



Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2022

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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Diocesan Convention registration is open

Save the dates for resolution comment period and pre-Convention forums

Exhibits welcome at convention: Apply by Oct. 14

Bishops offer COVID guidelines as fall church events resume

Online registration is open for Diocesan Convention, to take place *Friday-Saturday, Oct. 28-29* at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Danvers. Convention is open to all in the diocesan community and includes non-business programming on Friday exploring this year's theme, "By This They Will Know You: The Call of Love in Our Time and Place." The registration link, hotel reservation information, COVID precautions that will be implemented during the convention and more are at www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2022.

Important upcoming dates for voting members include: An **open comment period** to collect feedback on proposed resolutions runs *Sept. 9-14*, with a **Zoom discussion on resolutions** scheduled for *Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 7 p.m.* (An online feedback form will also be available.) **Pre-Convention Forums** via Zoom are on:

- *Wednesday, Oct. 5, 7-8:30 p.m.*: Central Region
- *Thursday, Oct. 6, 7-8:30 p.m.*: Northern and Western Region
- *Friday, Oct. 7, 2-3:30 p.m.*: All Regions
- *Tuesday, Oct. 11, 7-8:30 p.m.*: Southern Region

To prepare for these forums, pre-recorded video reports will be available to view ahead of time, either on demand or with others via Zoom during one of **two viewing nights** scheduled on *Monday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.* and *Thursday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.*

Sign up for any and all sessions via the convention registration process, [here](#).

The form to request **exhibit space** (virtual, in-person tables at the venue or both) is available [here](#) for companies, organizations and programs. Application deadline is *Friday, Oct. 14*.

Questions may be e-mailed to convention@diomass.org.

With the approach of fall and the resumption of many events in the churches of the diocese, the bishops issued COVID-19 recommendations and requirements on Aug. 29. Find them [here](#). The bishops note that while community risk levels in Massachusetts have been low for several months, they continue to urge caution in church gatherings, especially for those who are at greater risk of severe disease from COVID-19 infection, and continue to support congregational leadership who conclude that, in their local context, more restrictive measures on gatherings need to be maintained.

Should there be a significant resurgence of COVID-19 infections in the region, a return to more restrictive safety practices may be necessary. At diocesan events, including the [Diocesan Convention](#) in October, safety protocols will be observed to minimize the risk of transmission.

Resources, events for Creation Season now underway

Creation Season—Sept. 1-Oct. 4—is underway and presents a special opportunity to pray and learn about what can be done for the precious creation of which we are a part, act to reduce our burden on the Earth and advocate for just solutions—all for the love of God. Notable offerings that invite participation in new ways this year include:

- **“Season of Creation: An Ecumenical Celebration”**: A new curated liturgical resource authorized by the bishops for use in 2022, available at www.diomass.org/creation-care;
- **“Preaching Climate Justice”**: An online conversation for preachers, lay and ordained, with Jim Antal and Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, on *Thursday, Sept. 15, 10-11:15 a.m.* ([register here](#)); and
- **“Take heart, it is I” Zoom Retreat for Creation Season**, *Saturday, Oct. 1, 9:30 a.m.-noon*, led by Margaret Bullitt-Jonas. Find retreat details and registration [here](#).

The **Creation Care Justice Network** is a growing group of Episcopalians across Massachusetts engaged in working together to help congregations and individuals pray, learn, act and advocate on behalf of God’s creation. Sign up [here](#) to get connected with the group. Newcomers are welcome at **upcoming meetings, via Zoom, on Thursday, Sept. 15 and Wednesday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.** (e-mail CreationJusticeEpisMa@gmail.com for links and agenda).

Prep for fall stewardship campaigns with TENS resources & Sept. 21 webinar

This year’s stewardship theme from TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship) is “More Than Enough”: “As we take inventory of our spiritual resources, the strength of our community and our capacity for generosity, we realize that there is now, and always has been, ‘More Than Enough.’”

This stewardship pledge campaign from TENS includes **complete resources for a fall campaign** for Liturgical Year C: Logos and artwork; timeline and campaign implementation; Prayers of the People; sample campaign letters and pledge cards; and weekly reflections. All are available to congregations through the diocesan membership. Visit <https://www.tens.org> and use password: Luke9:17

Sign up for **“Shape Up Your Stewardship! Best Practices for 2022 Campaigns”** on *Wednesday, Sept. 21, 6:30-8 p.m.* via Zoom. The Diocese of Massachusetts is partnering with TENS to provide training on the challenges and opportunities of raising money for ministry in 2022. If you’re a seasoned stewardship leader or just starting out in your first campaign, come learn some best practices, share your stories for success and prepare for a great fall campaign. Register for this free, virtual event [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Brian Raiche, Development Consultant (braiche@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 515).

Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend events invite sacred listening

The Office of Immigration and Multicultural Ministries and the Racial Justice Commission of the Diocese of Massachusetts, together with the Indigenous Peoples Justice Network of the dioceses of Massachusetts and Western Massachusetts, are pleased to share that the Rev. Canon Cornelia Eaton of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland has accepted an invitation to be in the Diocese of Massachusetts for Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend.

All are welcome: On **Sunday, Oct. 9** at 10 a.m., Eaton will be the guest preacher at Old North Church in Boston. On **Monday, Oct. 10** at 11 a.m. at Christ Church in Plymouth, she will join the bishops of both dioceses and Indigenous leaders from the Commonwealth for a morning symposium of sacred listening and responding, lunchtime conversations and a worship service of lament and commitment. Register online [here](#).

Spread the word: A flier and publicity graphic are available [here](#) for use by congregations to share word of this opportunity with their communities.

FOR INFORMATION: Margaret Lias, Assistant for Congregations and Grant Administration (mlias@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 229).

NEWS & EVENT NOTES:

- All clergy are invited to attend the annual **Clergy Day** at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston on *Thursday, Sept. 29, 12:30-4:30 p.m.* Inspired by Goal #2 of the diocesan [mission strategy](#), to “nurture healthy communities where we can care for ourselves and each other,” this year’s Clergy Day program will focus on ways some are responding to the current mental health crisis and ways to support the mental and emotional health of communities and self. Click [here](#) for more details and registration to attend in person (with an optional supper available for \$25) or to view a livestream of the program.

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

- Two **fall luncheons for retired clergy and their spouses and survivors** will be offered by diocesan chaplains on:
 - *Tuesday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at St. Peter’s Church in Weston (RSVP/direct questions to Skip and Kathy Windsor at 617-605-4241 or rgroverw@gmail.com); and
 - *Friday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at St. David’s Church in South Yarmouth (RSVP/direct questions to Bill Heuss at 508-398-6792 or mizzentopwm@gmail.com).

- **Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered via Zoom on *Saturday, Nov. 19, 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 their congregation’s clergy person. The application for licensing is online [here](#).

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For those interested in providing local trainings at the deanery level, it will be helpful to attend the Nov. 19 training.

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

- “The Way of Love for the Second Half of Life” is a **one-day retreat for older adults**, to be held at the Bertram Conference Center of the Society of St. Margaret in Duxbury on *Saturday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*

The second half of life is the time after building family and career for turning to focus on other things that really matter. In this program sponsored by the diocesan Lifespan Ministry with Older Adults, participants are invited to explore the elements of “The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life” as envisioned by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, through guided learning, discussion, prayer, fellowship and silence. Find details and registration [here](#). FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Deacon Phil Flaherty (philflaherty@outlook.com or 617-257-8169).

GRANTS & LOANS:

- **United Thank Offering 2023 grant applications now available:** Because the Diocese of Massachusetts may only submit one grant, it is recommended that those planning to submit an application contact Martha Gardner (as below) by *Friday, Dec. 2*. A diocesan committee needs time to review applications and make a recommendation to the bishop before the churchwide UTO deadline. All grant applications must be received by close of business to Martha Gardner on *Friday, Feb. 3*.

Find more information and application links, along with a schedule of webinars to assist with the application process and questions, [here](#).

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

- The Mission Strategy Committee encourages congregations, organizations and networks in the Diocese of Massachusetts to apply for **Wicked Good Idea Microgrants**. There is a total of \$10,000 available for 2022; grants can be between \$200 and \$1,000. Find the application, with criteria and examples of mission strategy-related projects, [here](#). Questions may be e-mailed to missionstrategy@diomass.org.

- The application and program information for **2023 Clergy Sabbatical Program Grants** are available [here](#). Applications are due by *Friday, Oct. 17, 2022*, for sabbaticals in 2023; award decisions will be announced by *Nov. 18, 2022*.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Thea Keith-Lucas (theakl@mit.edu) or The Rev. Sarah Robbins-Cole (sjrobbinscole@gmail.com), Sabbatical Grant Committee.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Next Council Meeting: *Saturday, Sept. 17 (time to be announced)* at the Church of the Redeemer in Chestnut Hill.

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. John Clark is serving as bridge priest at the Church of St. Augustine and St. Martin in Boston.

The Rev. Jonathan Eden began serving as bridge priest at Emmanuel Church in West Roxbury in August.

The Rev. Edwin Johnson has been called as director of organizing for Episcopal City Mission beginning Oct. 1. He will finish his ministry at St. Mary's Church in Dorchester on Sept. 30.

The Rev. Eric Litman concludes his ministry at St. John's Church in Newtonville as of Sept. 11.

The Rev. Lauren Lukason is serving as bridge priest at St. Mark's Church in Foxborough.

The Rev. Sean Maloney has been called as rector of All Saints' Church in Chelmsford beginning on Sept. 19.

The Rev. Kathy McAdams began as priest-in-charge at Grace Church in North Attleboro on Sept. 1 as part of a collaboration with St. John's Church in Franklin.

The Rev. Patrick Ward has been called as rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans beginning Nov. 1. He will conclude his ministry at Trinity Church in Boston on Sept. 30.

Central Region

Regional Canon Carol Gallagher
cgallagher@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BOSTON, Church of St. Augustine and St. Martin

BOSTON, St. Stephen's Church

BROOKLINE, St. Paul's Church

CAMBRIDGE, St. Bartholomew's Church

MEDFIELD, Church of the Advent

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

LEXINGTON, Church of Our Redeemer

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

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

[WESTWOOD, St. John's Church](#) *full-time; deadline extended to Sept. 30.*

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

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

CAMBRIDGE, St. Bartholomew's Church 1/4 time

MEDWAY, Christ Church 1/3 time

WEST ROXBURY, Emmanuel Church 1/4 time

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: Contact the regional canon.

BOSTON, Church of St. Augustine and St. Martin

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:BEDFORD, St. Paul's Church: [Curate/Associate](#)

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

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

AYER, St. Andrew's Church

FRAMINGHAM, St. Andrew's Church

HOLLISTON, St. Michael's Church

LOWELL, St. Anne's Church

LOWELL, St. John's Church

NORTH ANDOVER, St. Paul's Church

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

BEVERLY, St. Peter's Church

GLOUCESTER, St. John's Church

HUDSON, St. Luke's Church

MARBLEHEAD, St. Michael's Church

WESTON, St. Peter's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:*None at this time.***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** (Apply directly to parish.)[GROVELAND, St. James's Church](#) 1/2 time[WAKEFIELD, Emmanuel Church](#) 3/4 time**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:***None at this time.***PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** Contact the regional canon.

MALDEN, St. Paul's Church 1/4 time

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: Contact the regional canon.

AYER, St. Andrew's Church 2/3 time

NORTH ANDOVER, St. Paul's Church 1/2 time

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:*None at this time.*

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Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell
koconnell@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BARNSTABLE, St. Mary's Church
 FOXBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church
 MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church
 PLYMOUTH, Christ Church
 SANDWICH, St. John's Church

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

PROVINCETOWN, Church of St. Mary of the Harbor
 WOODS HOLE, Church of the Messiah

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church *1/2 time*
 HOLBROOK, St. John's Church *1/2 time*

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

[BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church](#) *1/2 time*
[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) *1/3 time*
[SOUTH WEYMOUTH, Church of the Holy Nativity](#) *1/2 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*
 PLYMOUTH, Christ Church *full-time*
 WOODS HOLE, Church of the Messiah *full-time*
 WRENTHAM, Trinity Church *part-time*

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the October issue is **Wednesday, Sept. 28 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.