



Wednesday, April 3, 2019

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org

(617) 482-4826 / (617) 482-5800 / FAX: (617) 451-6446

**Presiding Bishop Curry
to make Massachusetts
visit April 26-29**

Visit www.diomass.org/pb-visit for details and publicity materials (posters, newsletter/social media graphic, bulletin inserts/handouts, Facebook event link for sharing) for public events with Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry during his April 26-29 visitation in the Diocese of Massachusetts. Everyone is welcome; share the invitation far and wide.

Saturday, April 27

• **“PB & J”: Youth Jamboree with the PB, 1:30-3:15 p.m.**

Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Pizza and conversation program with Bishop Curry for middle and high school youth and their adult mentors. Register in advance at www.diomassyouth.org. This event will be livestreamed via a link to be posted at www.diomass.org.

• **Ministry Fair, 3:15-4:30 p.m.**

Leading up to the “Way of Love” Rally at 5 p.m., the Cathedral Church of St. Paul will host community gathering space and a Ministry Fair. *Those interested in having a table exhibit are invited to contact Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (617-482-4826, ext. 403 or mgardner@diomass.org).*

• **“Way of Love” Rally, 5-6 p.m., Boston Common** (behind the Shaw Memorial, corner of Beacon and Park Streets): Gather and be inspired, challenged and blessed as Bishop Curry proclaims the transforming power of walking the “Way of Love” with Jesus.

Sunday, April 28

• **“Our Episcopal ‘Big Tent’: How Big Is It?” 3-4 p.m.**

Grace Church (133 School Street) in New Bedford: Come for a provocative panel discussion with Bishop Curry, Bishop Barbara C. Harris and House of Deputies Vice President Byron Rushing. Seating will be first come, first served. Reception follows.

**Budget Committee
invites input at conver-
sation events**

The Budget Committee is in the process of gathering data on anticipated income and expenditures in preparation for creating the 2020 diocesan budget, and invites anyone with questions, concerns or suggestions about the diocesan budget process, or about the budget itself, to join for one of four conversation sessions with the committee. Questions about the annual budget, assessments and Mission Initiatives (formerly known as Strategic Ministries) will be particularly welcome. These sessions replace the spring budget hearings held in prior years, and will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on:

- *Wednesday, April 3* at Trinity Church (81 Elm Street) in Concord;
- *Thursday, April 4* at the Church of the Good Shepherd (74 High Street) in Wareham;

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

- *Tuesday, April 9* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; and
- *Wednesday, April 10* at Trinity Church (124 River Road) in Topsfield.

Webinar links are posted [here](#) for those who cannot attend in person. For reference, the 2019 budget is available [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Virginia Rogers, Budget Committee (978-468-6679 (phone), 978-289-0012 (text) or vrogers.ma@gmail.com).

Applications for new Mission Initiatives funding due May 15

The Mission Initiatives Committee, a committee of the Diocesan Council, is accepting applications from congregations and diocesan-sponsored organizations for financial support through the annual diocesan budget. Find more information and the application [here](#). The deadline to apply for these funds is May 15. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Rebecca Blair, Mission Initiatives Committee (508-558-6849 or rhbstandrewsmb@gmail.com).*

Constitution and canons review underway

E-mail feedback by June 15 to ccommittee@diomass.org.

As a response to the call in the [diocesan mission strategy](#) to “assess the ways our current use of resources and governance structures support or impede the goals of our mission strategy and make appropriate changes,” Bishop Alan M. Gates has charged the Committee on Constitution and Canons with undertaking a comprehensive review of the diocesan constitution and canons, with the goal of bringing a completed revision proposal to the 2020 Diocesan Convention for approval. The committee’s intention is to consult widely before proposing any revisions, so it is starting its work this year to allow plenty of time and opportunity for input from people of the diocese.

The task includes identifying areas where changes to the constitution and canons would make them more accessible, responsive and relevant to diocesan life now and in the future, as well as a “clean-up” of discrepancies that have made their way into these vital governance documents over their many decades of use and revision.

Working closely with the bishops and the diocesan chancellor, committee members have been consulting with chancellors of other dioceses and have already met with the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and diocesan staff to solicit initial input by April 1. They are available to meet over the next several months with deanery assemblies, clericus groups and other gatherings of people with an interest in the revision process. Questions and feedback can also be e-mailed directly to them at ccommittee@diomass.org by *June 15*. The committee plans to give a preliminary report on its work at the Diocesan Convention this November.

Find the diocesan constitution and canons online [here](#).

To schedule a visit from committee members, e-mail the Committee on Constitution and Canons chairperson, the Rev. Christine Whittaker (cnavez@aol.com), or the vice chairperson, the Rev. Mally Lloyd (malloyd2@aol.com).

NOTES:

- **“What is truth?” Lenten Preaching Series continues:** This Lent, the annual preaching series at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston is featuring bishops, scholars, a poet and a journalist engaging the question, “What is truth?” All are welcome. The series continues on *Thursdays through April 11, 12-1:30 p.m.*, featuring a simple worship service with guest sermon, followed by a light lunch and conversation with the preacher:
 - *April 4:* Matthew Bell—Reporter, Public Radio International’s “The World”; and
 - *April 11:* Bishop Alan M. Gates.*FOR INFORMATION: Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 221 or kvetiack@diomass.org).*

 - **Holy Tuesday Service with Renewal of Clergy Vows and Blessing of Holy Oils:** Bishop Alan M. Gates will preach and Bishop Gayle E. Harris will preside at this special Holy Tuesday service, *April 16, 11 a.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. All are welcome. Clergy are invited to stay for lunch with the bishops (\$12 per person, payable the day of). To ensure there is the right amount of food, RSVP by e-mail to the cathedral administrator, Kevin Vetiack, at kvetiack@diomass.org. Find the full Holy Week schedule at www.stpaulboston.org.

 - The **spring schedule of Confirmation services** offers numerous opportunities to present candidates for Confirmation and reception. Clergy are asked to contact the dean of their deanery as soon as possible if they plan to participate. Additionally, the names of candidates need to be sent to cathedral administrator Kevin Vetiack (kvetiack@diomass.org) so that organizers can begin to assess the size of services. Find the full schedule online [here](#). Questions may be directed to deanery deans or the Very Rev. Amy E. McCreath at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 204 or amccreath@diomass.org).

 - The diocesan **Global Mission Commission is hosting a “Speed Partnering” event** on *Saturday, April 13, 1-3 p.m.*, at St. John’s Church (74 Pleasant Street) in Arlington. This is a matchmaking opportunity for congregations and organizations with established global mission efforts to connect with other congregations and individuals who would like to join them. Congregations with established mission partnerships are invited to come and be prepared to talk about the joys and challenges of this ministry. There will be space to display photos, handouts or other items. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Holly Hartman (617-482-4826, ext. 351 or hhartman@diomass.org) or The Rev. Marilyn McMillan (617-482-4826, 422 or mmcmillan@diomass.org).*
-

- **“Encounters in the Holy Land”:** Join Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the Rev. Debbie Phillips for a mission pilgrimage in Israel and Palestine, Oct. 1-15. The mission pilgrimage will combine visits to holy sites with opportunities to learn about active mission in the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem through its school, healthcare and peacemaking ministries.

The registration deadline is May 15.

The group will meet three times before the trip for orientation and community building. Estimated cost is \$4,100 per person (double occupancy), with all payments due by July 15.

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

- **Online filing for the 2018 Parochial Report** for all congregations is available [here](#). Congregations in the Diocese of Massachusetts that did not receive the 2018 Parochial Report mailing should contact Trish Superville in the diocesan Treasurer’s Office for their log-in information (617-482-4826, ext. 555 or psuperville@diomass.org).

All reports are to be reviewed and marked complete by dioceses to the Executive Office of the General Convention by May 1.

- The **Diocesan Altar Guild Annual Meeting and Luncheon** takes place on *Saturday, May 11* at Christ Church (12 Quincy Avenue) in Quincy. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Tim Schenck, Rector of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Hingham, whose topic will be “Holy Grounds” and the place of coffee in world religions. All are welcome. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m., with Holy Eucharist at 11 a.m., followed by the luncheon at 12:30 p.m. and the annual business meeting.

FOR INFORMATION: Diane Grondin (dmgrondin@comcast.net).

- The working groups of the diocesan **20s and 30s Task Force** are in the process of mapping out the listening and study phase of their work, to be accomplished by June. (Their organizing questions are still available for review and comment [here](#).) Anyone interested in helping in the work of this task force or participating in one of its focus groups may contact the co-chairs, Sarah Neumann (sneumann3@gmail.com) or the Rev. Suzanne Wade (revsuzannewade@gmail.com), or the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

One working group is gathering stories from successful ministries with young adults, as well as looking at what additional supports, networks and resources are needed. The other group is listening to stories from young adults more broadly, to hear what they seek in their spiritual lives and identify the ways the church’s culture needs to change in response, as well as to identify the unique gifts that young adults have to offer the broader church.

The task force will report its findings and recommendations to the annual Diocesan Convention in November.

CHURCHWIDE:

- The Episcopal Church's annual **Good Friday Offering** is a way to help connect the love of Christ on the cross with support for the ongoing ministry of love and compassion carried out by Anglicans in the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry writes in his annual [Good Friday Offering appeal letter](#). "Whether funding a hospital in Gaza or the West Bank, or an eye clinic in Aden, or women's programs, or summer camps and leadership training for young people, the Good Friday Offering is making a difference in the lives of so many," Curry writes. "I believe our partnership with those who keep the faith of Jesus alive in the region, where our Lord walked and began his movement, is a significant aspect of our work as part of the church catholic."

Materials to support congregational participation, including bulletin covers and inserts, are available [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Robert Edmunds, Episcopal Church Middle East Partnership Officer (redmunds@episcopalchurch.org).

- **Take the creation care pledge:** Episcopalians and friends concerned about all of God's creation are invited to join Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry in pledging to take action to protect and renew God's world and all who call it home. The goal is to gather at least 1,000 pledges with concrete, personal commitments by Earth Day, April 22. Find the pledge and accompanying Reflection Guide [here](#).

- Registration is open for "**Love God, Love Neighbor: Advocacy in Action,**" a two-day interactive training for people interested in developing or improving their advocacy skills and having the opportunity to advocate directly with members of Congress and their staff about protections for refugees.

Sponsored by the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations in partnership with Episcopal Migration Ministries, "Love God, Love Neighbor: Advocacy in Action" will be held *Thursday-Friday, June 27-28*, in Washington, D.C., with the option to attend the [One Journey Festival](#) on *Saturday, June 29*. This day-long festival, held on the grounds of Washington National Cathedral, celebrates refugee contributions.

Find more information and online registration [here](#).

- The **interim bodies** that carry out much of the work mandated by the Episcopal Church's triennial General Convention **have begun their work**, including the Task Force to Study Sexism in The Episcopal Church & Develop Anti-Sexism Training; the Task Force to Develop Model Sexual Harassment Policies; the Task Force on Theological Education Networking; the Task Force on Formation & Ministry of the Baptized; and the Task Force for Communion Across Difference. Find coverage of these groups' March 19-22 meetings [here](#).
-

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).

- **“PB & J”: Youth Jamboree with the PB**, Saturday, April 27, 1:30-3:15 p.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Plan to bring middle and high school youth for this special conversation program with Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry. Register youth groups in advance at www.diomassyouth.org. This event will be livestreamed via a link to be posted at www.diomass.org. Find more details about Bishop Curry’s full weekend visit to the Diocese of Massachusetts at www.diomass.org/pb-visit.

TRAINING & LEARNING:

- This season’s series of **Congregational Business Practices Workshops** offered by the diocesan Congregational Consultants concludes on [April 6](#) at the Church of the Good Shepherd (74 High Street) in Wareham (click on the date link to register). The workshop is an important learning opportunity for vestry members, officers and clergy—anyone involved in the business matters of the congregation.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Consultants Coordinator (cmeyer@diomass.org) or Jennifer Garrett, Events Coordinator (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or jgarrett@diomass.org).

- An Episcopal Relief & Development **Disaster Preparedness Training** will be offered on Saturday, April 6, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at Trinity Church (229 Highland Street) in Marshfield. The training will facilitate the development of a ministry that assists congregations in anticipating and preparing for local, unexpected disastrous events. 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. Lunch will be provided. RSVP by e-mail to jamesmccormackthomas@gmail.com (please indicate any food restrictions).

FOR INFORMATION: James Thomas, Diocesan Disaster Coordinator (508-246-2600 or jamesmccormackthomas@gmail.com).

- In keeping with the desire to provide regional offerings, two **stewardship trainings for congregational lay leaders** will be offered in May:

- Saturday, May 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at St. Paul’s Church (127 Summer Street) in Lynnfield, and
- Saturday, May 18, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at St. Andrew’s Church (17 Church Street) in Hanover.

All are welcome. Participants will share experiences of stewardship best practices and review available resources for congregations.

FOR INFORMATION/TO RSVP: Bliss Austin Spooner, Office of Development (617-482-4826, ext. 515 or baustinspooner@diomass.org).

- The spring **Clergy Safe Church Refresher Training** takes place on *Tuesday, May 14, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at St. Gabriel's Church (124 Front Street) in Marion. All clergy canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts are expected to attend Safe Church Training once every three years. There is no fee for this refresher training but pre-registration is required. Find information and register online [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (617-482-4826, ext. 403 or mgardner@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN GRANTS & LOANS:

- Applications for **Mission Tithe Relationship Grants**, to support congregations entering new global mission partnerships, are due by *Monday, April 29*. Find the application and more information [here](#). Questions about qualifying for a grant may be directed to the deacons for global mission partnerships, the Rev. Holly Hartman (617-482-4826, ext. 351 or hhartman@diomass.org) and the Rev. Marilyn McMillan (617-482-4826, 422 or mmcmillan@diomass.org). Application process questions may be directed to the grants administrator, Lauren Zook (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

- **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 for the 2019-2020 academic year. Applications are due to lzook@diomass.org by *Monday, May 13*. Applicants will be notified of award decisions by June 21. The Statement of Policy and Procedure, which is the basis for making awards, and the Student Personal and Financial Profile, which all applicants are asked to complete, are available online [here](#).

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

- Applications for **2019 Deanery Grants** (Sending Serving and House of Mercy Grants) are available [here](#). Award decisions must be submitted from deaneries to the diocesan office by Oct. 15.

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

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

For more information visit the [Diocesan Council webpage](#).

At its March 21 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Voted to approve the restructuring of the Global Mission Commission (formerly the Jubilee Global Mission Committee).

Heard a presentation from the Creation Care Justice Network about its current work.

Voted to approve 2019 assessment abatements and corrections for St. Mark's Church in Burlington, St. Mary's Church in Rockport,

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

St. John's Church in Franklin and St. John's Church in Holbrook, and to send the approved abatements and corrections to the Budget Committee.

Voted to approve an assessment payment plan for the Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans.

Heard an update from the Committee on Constitution and Canons about its current project of reviewing the entirety of the diocesan constitution and canons.

Heard an update about the formation of the Assessment Formula Review Committee.

Heard an announcement about Budget Committee conversation events scheduled in April.

Heard a treasurer's report about preliminary 2018 financial results, which will not be finalized until audits are complete.

Heard a presentation about how to interpret surpluses and losses in diocesan financial reports.

Thanked the Rev. Tom Mousin, outgoing Council member.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, April 25, 5:30-8:30 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (81 Elm Street) in Concord.

FOR INFORMATION: Chelsea Smith, Governance and Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or csmith@diomass.org).

JOB POSTINGS:

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

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: two positions, [grants manager](#) and [community organizer](#), at Episcopal City Mission; [facility event manager](#) at Trinity Church in Boston; [financial administrator](#) for Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries; [organist-pianist](#) at St. Peter's-San Pedro Church in Salem; and three positions, [Spanish teacher](#), [science teacher](#) and [director of development](#), at Esperanza Academy in Lawrence.

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

Transition ministry is overseen by the regional canons.

Inquiries may be directed to them by e-mail to: regionalcanons@diomass.org.

Please also visit the [transition ministry webpage](#).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church
CHARLESTOWN, St. John's Church
FALL RIVER, Church of the Holy Spirit
NEW BEDFORD, St. Andrew's Church
QUINCY, St. Chrysostom's Church
SHARON, St. John's Church
WHITMAN, All Saints' Church
WINCHESTER, Parish of the Epiphany

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

ACTON, Church of the Good Shepherd
BOSTON, Church of the Advent
MELROSE, Trinity Church

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

NATICK, St. Paul's Church
 NEWBURYPORT, St. Paul's Church
 NEWTONVILLE, St. John's Church
 SOMERSET, Church of Our Saviour
 SUDBURY, St. Elizabeth's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

HARWICH PORT, Christ Church
 LYNN, St. Stephen's Church
 WATERTOWN, Church of the Good Shepherd

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

NEWTON LOWER FALLS, St. Mary's Church
 TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church
 LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church
 WALTHAM, Christ Church

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:

BEVERLY FARMS, St. John's Church: [Curate](#)
 GREENFIELD, N.H., Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference
 Center: [Head chaplain](#)
 SUDBURY, St. Elizabeth's Church: [Assistant rector](#)
 WELLESLEY, St. Andrew's Church: [Assistant rector for youth and family](#)

CLERGY CHANGES:

On March 31, the Rev. Thomas Brown, Rector of the Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester, and his spouse, the Rev. Thomas Mousin, Rector of St. John's Church Charlestown, concluded their ministries at their parishes. Brown is bishop-elect of the Diocese of Maine; pending the consent process, his consecration is scheduled for June 22.

The Rev. Daniel Dice was installed as rector of the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Duxbury on March 19.

The Rev. Sue Lederhouse has announced her retirement from St. Peter's Church-on-the-Canal in Buzzards Bay. Her last Sunday will be June 23.

In mid-March the Rev. David Prentice was assigned as priest-in-charge at Trinity Church in Woburn.

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the May 1 issue is **Wednesday, April 24 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.