



Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018

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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Last call for Diocesan Convention nominations, resolutions

Friday, Sept. 7 is the deadline for submission of nomination papers, resolutions, proposed amendments to the diocesan constitution and canons, applications for admission as a parish or mission, required reports from diocesan committees and applications for display space at the convention. Find materials at www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2018.

The 233rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts will take place on *Saturday, Nov. 3* at the Cape Cod Resort and Conference Center in Hyannis, with an optional dinner on *Friday evening, Nov. 2* celebrating the 30th anniversary of Bishop Barbara C. Harris's historic election. Registration opens in early October.

Plan to attend a pre-convention forum in October

Pre-Diocesan Convention forums in October offer an important opportunity for learning and discussion about the issues and business to come before the convention, including resolutions and the proposed budget. All are welcome; voting members of Convention are especially encouraged to participate. The forums will take place *from 7 to 9 p.m. on:*

- *Wednesday, Oct. 17* at St. Andrew's Church (3 Maple Street) in Framingham;
- *Thursday, Oct. 18* at Trinity Church (124 River Road) in Topsfield;
- *Tuesday, Oct. 23* at the Church of Our Saviour (120 Center Street) in Middleborough; and
- *Wednesday, Oct. 24* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or lsimons@diomass.org).

Second of three regional canons named

Bishop Alan M. Gates has announced the appointment of the Rev. Kelly A. O'Connell to serve as regional canon for the Southern Region, comprising the South Shore, Taunton River, Mt. Hope-Buzzards Bay, and Cape and Island deaneries. O'Connell will be relocating from the Diocese of Los Angeles, where she has served for the past six years as the rector of St. Stephen's Church in Santa Clarita. Her anticipated start date is Oct. 1. She will serve together with the Rev. Martha L. Hubbard, who was appointed in July to serve as regional canon for the Northern and Western Region, and a third canon for the Central Region, soon to be announced.

Each of the three regional canons will be responsible for lay leadership support and development; transition ministry with congregations and clergy involved in search processes for new ordained leadership; and clergy wellness and family support.

Read more [here](#).

[Visit the Events calendar here.](#)

Ministry Network Showcase to shine a light on shared ministry

A Ministry Network Showcase on *Saturday, Sept. 22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston aims to shine a light on the variety of service-oriented ministries offered by churches and networks in the diocese, as well as spark connections and kindle activity to start and strengthen networks of collaboration, and share resources for meeting ministry needs and opportunities in congregations and communities.

Congregations are encouraged to gather a group and come for an enlightening day of short talks with big messages and lots of resource sharing.

Find program information and register online by Sept. 19 [here](#). FOR INFORMATION: *Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation* (617-482-4826, ext. 403 or mgardner@diomass.org).

Diocesan community to celebrate new ministry with cathedral dean

A celebration of new ministry and installation of the Very Rev. Amy E. McCreath as the ninth dean of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston will be held on *Saturday, Sept. 29 at 10:30 a.m.* Bishop Alan M. Gates will preach and co-preside with Bishop Barbara C. Harris. Clergy will vest (white stoles). A festive reception will follow.

Please share this invitation; the prayers and presence of all are invited for this special celebration.

FOR INFORMATION: *Cathedral Church of St. Paul* (617-482-4826, ext. 221 or cathedral@diomass.org).

Hymn sing to launch Bishop Barbara Harris's new book

Hallelujah, Anyhow! Book Launch and Hymn Sing: *Sunday, Oct. 14, 4:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Come celebrate the launch of Bishop Barbara C. Harris's newly published memoir with singing and fellowship. Pre-signed copies of *Hallelujah, Anyhow!* will be available for sale at the event. All are welcome.

FOR INFORMATION: *The Rev. Bryan Pearson, Cathedral Church of St. Paul* (617-482-4826, ext. 366 or bpearson@diomass.org).

Ethel Crawford to be honored at Evensong

A special service of Evensong, with reception following, will be offered on *Friday, Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.* in honor of cathedral administrator Ethel Crawford, who is retiring after 40 years of service to the Diocese of Massachusetts and Cathedral Church of St. Paul. All are warmly invited to gather at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston for this celebration.

FOR INFORMATION: *The Very Rev. Amy E. McCreath, Cathedral Church of St. Paul* (617-482-4826, ext. 204 or amccreath@diomass.org).

Clergy Day registration is open until Sept. 28

The annual Clergy Day will be held on *Tuesday, Oct. 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Online registration is open until Sept. 28 [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: *Diane Pound, Office of the Bishop* (617-482-4826, ext. 407 or dpound@diomass.org).

NOTES:

- **Updated remarriage guidelines:** The diocesan guidelines for clergy seeking permission to officiate at a marriage of a divorced person have been revised and went into effect Sept. 1, as previously announced at the diocesan Clergy Conference. The application and forms are available by request, from clergy only, to Bishop Gayle E. Harris's office. Applications to officiate at remarriages of divorced lay people should be submitted to Harris's office; clergy remarriage applications should be submitted to Bishop Alan M. Gates's office.

Much in the application and requirements remains the same, with a few important differences:

- Completed forms must be received no later than 45 days before the proposed remarriage (previously it was 30 days).
- A period of six months must have passed from the time of the final civil/government divorce decree and the proposed remarriage (the time period was not clearly stated previously).
- One letter is required from both parties stating the failure of the previous marriage(s), care of children (if any) and their intentions and reasons for marriage in the church (previously two letters were required, one from each of the parties).

FOR INFORMATION: David Ames, Office of the Bishop Suffragan (617-482-4826, ext. 445 or dames@diomass.org).

CHURCHWIDE:

- **“A Summary of Actions of the 79th General Convention”** is now available online [here](#). The text of resolutions can be found [here](#). The Journal of the 79th General Convention, which is the official record of the proceedings, will be available in 2019.

Questions about the summary document may be e-mailed to gcoffice@generalconvention.org.

- **Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest:** At this summer's General Convention, Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry invited the whole Episcopal Church to take up “The Way of Love”—a “rule of life” focused on seven spiritual practices for a Jesus-centered life. More information and supporting materials, including brochures, wallet cards and reflections, are available [here](#).

- **Data from the 2017 Parochial Reports** is now available online, [here](#). The Parochial Report is the oldest, continuous gathering of data by the Episcopal Church. By tradition and canon, the reporting requirements are developed by the House of Deputies' Committee on the State of the Church, using a form approved by the church's Executive Council.

The newly posted documents include “fast facts” and trends; baptized membership, average Sunday attendance (ASA), statistical totals and average pledging by province and diocese, as well as financial and ASA totals by diocese.

Questions may be directed to the Office of General Convention at gcoffice@episcopalchurch.org or pr@dfms.org.

Upcoming youth ministry events:

Questions about these events may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617/482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

Find the full schedule of 2018-2019 youth ministry events [here](#).

- Interested to find out what others are doing in youth ministry? Have an idea for collaborating with neighbors on a program or project? Want to gather great ideas and be encouraged by the camaraderie of others doing similar work? Youth ministers are invited to join for one of these **fall get-togethers for those doing youth ministry**: **Thursday, Oct. 4, 12-2 p.m.** (with lunch) at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill; **Tuesday, Oct. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** (with dinner) at the Parish of the Epiphany (70 Church Street) in Winchester; **Wednesday, Oct. 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** (with dinner) at St. John's Church (705 Hale Street) in Beverly Farms; and **Thursday, Oct. 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** (with dinner) at the Church of Our Saviour (2112 County Street) in Somerset.

Register online in advance, [here](#), to ensure enough food.

- Leaders involved in creation care ministry in the diocese are seeking young people to join them for a **Cape Cod beach clean-up day** on *Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*—an opportunity to learn more about environmental stewardship and to put the extraordinary energies and commitments of young people to work in responding to the cries of creation.

The event steering committee, working with local environmental action agencies, is currently determining the best location for the day's effort. Young people and youth leaders interested in helping to plan this day of service and learning should e-mail both the Rev. Deborah Warner (dwarner74@aol.com) and Dawn Tesorero (dawn_tess@hotmail.com).

- The deadline to apply for **Faith in Action: Las Fronteras** is *Wednesday, Sept. 12*. Find more information and the online application [here](#). This new program for young people in grades 9-12 launches this fall. Based on the success of past mission-focused youth pilgrimages to the borderlands, this new offering—a partnership between the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry and Episcopal City Mission—includes a year of site visits around the diocese to see faith in action, all while participating in community service projects across eastern Massachusetts and developing a community of faith and support among themselves.

The program will begin with an organizational meeting in October, and the year will culminate in the group's pilgrimage to the U.S.-Mexico borderlands in August 2019.

- Online registration is now open [here](#) for the **2018 Middle School Retreat** weekend, *Friday-Sunday, Nov. 16-18* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Led by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend features small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, music by a live band and some much-needed time away in order to pay more attention to the Spirit of God. Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation. Registration closes when capacity is reached or on Nov. 12.
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TRAINING & LEARNING:

- All Saints' Church (17 Clark Street) in Belmont will host a **three-part Godly Play Core Training** beginning *Sept. 8*. Come to one or all three sessions, each led by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl Minor, the director of the Center for the Theology of Childhood for the Godly Play Foundation.

Sessions take place on three *Saturdays*: *Sept. 8* (Sacred Stories); *Sept. 22* (Parables); and *Oct. 6* (Liturgical Action). Find online registration information [here](#).

The Diocese of Massachusetts is a member of the Godly Play Foundation, so its congregations have member benefits, including a discounted training price. E-mail registration@godlyplayfoundation.org for information on how to access all the member benefits before registering for this training.

- **Volunteer teacher training:** ProGente Connections, the Metrowest Mission Hub, is an ecumenical collaborative of churches and community organizations that provides beginner and intermediate English classes to the Brazilian community. More than 1,000 students are on the waitlist in this region. ProGente's curriculum is designed to provide students with language skills, but also to break down cross-cultural barriers. Volunteer teachers must be able to commit two hours per week to ESL instruction. Teachers work in teams of two, supported by a professional staff. Small class sizes (15 students maximum) and easy-to-use materials and training make this position accessible to most, whether they have a teaching background or not. Textbooks, curricula, resources and training are provided to all, and much of it is available online.

Progente Connections' fall fundraising gala takes place on *Saturday, Sept. 29, 6 p.m.*, at St. Andrew's Church (3 Maple Street) in Framingham, featuring a Brazilian buffet, dance exposition, Cross Act Youth Drama from Igreja Presbiteriana Bethel and more. Tickets are available at www.progenteconnections.org.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Lori Mills-Curran, ProGente Connections/Metrowest Mission Hub (508-873-1881 or lmillscurran@diomass.org).

- **Safe Church Training** events that are open to all will be offered from *8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*, on [Saturday, Sept. 15](#) at Trinity Church (47 East Street) in Wrentham; [Saturday, Oct. 20](#) at St. Mary's Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable; and [Saturday, Oct. 27](#) at the Church of St. John the Evangelist (410 Washington Street) in Duxbury. Click on the date links for more information and online registration. A **Clergy Safe Church Refresher Training** also will be offered, on *Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Register online [here](#). All clergy canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts are expected to attend Safe Church Training once every three years.

FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Events Coordination (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or jgarrett@diomass.org).

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on two Saturdays this fall: [Oct. 6](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston and [Nov. 17](#) at Grace Church (104 North Washington Street) in North Attleborough. Click on the date links to register online. This training provides the required licensing to be a Eucharistic Visitor in the Diocese of Massachusetts. Eucharistic Visitors are lay people who have been trained and authorized to administer the Holy Eucharist to those who are unable to attend church services.
FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Events Coordination (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or jgarrett@diomass.org).

- The Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes is offering a **free Resource Day on strategic planning**, to be held on *Saturday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (206 Clarendon Street) in Boston. The program will focus on practical guidance for implementing an integrated planning process that considers all relevant aspects of the parish-mission, liturgy, program, finances and facilities, with discussion to also include ways that such planning processes can be used to coordinate and leverage the parish's communications, finance and fundraising efforts. Find more information and online registration [here](#).

- An **Episcopal Relief & Development disaster preparedness training** will be offered on *Saturday, Oct. 27, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Lunch will be provided. The training will facilitate the development of a ministry that assists congregations in anticipating and preparing for local, unexpected disastrous events. The session will explore how members of congregations can create and become familiar with various models and approaches, what resources and tools are available, and what supports and structures already exist for use in this important work. At the conclusion of the session, participants will be prepared to function as the Episcopal Relief & Development point person for the congregation. Lay participation is encouraged and clergy are welcome. RSVP by e-mail to jay@stpauls-nbpt.org by Oct. 17 (please indicate any food restrictions).
FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Jay Jordan (978-465-5351 or jay@stpauls-nbpt.org).

- **Workshops for those in ministry with the elderly** are available for clergy, pastoral care workers, lay leaders and others, offered through the developing elder ministries program in the diocese. Workshop topics include: "Becoming A Listening Presence"; "Elder Abuse and Neglect"; "Suffering Grief and Loss"; "Continuing Faith Enhancement"; "Challenges of Aging"; "Elder Care Transitions"; "Becoming a Dementia Friendly Congregation"; and "Caregiver" (focused on the spiritual journey of the caregiver).
FOR INFORMATION/TO SCHEDULE: The Rev. Colette Wood (617-922-9664 or coletewood@comcast.net).

DIOCESAN GRANTS & LOANS:

- Applications for **2018 Deanery Grants** (Sending Serving and House of Mercy Grants) are available [here](#). Award decisions must be submitted from deaneries to the diocesan office by *Monday, Oct. 15*.

FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

- **Clergy Sabbatical Grants:** The application form and program information for 2019 Clergy Sabbatical Grants are available [here](#). Applications are due by *Monday, Oct. 15, 2018*, for sabbaticals in 2019; award decisions will be announced by Nov. 15. Please submit applications to Lauren Zook, Diocesan Grants Administrator, by e-mail to lzook@diomass.org or by mail to her at Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Michael Hodges, Sabbatical Grant Committee (978-475-0529 or mhodges@christchurchandover.org).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Saturday, Sept. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Trinity Church (81 Elm Street) in Concord.*

FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or lsimons@diomass.org).

JOB POSTINGS:

Go to www.diomass.org
(Resources for Congregations & Clergy > [Employment](#)).

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: [parish administrator](#) at Christ Church in Waltham; [music director](#) at St. Mary's Church in Newton Lower Falls; [music director](#) at Christ Church in Harwich Port; two positions, [Kids in Community program administrator](#) and [parish administrator](#), at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn; [nursery care provider](#) at Trinity Church in Concord; [communications and database assistant](#) at Christ Church in Cambridge; [Sunday school teacher](#) at Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban; two positions, [interim director of music and organist](#) and [parish sexton](#), at Church of St. John the Evangelist in Duxbury; [sexton](#) at Epiphany Parish in Walpole; and [parish administrator](#) at St. John's Church in Newtonville.

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

Communication regarding parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or jbntagengwa@diomass.org).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

FALL RIVER, Church of the Holy Spirit
 MELROSE, Trinity Church
 NEWBURYPORT, St. Paul's Church
 NEWTON LOWER FALLS, St. Mary's Church
 SOMERSET, Church of Our Saviour
 SUDBURY, St. Elizabeth's Church
 WATERTOWN, Church of the Good Shepherd

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

HARWICH PORT, Christ Church
 LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church
 LYNN, St. Stephen's Church
 NATICK, St. Paul's Church
 TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

BOSTON, Trinity Church
 DUXBURY, Church of St. John the Evangelist
 HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church
 VINEYARD HAVEN, Grace Church
 WALTHAM, Christ Church
 WRENTHAM, Trinity Church

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Gareth Evans, currently the rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Acton, has been called as rector of St. Barnabas's Church in Irvington, N.Y., starting Dec. 2.

The Rev. Nathan Ives from the Diocese of Connecticut has been appointed priest-in-charge of St. Peter's-San Pedro in Salem and started on Aug. 5.

The Rev. Dr. Paul Kolbet has been appointed interim priest at St. Mary's Church in Newton Lower Falls starting Sept. 11.

The Rev. Carol Morehead from the Diocese of West Texas has been called as rector of Grace Church in Medford starting Nov. 1.

The Rev. Matthew Stewart, currently the rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Fall River, has been appointed priest-in-charge of St. James's Church in Cambridge starting Nov. 1.

The Rev. Noah Van Neil has been called as associate rector at the Chapel of the Cross in Chapel Hill, N.C. His last Sunday as assistant rector of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Hingham will be Oct. 21.

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the October issue is **Wednesday, Sept. 26 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.