



Wednesday, April 6, 2022

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

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**Join “Way of the Cross”
video prayer walk to end
gun violence in Mass.**

Episcopalians statewide are invited to “walk” the Way of the Cross together this Holy Week, by visiting 14 church and ministry sites from Falmouth to Great Barrington via a video project that draws on the ancient practice of pilgrimage to bring attention to the current-day scourge of gun violence.

“[The Way of the Cross: Ending Gun Violence in Massachusetts](#)” will premiere on *Palm Sunday, April 10 at 7 p.m.* on the YouTube channels of both the [Diocese of Western Massachusetts](#) and the [Diocese of Massachusetts](#), and then be available thereafter for devotional use by individuals and groups, at home or church. This is a project of the expanding B-PEACE network of both dioceses.

**Listening sessions on
reparations scheduled
throughout May**

The 2021 Diocesan Convention resolution “[Charting the Long Road Towards Reparations](#)” calls on the diocese to commit 2022 as a year of study, gathering and sharing stories and discernment. To further this process, the Reparations Subcommittee of the Racial Justice Commission is organizing a series of regional “Reparations Listening Gatherings” now scheduled during May via Zoom. These gatherings will be designed to create space for listening to all throughout the diocese as they share their thoughts and feelings regarding reparations. Find the schedule and more information [here](#). Sign-up details will be available soon.

**June 12 set for diocesan
service to celebrate life
of Barbara C. Harris**

Planning is now underway for a diocesan liturgy in celebration of the life of Bishop Barbara C. Harris, to be held at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston on *Sunday, June 12 at 5 p.m.* This celebration, long delayed because of the pandemic, will include a memorial service of Holy Eucharist and will be open to the diocesan community for in-person attendance. The service also will be available to the wider church community by livestream via the cathedral church’s website at www.stpaulboston.org. Please save the date and watch for details in the weeks ahead.

**Bishops & Standing
Committee call for
“COVID Respite” for
church employees**

The bishops and Standing Committee issued on March 22 an invitation to congregations, worshipping communities and ministry sites of the diocese to provide a “COVID Respite” for clergy and lay employees which would entail identifying two consecutive work weeks when meetings, office hours and nonessential activities would be suspended, with pay and benefits. Read the full communique [here](#). FOR INFORMATION: William C. Boyce, Standing Committee President (williamcboyce99@gmail.com or 774-328-2383) or The Rev. Debbie Phillips, Standing Committee Vice President (gcis1@verizon.net).

**Mark the calendar:
Diocesan Convention is
Oct. 28-29**

Earlier-than-usual submission
deadline: **Friday, Sept. 2**

The 237th annual Diocesan Convention is scheduled for *Friday-Saturday, Oct. 28-29* at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Boston North Shore in Danvers. Initial plans include Friday afternoon non-business programming and an evening dinner, with business sessions on Saturday.

The deadline for submitting all materials will be *Friday, Sept. 2*. 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.

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:**

- **Palm Sunday Eve Multicultural Celebration of Human Journey**, *Saturday, April 9 at 5 p.m.* (please note time change from previous announcements): The Ministry of Immigration Partnership convened through the Office of the Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries invites all to join virtually with the bishops and diocesan community for this multicultural gathering to start Holy Week. Bishop Alan M. Gates will offer the reflection. Register for the Zoom link [here](#).

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

- The clergy of the diocese are invited to a service of **Renewal of Ordination Vows and Blessing of Chrism** on *Holy Tuesday, April 12 at noon and again at 5:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. The 5:30 p.m. service will be livestreamed at www.stpaulboston.org. Advance registration, [here](#), is required for those attending. Boxed meals are available for order for \$10 as part of the registration process, for those who would like to stay after.

FOR INFORMATION: Brad Rothrock, Cathedral Administrator (brothrock@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 221).

- **Sermon videos available to congregations:** The bishops and designated diocesan staff members are self-recording video sermons for use by congregations in their online worship offerings for *Sundays through May 22* (excluding Easter Day). These are intended as a gift of support to clergy and congregations.

Please note this change to the rota: The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, who serves as creation care advisor to the diocese, will provide an **Earth Day sermon** for *Sunday, April 24*; accordingly, Bishop Alan M. Gates will offer his sermon recording the following week, for *Sunday, May 1*.

Sermons are available mid-week prior to each assigned Sunday, for download via [this link](#), where the rota is also posted, or for viewing at www.youtube.com/ediomass.

- **Church relationships with the Boy Scouts of America:** In response to questions regarding churches serving as Boy Scouts of America (BSA) chartered organizations or providing space for BSA activities, diocesan chancellor Ned Notis-McConarty and canon to the ordinary Bill Parnell have consulted with legal counsel for The Episcopal Church and other diocesan chancellors regarding such agreements. Find their document outlining considerations for congregations in their relationships with the BSA [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Bill Parnell, Canon to the Ordinary (bparnell@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 205).
 - The monthly online **Finance Forum for Congregational Leaders** continues on the *fourth Tuesday of each month, 5:30-6:30 p.m., April 26, May 24 and June 28*. Interim diocesan CFO Cynthia Hallenbeck invites clergy, wardens and treasurers to gather with her for this regular opportunity to share information on finance-related matters. Register [here](#) for the Zoom link.
FOR INFORMATION: Cynthia Hallenbeck, Interim CFO (challenbeck@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 554).
 - On *Sunday, June 12*, the Diocese of Massachusetts will again celebrate “**Diaconate Sunday**.” Congregations are invited to request a deacon to preach on June 12, when the church celebrates St. Efrem the Syrian, a deacon venerated in both Eastern and Western church traditions. This is an opportunity to introduce more congregations to the life and work of deacons. To request a deacon for June 12, contact the Ven. Pat Zifcak, Archdeacon for Formation, at pzifcak@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 551. Because there are more congregations than deacons, **requests should be made as soon as possible before May 1**.
 - Join this year’s cohort of Life Together fellows on *Saturday, May 7, 4-6 p.m.*, at Christ Church in Cambridge for the “**Linked Through Love**” gathering to celebrate the resilient young changemakers of Life Together. This event will offer opportunities to connect with friends throughout the diocese, learn about Life Together’s future as it comes out of this pandemic season and support its efforts to raise \$45,000 for fellow stipends and health insurance for 2022. Tickets start at \$40, available at www.lifetogethercommunity.org/contribute.
FOR INFORMATION: Kelsey Rice Bogdan, Executive Director, Life Together (kelsey@diomassintern.org).
 - **Episcopal Service Corps programs**, including [Life Together](#) in the Diocese of Massachusetts, are still accepting applications from young adults interested in fellowships focused on transforming our world through leadership, community building and personal and spiritual growth. The **next priority deadline is April 15**. Applicants can learn more about opportunities [here](#), and find the application [here](#).
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- The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, in partnership with the diocesan Office of Immigration and Multicultural Ministries, is hosting the **One Journey Festival**, featuring the Pihcintu Multinational Girls Choir, on *Saturday, May 7, 4-6 p.m.* The One Journey Festival strives to build enduring allies for refugees and uses cultural and technological tools to facilitate human connections between refugees and their host communities.

This event also seeks to highlight local organizations involved with refugee work. To suggest an organization that would be interested in having an information table at the event, or to volunteer some time, contact Joel Olguin (jolguin@diomass.org) or the Rev. Paul Shoaf Kozak (pshoafkozak@diomass.org).

- The B-PEACE for Jorge Campaign in the Diocese of Massachusetts has been a lead supporter of the [Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's Mother's Day Walk for Peace](#) for nearly a decade. After a two-year COVID hiatus, the walk will again be in person this year, on *Sunday, May 8*. Join B-PEACE and Bishop Alan M. Gates in participating in and/or supporting this fundraising walk this year. Support or register for the B-PEACE team [here](#). Find more details about the walk [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Liz Steinhauser, St. Stephen's Church, Boston (liz@ststephensbos.org).

- **BIPOC Support Gathering:** The Racial Justice Commission's Subcommittee on Support of BIPOC Individuals and Communities is holding an in-person gathering at the diocesan offices at 138 Tremont Street in Boston on *Friday, May 13, 5:30-8 p.m.*, to which all who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color are welcome. Please e-mail the co-chairs, Claudette Hunt (claudettehunt@aol.com) or the Rev. Diane Wong (dianeckwong@gmail.com) if interested in attending.

Additionally, the Rev. Dr. Jim Kodera, the first Asian/Asian American person ordained in the Diocese of Massachusetts, will be giving a Zoom presentation, "**Faith as a Verb: Peace and Justice and Asians in the Church**," on *Wednesday, May 25, 7-8:30 p.m.* This presentation is co-sponsored by the Racial Justice Commission's Subcommittee on Fostering Antiracist Episcopal Communities, Subcommittee on Support for BIPOC Communities and Individuals, and Asian Pacific Islander Americans of the diocese. More details to come.

- The **Collaborative Ministries Working Group** is inspired by the renewed diocesan [mission strategy](#) urging "greater unity as members one of another." That is what collaboration is all about, and it takes many forms. This Eastertide—and beyond—the working group **invites reflections on the spiritual and theological underpinnings of any collaboration practices**. Does your collaboration grow out of or resonate deeply with a piece of Scripture, a grounding theological concept, a piece of spiritual literature or

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hymn text? If so, the working group looks forward to hearing from you. Reflections, from two paragraphs to two pages in length, are being gathered for the working group's own learning as it seeks deeper understanding of what gives rise to and sustains collaborations. Some may be shared more broadly in the future. Reflections can be e-mailed to diomasscollaborations@gmail.com.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Martha Hubbard (mhubbard@diomass.org) or The Rev. Megan Holding (theholdings@gmail.com).

- **Help available for purchase of prayer books and hymnals:**

The Margaret Coffin Prayer Book Society provides help for those congregations and chaplaincies unable to afford the cost of purchasing or replacing the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer* and *The Hymnal 1982*. Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* are available in Spanish, French, German and Italian.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Robert Edson (rbedson41@gmail.com or 781-749-2488).

- **Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered via Zoom on *Saturday, April 30, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.* Register [here](#). To be licensed by the bishop as a lay eucharistic visitor, one must complete training, be up to date with Safe Church training and have signed authorization from the clergy person of their congregation. The application for licensing is online [here](#).

For those interested in providing local trainings at the deanery level, it will be helpful to attend the April 30 training.

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

- Training for offering the **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** formation program for children ages 3-12: The upcoming Level I formation course begins this May and runs through June 2023, with monthly *Saturday sessions, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.*, alternating between two locations, Trinity Church in Randolph and St. Benedict's Classical Academy in Natick. Course dates are:

- 2022 – May 21, June 25, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19 and Dec. 10;

- 2023 – Jan. 21, Feb. 11, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 10.

To learn more or to register, visit <https://cgsma.org/Training.html>.

FOR INFORMATION: Carol Godfrey, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd formation leader (cgodfrey67@comcast.net).

CHURCHWIDE:

- In a [March 23 statement](#), Bishop Alan M. Gates and Bishop Gayle E. Harris shared the recent [House of Bishops statement](#) on the war in Ukraine, and called for continued prayers at every worship service and for “sacrificial support from all our members and congregations for humanitarian relief efforts in response to the Ukraine crisis,” with **ingatherings for the Ukraine Crisis Response Fund of Episcopal Relief & Development**. Find more information and resource and giving links [here](#).

- The Episcopal Church's annual **Good Friday Offering** this year is celebrating a century of Episcopalians sharing their love, compassion and financial gifts to support the ministry of the Anglican Communion Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Hear more from Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry [here](#), and find Good Friday Offering resources for use in congregations, including a litany, bulletin covers and posters, [here](#).
- **Concert for the Human Family Tour, Thursday, April 21 at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston:** Join Grammy-nominated pianist and composer Kory Caudill and Wordsmith, a Baltimore-based hip-hop and spoken word artist, for an evening of genre-crossing music and storysharing. Guided by their music and friendship, Kory and Wordsmith invite concertgoers into an exploration of Beloved Community and the power of racial reconciliation through relationship. This Boston event is offered in partnership with [The Crossing](#). For more information and tickets, visit <https://iam.ec/CFHFBoston>.

GRANTS & LOANS:

- The diocesan budget for 2022 sets aside \$44,397 for initial **funding for new mission initiatives**. The Mission Initiatives Committee of Diocesan Council is responsible for making recommendations regarding congregations, programs and chaplaincies that receive this funding and invites applications by *May 1*. Find application details at www.diomass.org/mission-initiatives-grants. Please note that priority will be given to under-resourced congregations and newly initiated programs for funding during this budget year.
- **Clergy children scholarship grants:** 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 is *Monday, May 9*. The 2022 application materials are on the diocesan website [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Executive Assistant to Bishop Gates (lsimons@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 407).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Next Council Meeting: *Thursday, April 21, 6-8:30 p.m.*

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

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Lynn Campbell began as interim priest at the Church of the Advent in Medfield on March 9.

The Rev. Ed Cardoza has been [appointed](#) to serve full-time on the diocesan staff, on an interim basis, as missionary for property stewardship.

The Rev. Sarah Conner will begin as interim priest at St. Peter's Church in Beverly on April 18.

The Rev. Kate Elledge began as vicar of St. John's Church in Beverly Farms on March 15.

The Rev. Tom Ferguson has been called as canon for mission and formation in the Diocese of Central New York.

The Rev. Brett Johnson completes his time as bridge priest at St. Peter's Church in Beverly on April 17.

The Rev. Natasha Stewart has been called as rector of St. Luke's Church in Scituate.

Central Region

Regional Canon Carol Gallagher
cgallagher@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BOSTON, St. Stephen's Church
CAMBRIDGE, St. Bartholomew's Church
MEDFIELD, Church of the Advent
ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

None at this time.

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

WESTWOOD, St. John's Church

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

None at this time.

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

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

MEDWAY, Christ Church, *part-time*

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

BOSTON, St. Stephen's Church, *part-time*

Northern and Western Region

Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BEVERLY, St. Peter's Church
HUDSON, St. Luke's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

GLOUCESTER, St. John's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

WAKEFIELD, Emmanuel Church

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*Continued from page 7***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)*CHELMSFORD, All Saints' Church
GROVELAND, St. James's Church**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

TOPSFIELD, Trinity Church

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*HAVERHILL, Trinity Church (half-time)
METHUEN, St. Andrew's Church (updated to half-time)**INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.**None at this time.***OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**[LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church:](#)

Curate/Assistant Rector

[WINCHESTER, Parish of the Epiphany:](#) Associate Rector**Southern Region**Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell
koconnell@diomass.org**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**FOXBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church
HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church
MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church
PROVINCETOWN, Church of St. Mary of the Harbor**RECTOR SEARCHES****CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

HOLBROOK, St. John's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:*None at this time.***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)*[BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church](#) *half-time*
[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) *half-time*
[ORLEANS, Church of the Holy Spirit](#) *full-time*
[SOUTH WEYMOUTH, Church of the Holy Nativity](#) *half-time***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:***None at this time.***PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.**None at this time.***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*FOXBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church *part-time*
SANDWICH, St. John's Church *full-time*
WOODS HOLE, Church of the Messiah *full-time***NEXT fyi:***fyi* is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the May issue is **Wednesday, April 27 at noon.** E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.