



Wednesday, Dec. 4, 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) 482-5800 / (617) 482-4826

[Events Calendar](#)

[Job Postings](#)

Join online book groups in 2020

Diocesan ministry networks will be facilitating online book discussions in January, February and March, each inspired by one of the themes of the [diocesan mission strategy](#). All are welcome to join one or more of the discussions online via Zoom on the following *Wednesdays, from 7 to 8 p.m.*:

- *Jan. 29*, focused on “Reimagining Our Congregations”: The book is *Transforming Evangelism* by David Gortner, and the online discussion will be facilitated by Billy Boyce and the Rev. Debbie Philips from the Evangelism Network.
- *Feb. 19* (please note date change from previous announcements), focused on “Building Our Relationships”: The book is *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi, and the online discussion will be facilitated by K. Holly Maze Carter.
- *March 25*, focused on “Engaging Our World”: The book is *Climate Church, Climate World* by Jim Antal, and the discussion will be facilitated by the Rev. Lise Hildebrandt of the Creation Care Justice Network.

Zoom links for joining the discussions are posted [here](#). Questions may be e-mailed to missionstrategy@diomass.org.

Registration is open for annual Ministry Discernment Conference

The annual Ministry Discernment Conference offered by the bishops and the Commission on Ministry takes place on *Saturday, Feb. 1, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. (The snow date is Feb. 8. Please check www.diomass.org for announcement.)

The conference provides an in-depth look at the 2020 Ministry Discernment Handbook, and gives potential inquirers an opportunity to learn about the ordination process in the Diocese of Massachusetts and to explore whether their call is to ordained or committed lay ministry.

Those considering applying for admission to the ordination process in 2020 are required to attend the conference, along with their sponsoring priest and at least one member of their parish discernment committee. Discernment committees, one member of which must be a vestry member, are appointed by the priest of the sponsoring congregation and should be named before the conference so that as many members as wish to may attend. Inquirers are also encouraged to bring their spouses or partners to the conference.

Online registration is open [here](#) and is required by Jan. 20.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Edie Dolnikowski, Canon for Ordained Vocations (617-482-4826, ext. 514 or edie@diomass.org).

New priests to be ordained

The diocesan community's prayers and presence are invited for these upcoming ordinations to the priesthood:

- The Rev. Sarah Brock on *Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m.*, at St. John's Church (705 Hale Street) in Beverly Farms (sponsored by All Saints Church, Brookline);
- The Rev. Paul Shoaf Kozak on *Saturday, Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m.*, at Grace Church (160 High Street) in Medford (sponsored by St. Luke's-San Lucas Church, Chelsea);
- The Rev. Mary Beth Mills-Curran on *Saturday, Dec. 21, 11 a.m.*, at St. John's Church (1675 Route 25A) in Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (sponsored by St. James's Church, Cambridge);
- The Rev. Isaac Martinez on *Monday, Jan. 6, 6:30 p.m.*, at St. Paul's Church (15 St. Paul Street) in Brookline (sponsored by St. James's Church, Cambridge);
- The Rev. Mia Kano on *Saturday, Jan. 11, 10:30 a.m.*, at St. Andrew's Church (79 Denton Road) in Wellesley (sponsored by Grace Church, Medford); and
- The Rev. Eric Fialho on *Wednesday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m.*, at St. Paul's Church (200 Riverside Avenue) in Riverside, Conn. (sponsored by Grace Church in Salem).

FOR INFORMATION: Contact the host parish or the Rev. Edie Dolnikowski, Canon for Ordained Vocations (617-482-4826, ext. 514 or edie@diomass.org).

Life Together recruitment for 2020-2021 is underway

[Applications](#) for the 2020-2021 Life Together cohort are now open. The first priority deadline is Jan. 18.

Do you know a young adult who is discerning their next step? Can you help Life Together find young adults who are interested in a year of faith-based social justice work? Life Together invites help from congregational leaders in recruiting young adults (ages 21-32) committed to social change and personal transformation.

Life Together is a 10-month fellowship program based in Boston and its surrounding areas, focused on cultivating the next generation of prayerful and prophetic leaders, through spiritual practice, social justice, leadership training and community building. Fellows range in age from 21 to 32 and come from a diverse range of racial, economic, geographic and religious backgrounds. Housing with all utilities paid, health insurance and a modest living stipend are provided.

If Life Together and Boston are not the right fit, there are other programs in the national Episcopal Service Corps network. Each program is unique, offering community and service opportunities that are contextualized to the particular setting of that program. An online discernment tool is available [here](#).

For more information about Life Together, visit www.lifetogethercommunity.org; follow on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#); or contact Life Together directly at apply@diomassintern.org.

NOTES:

- The Diocese of Massachusetts has adopted **new Safe Church policies** designed to foster healthy and sustainable ministry with vulnerable people—one for children and youth, and one for vulnerable adults. Their purpose is to help create safe and welcoming space for minors, elders and people with disabilities and those engaged in ministry with them. As stated in the policies, congregations are required to adopt their own Safe Church policies for children and youth and for vulnerable adults. Find the new policies, as well as model policies for congregations to review and adopt, in the Document Library at www.diomass.org, [here](#).

Additionally, updated information about Safe Church Training in the diocese is posted [here](#).

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

- The updated **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** for Advent 2019-Pentecost Season 2020 is now available and posted in the Document Library at www.diomass.org, [here](#).

- **New schedule for the licensing of lay ministers:** The timing and procedure for the renewal of licenses for lay ministers is changing. Beginning in 2020, the process of licensing lay ministers will be incorporated into the annual congregational leadership report. Anyone whose name is submitted via the leadership report for one of the recorded lay ministries will be considered licensed until their congregation removes the name from its leadership report in a future year.

This change will make for easier reporting and more accurate recordkeeping, and will allow for better support, training and continuing education for those who faithfully serve congregations as Eucharistic Ministers, Eucharistic Visitors and Worship Leaders.

FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Assistant for Congregations and Events Coordinator (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or jgarrett@diomass.org).

- Last year's Diocesan Convention called on all congregations, ministries and diocesan bodies to use fair-trade coffee at events, and encouraged support for fair-trade coffee movement goals.

Through a partnership with the fair-trade company Equal Exchange in West Bridgewater, Episcopal Relief & Development receives 15 cents for every pound of coffee purchased.

Interested members of the diocesan community are invited for a **tour of the Equal Exchange roastery** in West Bridgewater on *Wednesday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.* Presentations, tastings and Q&A will provide a better understanding of the issues surrounding fair-trade coffee, the challenges that small-scale farmers face and an opportunity to sample products.

Space is limited; RSVP and direct questions to Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (617-482-4826, ext. 403 or mgardner@diomass.org).

- **Resource Take-Away and Open House Hours:** A variety of Christian formation resource materials—for children and adults—that have been purchased, donated and collected over time are available to give away to congregations that can make good use of them. Clergy, Christian formation leaders and all who are interested are invited to stop by the diocesan offices at 138 Tremont Street in Boston for refreshments, conversation with staff and one another and an opportunity to browse and select materials to take away:

- *Thursday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.;*
- *Wednesday, Dec. 18 from 1 to 4 p.m.;* and
- *Thursday, Dec. 19, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

Books, CDs, DVDs and periodicals on a variety of subjects are available, as well as Bibles, commentaries and curricula.

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

- The diocesan and cathedral offices at 138 Tremont Street in Boston will be **closed over the holidays**, from *Monday, Dec. 23 through Wednesday, Jan. 1*, re-opening on *Thursday, Jan. 2*. Cathedral services and events, including Monday Lunch, continue as scheduled.

- Save the date: The **Diocesan Altar Guild's annual meeting and luncheon** will be hosted by Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth on *Saturday, May 2*. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist is at 11 a.m., followed by the program and luncheon. This year's guest speaker will be Donna Curtin, the executive director of the Pilgrim Hall Museum.

FOR INFORMATION: Diane Grondin, Diocesan Altar Guild (781-335-2198 or dmgrondin@comcast.net).

CHURCHWIDE:

- **Episcopal Church Advent and Christmas resources** are available online, including the "Journeying the Way of Love" curriculum, Advent calendar and bulletin inserts. Find them [here](#).

- The Episcopal Church Foundation will offer a **webinar, "Extending Ministry Footprint through Building Use,"** on *Wednesday, Dec. 11, 11 a.m. to noon*.

Many churches are extending their ministry beyond church services, and church properties are being used for preschools, thrift stores, soup kitchens and shelters. Many are also providing sanctuary for undocumented citizens. They are also leasing space that requires different types of agreements.

In this webinar, Steve Follos of the Church Insurance Agency will discuss the types of extension ministries that congregations are taking part in and the actions that church leaders need to consider when adding these types of arrangements.

Learn more and sign up [here](#).

- Forward Movement, along with partners from across the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada, invites participation in the **Good Book Club**, a churchwide Bible reading initiative. This year the Good Book Club will focus on the Gospel of John, with participants reading a section of Scripture each day during the Epiphany season, starting on Jan. 6. Find more information at www.goodbookclub.org.

- The Episcopal Church Foundation is now accepting applications for its **Fellowship Partners Program** for 2020. The program supports individuals pursuing advanced academic studies and special ministries, with the aim of educating and equipping future lay and clergy leaders. Learn more and find the application [here](#). Applications are due by *Monday, March 16*.

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).

- Join Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the congregation of St. Luke's-San Lucas Church in Chelsea on *Saturday, Dec. 21, 6:30-9 p.m.*, [please note corrected date] for **Las Posadas**, a traditional Advent event in which those gathered will trace Mary and Joseph's traveling search for shelter. As the group celebrates this well-known story from the Christian tradition, it will hold close in heart and mind the serious situation of modern-day refugees seeking shelter. The event is free, but advance registration, online [here](#), is important to ensure there will be enough food.

- Applications, available online [here](#), are due by *Friday, Dec. 13* for the **2020 Faith in Action: Las Fronteras Pilgrimage**. The program, for young people in grades 9-12, will begin with an organizational meeting in January, and will include several site visits around the diocese to see faith in action. The program will culminate in an August pilgrimage to the U.S.-Mexico borderlands.

- Every three years, young Episcopalians come together for the Episcopal Youth Event, an international gathering for worship, workshops, exploration and fun. The **2020 Episcopal Youth Event (EYE20)** will be held in partnership with Washington National Cathedral and the Diocese of Washington, *July 7-11*. Young people attend as part of their diocesan delegation. Online registration is now open [here](#).

- Registration is now open for the **High School Retreat**, *Friday-Sunday, Feb. 7-9*, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. The retreat's theme is "Our World, Our Future." Led by the Diocesan Youth Council (DYC), the weekend features workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship, lively music and much-needed time away from everyday routines 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 Jan. 31. Register online [here](#).

TRAINING & LEARNING:

- Episcopal City Mission is hosting a **Faith-Rooted Justice Workshop** for individuals and teams from Episcopal congregations on *Saturday, Jan. 25, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at St. Andrew's Church (135 Lafayette Street) in Marblehead. This training and community building opportunity will lay the groundwork for communities to respond to injustice on a local or statewide basis. Find more information online [here](#) and sign-up [here](#).

GRANTS & LOANS:

- Applications for **2020 Episcopal Church United Thank Offering Annual Grants** are available at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto-grants. They are due to the diocesan UTO coordinator, Betty Murray (contact information below) by *Friday, Dec. 20*. Applications for **2020 Episcopal Church United Thank Offering Young Adult and Seminarian Grants** are available at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto-young-adult-and-seminarian-grants. They are due to the diocesan office by *Friday, Jan. 24*. *FOR INFORMATION: Betty Murray, Diocesan UTO Coordinator (617-332-5939 or eg.murray102@gmail.com).*

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, Dec. 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.
FOR INFORMATION: Chelsea Smith, Assistant for Governance and Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or csmith@diomass.org).

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Johanna Barrett is retiring as rector of Trinity Church in Topsfield and is moving to Dover, N.H.
The Rev. Joyce Caggiano has begun as priest-in-residence at Emmanuel Church in West Roxbury.
The Rev. Lisa Fortuna has completed her time as priest-in-charge at St. Paul's Church in Malden as she and her family move to San Francisco to pursue new ministry.
The Rev. Debra Kissinger has begun as the interim priest at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans.

Central Region

Regional Canon Carol Gallagher
cgallagher@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

None at this time.

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

CAMBRIDGE, Christ Church *full-time*
CHARLESTOWN, St. John's Church *TBD*
SHARON, St. John's Church *quarter-time*

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

BURLINGTON, St. Mark's Church *half-time*

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

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

BOSTON, Church of the Advent
 NEWBURYPORT, St. Paul's Church
 WATERTOWN, Church of the Good Shepherd

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:*Contact the regional canon to be considered.*MEDWAY, Christ Church *half-time***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:***Priests with interim training may contact the regional canon to be considered.*

NEWTON HIGHLANDS, St. Paul's Church *three-quarters-time*;
Starting Jan. 1.

Northern and Western Region
 Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

TOPSFIELD, Trinity Church

RECTOR SEARCHES**CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:***None at this time.***CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**MELROSE, Trinity Church *three-quarters-time***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)*

ACTON, Church of the Good Shepherd *full-time*
 WINCHESTER, Parish of the Epiphany *full-time*

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

LYNN, St. Stephen's Church
 NATICK, St. Paul's Church
 SUDBURY, St. Elizabeth's Church

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

MALDEN, St. Paul's Church *half-time*
 NORTH BILLERICA, St. Anne's Church *TBD*
 SAUGUS, St. John's Church *half-time*

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:*Priests with interim training may contact the regional canon to be considered.*

CHELMSFORD, All Saints' Church *TBD*; *Starting Feb. 1*
 TOPSFIELD, Trinity Church *TBD*; *Starting Dec. 1*

Continued on page 8

*Continued from page 7***Southern Region**

Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell

koconnell@diomass.org**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:***None at this time.***RECTOR SEARCHES****CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church
 FALL RIVER, Church of the Holy Spirit
 MARION, St. Gabriel's Church
 ORLEANS, Church of the Holy Spirit

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

QUINCY, Parish of St. Chrysostom
 SOMERSET, Church of Our Saviour
 WHITMAN, All Saints' Church

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

BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church
 TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

HARWICH PORT, Christ Church
 NEW BEDFORD, St. Andrew's Church

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:*Contact the regional canon to be considered.**None at this time.***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:***Priests with interim training may contact the regional canon to be considered.**None at this time.****NEXT fyi:***

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. Please note:
 The deadline for the January issue is earlier than usual because of
 the holidays: **Wednesday, Dec. 18 at noon.** E-mail submissions
 to tjs@diomass.org.