



Wednesday, May 1, 2024

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org
617-482-5800 / 617-482-4826

[Sign up for E-news](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Job Postings](#)

Come meet the bishop nominees at May 7-11 Meet-and-Greets

The Standing Committee announced on April 19 the final slate of nominees for election as the diocese's 17th bishop diocesan:

- The Rev. Dr. Brendan J. Barnicle;
- The Rev. Edwin D. Johnson;
- The Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Th.D.;
- The Very Rev. Gideon L.K. Pollach; and
- The Rev. Julia E. Whitworth.

Visit www.diomass.org/bishop-search/bishop-nominees to learn more about each.

The Transition Committee has scheduled a series of open meetings *May 7-11*, giving the people of the diocese an opportunity to meet and learn more about the nominees. All are invited to attend, particularly those who are voting members of Diocesan Convention.

The Meet-and-Greets will take place on:

- *Tuesday, May 7, 7-8:30 p.m.* at All Saints' Parish, Ashmont in Dorchester;
- *Wednesday, May 8, 10-11:30 a.m.* at St. Mary's Church in Barnstable;
- *Wednesday, May 8, 7-8:30 p.m.* at St. Thomas's Church in Taunton;
- *Thursday, May 9, 2-3:30 p.m.* at Christ Church in Needham;
- *Friday, May 10, 7-8:30 p.m.* at Christ Church in Andover (with childcare); and
- *Saturday, May 11, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.* on Zoom, with special Zoom rooms for youth and young adults (register [here](#)).

Additionally, on *Thursday, May 9, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.*, there will be a "**Coffee & Conversations with Clergy, Postulants and Candidates**" session at St. Paul's Church in Dedham. (Clergy, postulants and candidates RSVP to transition@mabishopsearch.org).

Any updates will be posted at www.diomass.org/bishop-search/meet-greets, where flier and graphic files are also available.

The Transition Committee has prepared [this FAQ document](#) providing more information about the discernment and election process. Information available to date is also posted at www.diomass.org/bishop-search.

Join online prayer vigil on eve of bishop election

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul and Old North Church in Boston invite all members of the diocese to join them **on Zoom for a prayer vigil on the eve of the convention** to elect the next bishop diocesan. Please gather on *Friday, May 17, from 7 to 7:40 p.m.*, to pray for all the nominees, for all who will vote, for the church and for Christ's mission. Register to receive the Zoom link [here](#).

**Registration is open
for May 18 Electing
Convention**

Registration is open for the special convention to elect the 17th bishop diocesan of the Diocese of Massachusetts, to take place on *Saturday, May 18* at Trinity Church in Boston. All attendees must pre-register [here](#).

All voting will take place in person. While the electing convention is open to all in the diocesan community, priority seating will be given to voting members and those with assigned credentials. Non-voting attendees will be seated on a first-come, first-served basis and as space allows.

Find details at www.diomass.org/electing-convention-2024. Questions may be e-mailed to convention@diomass.org.

**Ordination of deacons
coming up on June 1**

The diocesan community's prayers and presence are invited for the ordination of new deacons on *Saturday, June 1 at 10:30 a.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. **Lisa Vickers** (sponsored by St. Luke's Church in Hudson) will be ordained to the diaconate. Those being ordained to the transitional diaconate are: **Faith Mbuthia** (Grace Chapel, Brockton), **Molly Minnerath** (Cathedral Church of St. Paul), **Sarah Neumann** (Trinity Church, Boston) and **Amanda Rice** (Parish of St. Paul, Newton Highlands).

FOR SERVICE INFORMATION: Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston (cathedral@diomass.org).

**Deacons extend outreach
opportunities on June 9
"Diaconate Sunday"**

Once again the second Sunday in June (closest to the observance of Ephrem the Syrian, Deacon) will be observed in the diocese as "**Sunday of the Diaconate**"—this year as a diaconal outreach day on June 9. Deacons are offering the opportunity to join them in one of their diaconal outreach activities. For example, there will be a chance to join the Ven. Pat Zifcak, Archdeacon, on June 9 at the Cambridge Outdoor Church, an outreach ministry to people experiencing homelessness. Other options will be offered as well.

FOR INFORMATION: The Ven. Chris Beukman (cbeukman@diomass.org) or *The Ven. Pat Zifcak* (pzifcak@diomass.org).

**NEWS & EVENT
NOTES:**

- **"Generation to Generation: Talking with Younger Adults about the Next Episcopate in the Diocese of Massachusetts":** The recording of this April 22 Zoom panel discussion is available [here](#). It features lay and clergy leaders in their 20s through 40s from across the diocese sharing their hopes and concerns for the next chapter of diocesan life together, noting the importance of an opportunity to hear from this group, as church attendance continues to decline and many congregations no longer have large cohorts of members under age 50.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Dr. Regina Walton (rwalton@hds.harvard.edu).

-
- The **Massachusetts Episcopal Network for the Poor People's Campaign** invites participation in upcoming online conversations:
 - **“Open House”** on *Wednesday, May 1, 7-8:30 p.m.*, to learn more about the Poor People's Campaign and discuss upcoming ways to get involved (voter registration efforts and the June 15 assembly in Washington, D.C.) and connect with others involved in social justice advocacy. Register for the Zoom link [here](#).
 - **Book discussion** on *Monday, May 20, 7-8:15 p.m.*, about *Poverty, by America* by Matthew Desmond. Anyone who wants to learn more about the causes of poverty and the Poor People's Campaign is welcome to attend. Register for the Zoom link [here](#).

E-mail MAPPCCEN@gmail.com with questions or to be added to the e-mail list to receive a monthly newsletter and periodic updates.

 - The **Diocesan Altar Guild will hold its Annual Meeting and Luncheon** on *Saturday, May 4, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at St. John's Church in Saugus, with Bishop Alan Gates as celebrant and luncheon guest speaker. RSVPs by April 20 will be appreciated. Those who are new to this ministry at their church and have questions about membership may contact Diane Grondin at dmgrondin@comcast.net or Louise Gant at gantlouis20@gmail.com.

 - The **Dorchester Community Resource Fair** is almost here: The diocesan community is invited to join St. Mark's Church and Life Together on *Saturday, May 4, 1-4 p.m.*, at 73 Columbia Road in Dorchester for food, live music, kids' activities and information from a variety of local organizations providing services to the entire neighborhood. A new Little Free Library also will be unveiled in front of the church. This event is made possible in part by a [Wicked Good Idea Microgrant](#) from the Mission Strategy Committee.

Life Together is throwing a party, and the diocesan community is invited! Join Life Together on *Saturday, June 1 at 4 p.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston for **“Tracing the Journey,” celebrating the rich 25 year legacy of Life Together** and its predecessor program, The Micah Project. It will also be an occasion to bless Life Together's upcoming sabbath season and the work of discernment ahead. Whether a friend, alumni, former host site partner or volunteer, everyone's presence will be a gift as the next chapter of Life Together begins. RSVP at bit.ly/tracingthejourney. *FOR INFORMATION: Kelsey Rice Bogdan, Life Together Executive Director* (kelsey@diomassintern.org).

 - All are welcome to join for **“Challenges and Promises of Asian and Asian American Christians,”** with the Rev. Dr. Jim Kodera, presenter, on *Saturday, June 8, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at the Church of Our Saviour in Brookline. The gathering is being organized by the Asian Pacific Islander American Episcopalians of the diocese. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. RSVPs and questions are welcome to Grace Knowles at booker04@msn.com.
-

- **Summer Dinner for BIPOC Episcopal Community:** BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) Episcopalians from across the diocese are invited to come together for a time to support and share with one another over good food in the joy and gift of community as summer begins. The BIPOC Support Committee of the [Racial Justice Commission](#) invites all BIPOC Episcopal clergy and lay people to dinner on *Sunday, June 9, 5-7 p.m.*, at St. John's Church in Jamaica Plain. RSVP online [here](#) by June 5.

Please share this invitation with others in this community who would enjoy participating, or, forward names and e-mail addresses so that an invitation can be extended directly.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries (jbntagengwa@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 400).

CHURCHWIDE:

- The Episcopal Church's [81st General Convention](#) takes place *June 23-28* in Louisville, Ky. The church's [legislative committees](#) have begun work for General Convention, with many online meetings already scheduled into June. All are welcome to [register online to observe online pre-convention meetings or testify at open hearings](#). Those wishing to speak should register at least two business days prior to a hearing.
- There will be a meeting of the **Province I Conference** on *Wednesday, May 29, 5-9 p.m.*, via Zoom, for a gathering of provincial ministry networks, a discussion with 2024 General Convention deputies and the election of a clergy representative to the Episcopal Church Executive Council. This meeting is open to all Episcopalians and ministry partners in the seven dioceses of New England. Visit province1.org/conference for more information.
- Though Life Together, the [Episcopal Service Corps](#) program in the Diocese of Massachusetts, will be on sabbath for the 2024-2025 program year, **applications are open** now for eight other programs across the country for young adults ages 21-32. If a young adult in your congregation or community wants to go deeper in faith and service next year, encourage them to consider the Episcopal Service Corps. For more information or to apply, contact Kelsey Rice Bogdan, Life Together Executive Director (kelsey@diomassintern.org), or visit episcopalservicecorps.org/apply.

GRANTS & LOANS:

- **Children of clergy** canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts (and their widows/widowers) are eligible to apply for **scholarship grants for undergraduate degree programs**.

The application deadline for 2024 is May 13; notification of award decisions will be made by June 10. Find the 2024 grant materials [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Executive Assistant to the Bishop Diocesan (lsimons@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 407).

- The Mission Strategy Committee of Diocesan Council encourages congregations, organizations and networks in the Diocese of Massachusetts to apply for **Wicked Good Idea Microgrants** of up to \$2,500 to take on a ministry idea in their mission settings. The application is available [here](#). Questions may be e-mailed to missionstrategy@diomass.org.
- Remaining due dates for the **2024 Mission Initiatives grant reporting and application process** are as follows:
 - Existing grantees seeking to apply for the next (budget year 2025) grant round must apply and submit reports by *May 30*. The online application and reporting forms for existing grantees are available [here](#). A brief recorded report from current grantees is due by *June 20*. Guidance for recorded reports is provided in the diocesan website [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Margaret Lias, Administrator for Governance and Grants (mlias@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 229).
- The Church Home Society has launched a three-year pilot grant program, allocating up to \$40,000 a year to support **youth ministries in Episcopal churches**. Grant awards will be between \$1,000 and \$2,000. Applications (form available [here](#)) are due the last day of the month, August 2024 through April 2025, and they will be reviewed at the following monthly board meeting.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its April 18 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard a report about “An Episcopal Path to Creation Justice.”

Heard a report from the treasurer, Ted Ts’o.

Heard a report from the Assessment Coordinating Committee.

Heard an update from the secretary, Julie Shea, about the upcoming special Diocesan Convention to elect the 17th bishop diocesan.

Heard a report from the Executive Committee.

Next Council Meeting: *Thursday, May 16, 6 p.m., via Zoom.*

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. 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. Michael J. Horvath will begin serving as rector of St. Mary’s Church in Barnstable on July 1.

The Rev. Meg Ingalls finished serving as interim priest at the Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Hingham on April 30 and begins as interim priest-in-charge at St. Christopher’s Church in Chatham on May 1.

The Rev. Silas Kotnour is serving as the family ministry associate at All Saints Parish in Brookline.

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

DEACONS ON THE MOVE:

The Rev. Deacon Liz Good began serving at Trinity Church in Weymouth on March 1.

The Rev. Deacon Kris Holmes will finish serving at Trinity Church in Bridgewater on May 31 and begin at St. Gabriel's Church in Marion on June 1.

Central Region

Regional Canon Gregory Perez
gperez@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BURLINGTON, St. Mark's Church
SHARON, St. John's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

NORWOOD, Grace Church
ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

NEWTON HIGHLANDS, Parish of St. Paul

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: *(Apply directly to parish.)*

[BROOKLINE, St. Paul's Church](#)

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

BOSTON, Church of the Advent

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

None at this time.

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

None at this time.

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:

[BOSTON, The Crossing:](#) Pastor and Community Leader

Northern and Western Region

Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

DANVERS, All Saints Church of the North Shore

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

HUDSON, St. Luke's Church
LYNN, St. Stephen's Memorial Church
READING, Church of the Good Shepherd
ROCKPORT, St. Mary's Church
SHIRLEY, Trinity Chapel
WESTFORD, St. Mark's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: *(Apply directly to parish.)*

[FRAMINGHAM, St. Andrew's Church](#)

[HOLLISTON, St. Michael's Church](#) 1/2 time

Continued on page 7

*Continued from page 6***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

AYER, St. Andrew's Church

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*
WESTON, St. Peter's Church *full-time***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:***None at this time.***OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**Marblehead Youth Cooperative Ministry: [Youth minister](#)**Southern Region**Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell
is on sabbatical until July 1.For South Shore and Cape and
Islands deaneries, contact
Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.orgFor Taunton River and Mt. Hope-
Buzzards Bay deaneries, contact
Regional Canon Gregory Perez
gperez@diomass.org**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

SWANSEA, Christ Church

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

CHATHAM, St. Christopher's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:*None at this time.***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)*[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) *1/2 time***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

HINGHAM, Parish of St. John the Evangelist

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*ATTLEBORO, All Saints' Church *1/4 time*FALL RIVER, St. Luke's Church *1/8 time*HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church *full time*MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church *full time***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.**None at this time.***Clergy Supply List:** To request a copy of the most up-to-date
Clergy Supply List, e-mail Jocelyn Collen, Administrator for
Congregations and Development, at jcollen@diomass.org.

NEXT fyi:*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for
the June issue is **Wednesday, May 29 at noon**. E-mail submis-
sions to tjs@diomass.org.Find the newsletter **deadline schedule for 2024** [here](#).