is a graduate of Boston University and completed his seminary studies at Bexley Hall Divinity School in Rochester, N.Y. Ordained to the priesthood in 1972 in the Diocese of Massachusetts, he served as associate rector of St. Stephen's Church in Cohasset, Mass., from 1971 to 1976 and as rector of St. Paul's Church in White River Junction, Vt., from 1976 to 1989. He was a Christian education consultant in the dioceses of Massachusetts and Vermont and served as the religious education coordinator for the New England dioceses of the Episcopal Church from 1988 to 1991. In the Diocese of Vermont, he was a deputy to the Episcopal Church's General Convention, served as a rural dean and was the founder and president of the Haven Emergency Shelter.

In Massachusetts, he served as president of the Standing Committee, an elected council of advice to the diocesan bishop, and was a member of the diocese's Leadership Development Institute board and its Clergy Sabbatical Committee. He has been involved with Habitat for Humanity and the Needham Human Rights Committee.

He was the rector of Christ Church in Needham from 1989 until his election as bishop suffragan (assisting bishop) for the Diocese of Massachusetts on Nov. 4, 2000, and completed his tenure at Christ Church in February 2001. Bishop Cederholm was ordained and consecrated a bishop on March 24, 2001, at Trinity Church in Boston. Serving alongside the Rt. Rev. M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE, Bishop of Massachusetts, and the Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragan, Bishop Cederholm provides oversight for diocesan congregational development, including clergy and congregation transition ministry, congregational business consultants, leadership development and collaborative ministries, in addition to ministry to clergy families. His leadership and participation in summer Family Camp has made it one of the diocese's most popular annual events.

In September 2003 Bishop Cederholm received an honorary doctoral degree from Bexley Hall.

A gifted teacher and preacher, Bishop Cederholm is an active voice and witness for environmental stewardship, and he works passionately to engage God's people in advocacy and partnerships devoted to reversing global warming and climate change.

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Revised: 01/11

In the fall of 2010 he launched an ambitious Green Grants Initiative to encourage, challenge and support all congregations in the diocese in environmental stewardship through grants, idea sharing and education.

His leadership for a sustained diocesan commitment to relief and development work in the Gulf Coast following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 included his own participation in numerous mission work trips to Mississippi and Louisiana; his example inspired parish and student groups to similar service. Bishop Cederholm's 2006 holiday radio campaign appealing for volunteers and donations to help hurricane-affected families was recognized by the national Religion Communicators Council with a DeRose-Hinkhouse Award of Merit. His ongoing teaching about the power of partnerships has encouraged continuing grassroots engagement on the Gulf Coast, taking shape in ongoing mission there through environmental stewardship projects.

Bishop Cederholm is a musician, a gardener and an avid Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots fan. He and his wife, Ruth Ann, have two sons and five awesome grandchildren.
