



Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111
617-482-5800
www.diomass.org

Biography: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carol J. Gallagher, Assistant Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carol J. Gallagher began as assistant bishop in the Diocese of Massachusetts on Feb. 1, 2023, and serves alongside the bishop diocesan, the Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates. Prior to her appointment as assistant bishop, Gallagher had been serving the diocese, since November 2018, as a regional canon, providing transition ministry with congregations and clergy involved in search processes for new ordained leadership, along with lay leadership development and clergy wellness support for the congregations of the diocese's Central Region.

Gallagher was a member of The Episcopal Church's virtual delegation to the United Nations "COP27" climate conference in Egypt in November 2022. She has also been providing supplemental episcopal pastoral support in the Diocese of Albany since December 2021 as that diocese began a process to come into compliance with the 2018 General Convention resolution on provision of marriage rites for same-sex couples.

Gallagher, who is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation, previously served as assistant bishop in the Diocese of Montana, beginning in 2014, developing relationships with Native leaders and congregations there, educating and training clergy and lay leaders in issues of race, gender and inclusion, and leading the Task Force on Native Issues. She also served during that time as the bishop missionary to the Bishops' Native Collaborative, working with the Episcopal Church Executive Committee to do assessments and respond to needs, and to provide materials and trainings for lay leadership and clergy. She brings a passion for training and formation for all the baptized and for using her skills in culture, leadership development, pastoral care, and faith and relationship to empower others.

Gallagher served for six years prior to her ministry in the Diocese of Montana as assisting bishop in the Diocese of North Dakota and for two years as assistant bishop in the Diocese of Newark. She was ordained and consecrated bishop suffragan in the Diocese of Southern Virginia in 2002 and served there until 2005, with oversight of 61 mission and rural small churches in that diocese and responsibility for implementing church growth programs for them, developing ordination guidelines and recruiting young and diverse leadership, and developing ministry with ecumenical partners and Virginia Native tribes.

While a bishop, she served in an interim capacity at St. Peter's by the Sea in Sitka, Alaska, and All Saints' Church in Harrison, N.Y. Before her consecration as bishop, Gallagher was for five years the rector of St. Anne's Church in Middletown, Del. She also served at Trinity Church in Collingdale, Penn., as priest-in-charge; at St. Martin's Church in Radnor, Penn., as assistant for education; and as assistant at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in writing and communications from Antioch College, a Master of Divinity degree from Episcopal Divinity School, a Master of Theology degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in urban affairs and public policy from the University of

Delaware. She received the Louisville Institute Award in 2009 and was an Episcopal Divinity School Proctor Fellow, and has been an adjunct faculty member at Villanova University, Virginia Theological Seminary and Drew Theological Seminary.

She has served on numerous church and civic committees and boards, including the Episcopal Church Council on Indian Ministries, the Anglican Indigenous Network, Anglican Peace with Justice Concerns, the Committee on the Status of Women, the Episcopal Divinity School Board of Trustees and the United Way of America National Board.

She is married to Mark Gallagher and has three daughters and three grandchildren.

#

(January 2023)