

Biographical Information for Stuart W. H. Ching

Stuart W. H. Ching was born in Honolulu on the feast day of St. Matthew the Apostle. He is the middle child of three children born to Kenneth and Patsy Ching. Along with his father, paternal uncles, and siblings, he is a graduate of Iolani School. He later earned his bachelor's degree from Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio.

Stuart is a lifelong member of St. Elizabeth Parish in Palama, where he was baptized by Father Wai On Shim and confirmed by Bishop Edwin Lani Hanchett. He has participated in the life of the parish as an acolyte, thurifer, delegate to the Annual Meeting of Convention, and vestry member. In 2003, he became part of the leadership team when he was appointed senior warden by Interim Rector Bishop Bob Jones. He continued in that capacity under former rector, Mother Jodene Hawkins. Currently, he serves as an usher, lector, and Discernment Committee member. He also assists with counting the offerings every Sunday after mass.

At the diocesan level, Stuart served as a member of the Bishop's Selection Committee in 2006 and the Sesquicentennial Committee in 2012. He has been the diocesan historiographer since 1997, when he was first appointed to that position by Bishop Richard Chang.

In fulfilling the responsibilities of historiographer, Stuart has relied upon his professional knowledge and experience. His professional career over the last thirty years has involved caring for artifact and document collections in museums and archives in Hawaii. This involvement has included eleven years as a Bishop Museum archivist, and subsequent periods as curator for Mission Houses Museum and Iolani Palace. He is presently the provincial archivist for the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, a Catholic religious community of priests and lay brothers.

Stuart's community involvement has included serving on the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Museums Association and the Association of Hawaii Archivists. He is currently Board Secretary for the Hawaiian Historical Society.

As a cradle Episcopalian and professional archivist, Stuart feels very privileged to be working with the historical collections of this diocese.