



Wednesday, June 7, 2023

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org
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Reparations Listening Sessions scheduled to hear from underrepresented voices

Please share this invitation with African American and Afro Caribbean members so all voices will be heard

In May 2022, the Reparations Subcommittee of the diocesan Racial Justice Commission conducted nine regional Listening Sessions, with participation from many individuals in the diocese. As the subcommittee analyzed its report, it found that there was underrepresentation from African American and Afro Caribbean members. It is very important that the committee hear from this segment of the diocesan community.

To that end, **the Reparations Subcommittee invites African American and Afro Caribbean individuals in the diocese to attend a Listening Session to share their feelings, thoughts and concerns regarding reparations.** As in the previous Listening Sessions, the question the subcommittee would like participants to consider, in advance, is: *When you hear the word reparations, what are your feelings, thoughts, concerns and questions?*

The Listening Sessions will be conducted on Zoom on:

- Monday, June 26, 10-11:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, June 28, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 1, 10-11:30 a.m.

To register for one of the Listening Sessions, send an e-mail to reparations@diomass.org and include name; e-mail address; name of your congregation and its location; and the date of the Listening Session you plan to attend. Once this information is received, the subcommittee will e-mail the Zoom link for the requested session. Questions may also be directed to reparations@diomass.org.

Diocesan Convention theme announced

“In Christ, Called to Collaborate” will be the theme for the 238th annual Diocesan Convention, to take place *Friday-Saturday, Oct. 27-28* at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Boston North Shore in Danvers. Early plans include Friday afternoon sessions focused on the theme of collaboration and an evening dinner. Business sessions and the convention Eucharist will take place on Saturday.

The **deadline for submitting all materials** will be *Friday, Sept. 1*. This will be the final day to submit materials to the Convention Office, including nomination forms for elected positions, resolution submission forms and written reports.

Watch for more information by e-mail, coming soon.

All congregations are reminded to submit their congregational leadership reports, including certification of lay delegates, to make sure that their convention delegation will receive upcoming convention communications. Questions may be e-mailed to convention@diomass.org.

NEWS & EVENT NOTES:

- The Cathedral Church of St. Paul invites the diocesan community to the first **Barbara C. Harris Hymn Sing** on *Sunday, June 11 at 4 p.m.* (the eve of her birthday). The event is free and open to all, and an occasion to come together to celebrate the legacy of this beloved bishop and raise funds for the cathedral. Registration and additional participation options are available [here](#).

- **Applications are being accepted until Thursday, June 15 for the position of regional canon for the diocese's Central Region.** The full job description and details can be found [here](#) and via www.diomass.org/clergy_transition. Resumes and OTM profiles should be submitted to Jocelyn Collen, Administrator for Congregations and Development, at jcollen@diomass.org.

- The Mission Strategy Committee is grateful to everyone who completed the **Clergy Wellness Survey** last fall. While the survey was a great starting point, not all voices were well represented, in particular the voices of BIPOC clergy. Focus groups will be scheduled this summer to gather a wider perspective from the diocese's diverse clergy community before finalizing recommendations. In the meantime, a summary of the survey results the committee received can be found [here](#).

The Rev. Dan Bell, the Rev. Greg Perez and diocesan consultant Kristin Hendler will be hosting **two listening sessions on Zoom for active clergy to reflect on the results**, offer additional input and consider next steps. The first will be held on *Thursday, June 15, 7-8 p.m.* The second will be a daytime session, to be determined, in July. E-mail Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation, at mgardner@diomass.org to receive the Zoom link for the June 15 session.

Those who cannot attend a session and would like to provide feedback on the results, or share any questions or concerns, are invited to e-mail the Rev. Dan Bell at stmarksburlingtonpriest@gmail.com.

- The diocesan Office of Immigration and Multicultural Ministries, in conjunction with the Ministry of Immigration Partnership, invites all to join for a **Multicultural Juneteenth Celebration** on *Monday, June 19 at 3 p.m.* Previously planned as a Zoom service, it will now be held in person at St. Mark's Church in Dorchester.

Additionally, a **celebration of World Refugee Day** is being planned for *Friday, June 23 at 6:00 p.m.* at Grace Church in Lawrence. All are welcome at these celebrations.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries (jbntagengwa@diomass.org).

- **“Why go to church?”**: The St. Paul Center for Theology and Prayer invites all to spend a day considering this important question. Clarify your own answer and deepen your capacity to invite others into the gift of gathering “in real life,” through reflection on the theological, pastoral and missional value of Christian assembly. The program is being offered simultaneously at three sites on *Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.*: The Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston, St. Paul’s Church in Newburyport or St. Thomas’s Church in Taunton. Find more information at www.stpaulboston.org/tspcwhychurch.

- **Recordings of the Congregational Consultants’ Zoom seminars** covering the practical aspects of congregational leadership are available for replay [here](#). They cover a myriad of topics of interest to congregational leadership, especially wardens and treasurers, and include administrative matters (vestry roles and responsibilities; annual meetings; congregational collaboration; non-financial parochial reporting; vital documents) as well as financial and accounting ones (what every treasurer should know; basic accounting/chart of accounts; budgets; clergy compensation, financial parochial reporting, year-end closing matters; audits; investments). *FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants coordinator (chris@centrestent.com).*

- The **Province I Indigenous Peoples’ Justice Network invites all to join the first in a series of book discussions**. Discussion of [The Gatherings: Reimagining Indigenous-Settler Relationships](#) by Shirley N. Hager and Mawopiyane will take place on *Wednesday, Sept. 13, from 7 to 8:15 p.m.* on Zoom. Register [here](#).
 Additional book studies are planned on *Nov. 8* (*This Land is Their Land: The Wampanoag Indians, Plymouth Colony and the Troubled History of Thanksgiving* by David J. Silverman); *Jan. 10, 2024* (*Our Beloved Kin: A New History of King Philip’s War* by Lisa Brooks) and *March 13, 2024* (*Path Lit by Lightning: The Life of Jim Thorpe* by David Maraniss).
FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (mgardner@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 403).

- The steering team for the Massachusetts Episcopal Network for the Massachusetts Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival is hosting a meeting on *Saturday, Oct. 21, 9 a.m.-noon*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. The goal is to **connect Episcopal justice groups in the Diocese of Massachusetts**, creating a path to work together to promote divine justice for all. Anyone who is part of a committee, commission, group, network or congregation working in the area of interlocking injustices (poverty, ecological devastation, the war economy, systemic racism, religious nationalism) is welcome to be part of the conversation. Contact Amelia Slawsby at mappcen@gmail.com to join.

CHURCHWIDE:

- Episcopal congregations seeking ways to observe Pride Month and World Refugee Day in June have a special opportunity to focus on LGBTQ+ and refugee communities through **Episcopal Migration Ministries' new Rainbow Initiative**.

As of early May, 15 groups in the U.S. and Europe have partnered with Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) as "Rainbow Initiative Congregations/Communities" committed to learning about and supporting LGBTQ+ forced migrants during the worldwide activities in June focused on those communities.

Participants work with EMM to discern activities and direction for showing solidarity with LGBTQ+ forced migrants, such as highlighting them in Pride worship services and march activities or on World Refugee Day. Other options include holding fundraisers to benefit programs that provide housing and food, hosting film screenings and providing lodging for LGBTQ+ forced migrants.

EMM announced The Rainbow Initiative in January, created in response to the 2022 General Convention's [Resolution D045](#).

To express interest in becoming a Rainbow Initiative Congregation/Community, e-mail rainbowinitiative@episcopalchurch.org. Find a list of Rainbow Initiative Congregations/Communities, as well as planned events and activities, on the [Rainbow Initiative webpage](#).

- The **churchwide "It's All About Love" festival** of worship, learning, community and action is coming up *Sunday, July 9 through Wednesday, July 12* at the Baltimore Convention Center.

Three festival "tents"—devoted to evangelism, creation care and racial reconciliation—will each offer an evening revival worship service and major plenary speaker, plus dozens of daytime workshops, panels, practice opportunities and other ways to engage. Find complete festival information at www.episcopalchurch.org/its-all-about-love.

- The Episcopal Church Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop on May 15 issued a letter to the church announcing the availability of the **"Profile for the Election of the 28th Presiding Bishop"** (in English, Spanish and French) and inviting Episcopalians to submit the names of bishops for the committee to consider as nominees. The deadline for submitting names is *Saturday, July 15*. Find the letter and profile links [here](#).

- **New Episcopal Community grant applications** are open for dioceses and mission developers who are envisioning, planning or growing new worshiping communities and missional enterprises throughout the church. The deadline to apply for the second round of 2023 New Episcopal Community grant funding is *Aug. 1*.

The Episcopal Church Office for Church Planting and Redevelopment will hold two informational [workshops via Zoom](#) to answer questions and offer guidance, on *Thursdays, June 15, 12-1 p.m.*, and *July 6, 3-4 p.m.* Find additional information [here](#).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its May 18 meeting, Diocesan Council:

Heard a report from the Budget Committee about 2024 budget planning.

Heard a report from the Treasurer's Office.

Voted to approve the following appointments to the Budget, Strategy and Governance Committee: Holly Carter, as chair, and the Rev. Mike Dangelo, the Rev. Hilary Greene, Connie Melahoures, the Rev. Lori Mills-Curran, the Rev. Carol Morehead, the Rev. Derrick Muwina, the Rev. Greg Perez, Tom Phillips, the Rev. Debbie Phillips, Win Treese and Theodore Ts'o as members.

Voted to approve adjustments to the 2023 assessments for Trinity Parish in Newton Centre, All Saints Parish in Brookline, the Church of Our Saviour in Milton and St. Thomas's Church in Taunton.

Next Council Meeting: *Thursday, June 15, 6 p.m.*, at the diocesan offices at 138 Tremont Street in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: Margaret Lias, Administrator for Governance and Grants (mlias@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 229).

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

Please direct inquiries about this report to the [regional canons](#).

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. James Hairston completed his ministry as priest-in-charge of Grace Church in Everett on May 27 and began as priest-in-charge of the Church of St. Augustine and St. Martin in Boston on May 28.

The Rev. Isaac Martinez will complete his ministry as bridge priest at Grace Church in Newton on June 13 and begins as priest-in-charge of Trinity Church in Melrose on June 14.

The Rev. David Prentice completed his ministry as bridge priest at Trinity Church in Melrose on May 20 and began as bridge priest at St. Mary's Church in Rockport on May 21.

The Rev. William Rich concludes his ministry as interim priest at the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor in Provincetown on June 30.

The Rev. Cara Rockhill completed her ministry as priest-in-charge of the Parish of St. Paul in Newton Highlands on April 30 and will serve as bridge priest at Grace Church in Newton June 12-July 31.

Central Region

Alewife & Charles River deaneries: Contact Regional Canon Martha Hubbard mhubbard@diomass.org

Boston Harbor & Neponset River deaneries: Contact Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell koconnell@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

MEDFIELD, Church of the Advent

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

BOSTON, St. Stephen's Church

BROOKLINE, St. Paul's Church

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE: *None at this time.*

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CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: *(Apply directly to parish.)**None at this time.***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

LEXINGTON, Church of Our Redeemer

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*DORCHESTER, St. Mary's Church *3/4 time*MEDWAY, Christ Church *1/3 time*NEWTON, Grace Church *full time***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:WABAN, Parish of the Good Shepherd: [Assistant Priest](#)**Northern and Western Region**Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.org**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

LOWELL, St. Anne's Church

LOWELL, St. John's Church

ROCKPORT, St. Mary's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES**CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

AYER, St. Andrew's Church

FRAMINGHAM, St. Andrew's Church

HOLLISTON, St. Michael's Church

HUDSON, St. Luke's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE: *None at this time.***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)*[GROVELAND, St. James's Church](#) *(Short list search) 1/2 time***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

BEVERLY, St. Peter's Church

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*NORTH ANDOVER, St. Paul's Church *half time*WESTON, St. Peter's Church *full time***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.**None at this time.***OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**MARBLEHEAD, Four local parishes: [Youth minister/director](#)

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*Continued from page 6***Southern Region***Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell*
koconnell@diomass.org**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church

RECTOR SEARCHES**CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

BARNSTABLE, St. Mary's Church

HINGHAM, Parish of St. John the Evangelist

PLYMOUTH, Christ Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

SANDWICH, St. John's Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: *(Apply directly to parish.)*[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) 1/2 time[FOXBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church](#) and [WRENTHAM,](#)[Trinity Church](#) full-time collaboration[HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church](#) 1/2 time[HOLBROOK, St. John's Church](#) 1/2 time[NEW BEDFORD, Grace Church](#) full time**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

PROVINCETOWN, St. Mary of the Harbor Church

WOODS HOLE, Church of the Messiah

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

ATTLEBORO, All Saints' Church 1/4 time

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

PLYMOUTH, Christ Church full time

NEXT *fyi*:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the July issue is **Wednesday, June 28 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.
