



Wednesday, Dec. 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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**Registration is open for
Ministry Discernment
Conference**

Registration is now open, [here](#), for the annual Ministry Discernment Conference offered by Bishop Gates and the Commission on Ministry, to be held online this year on *Saturday, Feb. 4, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.* This conference will provide an in-depth look at the 2023 edition of the Ministry Discernment Handbook and give potential inquirers an opportunity to learn about the ordination process in the Diocese of Massachusetts as they consider whether their call is to ordained ministry or committed lay ministry.

Any person considering applying for admission to the ordination process in 2023 is required to attend the conference, along with a sponsoring priest and at least one member of the parish discernment committee.

Advance registration is required and will be open until Feb. 2. Find more information about the conference [here](#).

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

**Bishop Carol Gallagher
appointed assistant
bishop**

Bishop Alan M. Gates announced on Dec. 1 the appointment of Bishop Carol J. Gallagher to serve as assistant bishop in the Diocese of Massachusetts, beginning Feb. 1. She has been serving since 2018 as regional canon for the Central Region of the diocese. Find the full announcement online [here](#).

**Bishop Gayle Harris
Leadership Development
Fund accepting gifts**

In honor of Bishop Gayle E. Harris's 20 years of service as bishop suffragan, a new fund has been established to support leadership development for women of color in the diocese. Bishop Alan M. Gates announced the Bishop Gayle E. Harris Fund for Leadership Development for Women of Color during Diocesan Convention in October.

Harris will complete her work in the diocese as of Dec. 31 of this year and then take sabbatical time ahead of her official retirement date of March 31.

Donations to the Bishop Gayle E. Harris Fund for Leadership Development for Women of Color are being gratefully accepted online at www.diomass.org/give-now or by mail to: The Bishop Gayle E. Harris Leadership Fund, c/o Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston MA 02111. An announcement card is available for download [here](#) to help spread word about giving to the new fund.

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

New priests to be ordained

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

- **The Rev. Isabel Geller** on Saturday, Dec. 17 at 10:30 a.m. at [St. Andrew's Church in New Bedford](#);
- **The Rev. Dorothy Goehring** on Thursday, Jan. 5 at 6 p.m. at [St. John's Church in Jamaica Plain](#);
- **The Rev. Curtis Coppersmith** on Saturday, Jan. 21 at 11 a.m. at [St. Paul's Church in Newburyport](#);
- **The Rev. Joseph Kimmel** on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. at [St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church in Lincoln](#);
- **The Rev. Hal Edmonson** on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 2 p.m. at [Epiphany Parish in Walpole](#); and
- **The Rev. Elizabeth Marshall Casasola** on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. at [St. Peter's Church in Spotswood, N.J.](#).

Please contact each hosting congregation directly about details.

NEWS & EVENT NOTES:

● **Confirmation services for 2023:** The schedule of Confirmation services for 2023 is available on the diocesan website [here](#). While most congregations will choose to participate in a service in their deanery, they are welcome at any of the services. The services on Jan. 28 in Salem and Sept. 30 in Chelsea will be bilingual in Spanish and English. To register candidates for any of the services, contact Brad Rothrock, Cathedral Administrator (brothrock@diomass.org).

● The BIPOC Support Subcommittee of the Racial Justice Commission has arranged a **get-together with Bishop Gayle E. Harris for people of color**, on Friday, Dec. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Summer Shack in Cambridge. Those who would like to come should RSVP as soon as possible by e-mailing Claudette Hunt at claudettehunt@aol.com or the Rev. Diane Wong at dianeckwong@gmail.com.

Additionally, Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) Episcopalian in the diocese are hosting an **APIA dim-sum lunch with Bishop Alan M. Gates** on Saturday, Dec. 10 at noon in Watertown. Any APIAs interested in coming or getting connected with this group should e-mail Grace Knowles at booker04@msn.com or the Rev. Diane Wong at dianeckwong@gmail.com.

● The [Racial Justice Commission's Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(REDI\) Assessment](#) remains open, and all people in the diocese are invited to take part. The online survey takes 30-35 minutes to complete, and is something that people across the diocese can do to move the diocesan community closer to becoming Beloved Community. **Please share word of this opportunity with members of your congregation or worshiping community.**

The REDI survey measures proxies for race-based discrimination, diversity, inclusion and equity in faith-based institutional settings. The results will help in gaining an understanding of the level

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of awareness and knowledge of racial equity culture and will help gauge perceptions of the environment for decision makers, staff and community members.

REDI survey results are 100 percent confidential and are reported only in the aggregate, in a continuum format, with suggested areas to develop based on a final REDI score. This assessment will be used as a baseline in 2022 and can be taken again in the future to measure progress toward race equity goals.

Find the REDI Assessment link [here](#) to get started; information and the link are also at www.diomass.org/REDI-Assessment.

FOR INFORMATION: Kris Wile, Racial Justice Commission Subcommittee on Accountable Structures and Practices (kwile@stcollab.com).

● 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. Newcomers are welcome at upcoming meetings, via Zoom, with the next one scheduled for *Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m.* E-mail Creation-JusticeEpisMa@gmail.com for more information and the Zoom link.

Updated resources from the network for Advent through Epiphany are posted at www.diomass.org/creation-care.

● The Office of the Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries, together with Bishop Gayle E. Harris, continues its series of "**Episcopal Church 101**" sessions, via Zoom, to which all are welcome. Final sessions take place *6-8 p.m. on Dec. 13 and Jan. 10* (postponed from Nov. 29). Find topics and registration links [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Margaret Lias, Administrator for Governance and Grants (mlias@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 229).

● The **Lenten study series "What is Truth,"** commissioned by the Racial Justice Commission's Subcommittee on Reparations as part of its [Reparations Toolkit](#), is still available for use in 2023.

The series provides individuals, small groups, congregations, ministry teams and other communities with "an opportunity for a communal and embodied experience, encouraging participants to go past thinking about the concept of truth to really experiencing the practice of truth-telling, however uncomfortable that may seem, and to examine how that feels 'in their bones,' " according to subcommittee member Leonie Drummond of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Mattapan, in this [January 2022 E-news article](#).

The series includes six sessions, two hours each. The materials are designed to facilitate a collective community process without the need for an instructor or leader's guide—part of the richness and the challenge of the series, according to subcommittee leaders. For more on the series, see the E-News article linked above or e-mail reparations@diomass.org.

- With the deadline for submission of the **annual Parochial Report** on March 1, the Congregational Consultants are leading Zoom **seminars on its preparation**. The Rev. Cynthia Hubbard, long-time priest and former canon for transition ministry, will make the presentation twice on the **non-financial sections** on *Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 9 a.m.* ([register here](#)) and *Saturday, Jan. 21 at 9 a.m.* ([register here](#)). The **financial section** will be explained by Terry Robinson, longtime Congregational Consultant and parish auditor, on *Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 9 a.m.* ([register here](#)) and again on *Saturday, Feb. 4 at 9 a.m.* ([register here](#)).

Congregation treasurers seeking suggestions for things to address as the financial books are closed at year's end will find a recording of the recently run seminar on that subject [here](#), along with recordings of all the seminars on the practical aspects of congregational leadership that the Congregational Consultants have done in recent years—more than a dozen.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants coordinator (chris@centrestent.com).

CHURCHWIDE:

- Episcopal Church 2021 Parochial Report data now available:** The Episcopal Church's newly released [2021 Parochial Report results](#) show an increase in overall giving amid challenges presented by pivots to online and hybrid worship since 2020.

The 2021 statistics—which include data from 2019-2021—continue to reflect the hardships faced by Episcopal congregations, which varied widely in the number of Sundays they were able to worship in person. While in-person average Sunday attendance declined 35 percent in 2021 over the previous year's count, overall membership in The Episcopal Church measured only a 3 percent decline. A surprise finding—particularly given the drop in attendance—was that funds collected through offerings and pledges (“plate and pledge”) increased by 3 percent.

Find more information from the church's Office of Public Affairs [here](#), and read more from Episcopal News Service [here](#).

- Province 1 Winter Conference and Budget Meeting:** Join Episcopalians from across New England on *Saturday, Dec. 17* on Zoom for Province I's Winter Conference and Budget Meeting. Featured speakers during the 12-2 p.m. program session will include provincial grant recipients, leaders whose ministries cross diocesan lines and Episcopalians taking leaps of faith in their life and work. Looking ahead, Province I will be announcing new grants to support Episcopalians across New England in coming together in 2023.

The voting session, from 2:30 to 4 p.m., will be for delegates and bishops to vote on the 2023 Province I budget as well as a slate of ordinance revisions.

Find more details and register at www.province1.org/conference2022. Questions may be directed to Will Harron, Province I Coordinator (coordinator@province1.org).

- **Service corps opportunities for young adults:** The Episcopal Service Corps (ESC) invites young leaders ages 21 to 32 interested in a transformative outreach and discernment experience to apply online for the 2023-24 program year. To help young adults discern whether a year through ESC is right for them, there will be four virtual open houses to answer questions and give participants a chance to hear from current and former corps members.

Register [here](#) for open houses on *Thursday, Jan. 5, 9 p.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 11, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 26, 5 p.m.; and Thursday, March 2, 8 p.m.*

[Life Together](#) in the Diocese of Massachusetts is an ESC program, and will co-host the Jan. 11 open house.

Visit the [ESC website](#) to learn more or e-mail esc@episcopalchurch.org. Questions about Life Together can be directed to Jocelyn Collen, Associate Director of Training and Recruitment, at jocelyn@diomassintern.org.

GRANTS & LOANS:

- **United Thank Offering 2023 grant applications available:**

Because the Diocese of Massachusetts may only submit one grant, and 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, [here](#). Questions may be e-mailed to missionstrategy@diomass.org.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Actions from the Dec. 1 Diocesan Council meeting will be reported in the January *fyi*.

Next Council Meeting: Friday-Saturday, Jan. 20-21 at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.

FOR INFORMATION: Margaret Lias, Administrator for Governance and Grants (mlias@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 229).

**CLERGY SEARCH &
CALL REPORT:****CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Brock Baker began as bridge priest at St. John's Church in Lowell as of Nov. 13.

Correction: The Rev. Lucia Ballantine began as bridge priest at St. Andrew's Church in Ayer on Sept. 28 (not St. Andrew's Church in Methuen as reported in the November *fyi*).

The Rev. Jeremi Colvin began as bridge priest at St. Anne's Church in Lowell as of Nov. 1.

The Rev. Manny Faria began as bridge priest at Emmanuel Church in Wakefield as of Nov. 1.

The Rev. David Prentice concluded his ministry as priest-in-charge at Trinity Church in Woburn on Nov. 6 and began as bridge priest at Trinity Church in Melrose on Nov. 13.

The Rev. Eleanor Prior began as bridge priest at St. Paul's Church in North Andover as of Nov. 27.

The Rev. Susan Sprowls began as interim priest at St. Andrew's Church in Framingham on Nov. 27.

The Rev. Catherine Venkatesh began as bridge priest at St. Paul's Church in Malden as of Nov. 1.

Central Region

Regional Canon Carol Gallagher
cgallagher@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BOSTON, Church of St. Augustine and St. Martin

BROOKLINE, St. Paul's Church

DORCHESTER, St. Mary's Church

MEDFIELD, Church of the Advent

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

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

BOSTON, St. Stephen's Church

LEXINGTON, Church of Our Redeemer

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

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.*

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

MEDWAY, Christ Church *1/3 time*

NEWTONVILLE, St. John's Church *1/2 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](#)

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Northern and Western Region

Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

FRAMINGHAM, St. Andrew's Church
 HOLLISTON, St. Michael's Church
 LOWELL, St. John's Church
 NORTH ANDOVER, St. Paul's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

AYER, St. Andrew's Church
 BEVERLY, St. Peter's Church
 HUDSON, St. Luke's Church
 LOWELL, St. Anne'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 (*Short list search: Contact regional canon if interested*) 1/2 time

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

WAKEFIELD, Emmanuel Church

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: (*Contact the regional canon.*)
 GLOUCESTER, St. John's Church *full time (receiving applications through Dec. 15)*
 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.

Southern Region

Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell
kcoconnell@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

HINCHINBROOK, Parish of St. John the Evangelist
 MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church
 NEW BEDFORD, Grace Church
 WRENTHAM, Trinity Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

BARNSTABLE, St. Mary's Church
 FOXBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church
 PLYMOUTH, Christ Church
 PROVINCETOWN, Church of St. Mary of the Harbor
 SANDWICH, St. John's Church
 WOODS HOLE, Church of the Messiah

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CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

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

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

BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church *1/2 time*

BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church *1/2 time*

HOLEBROOK, St. John's Church *1/2 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 and WRENTHAM, Trinity

Church full-time collaboration

HINGHAM, Parish of St. John the Evangelist *full time*

NEW BEDFORD, Grace Church *full time*

PLYMOUTH, Christ Church *full time*

NEXT *fyi*:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the January issue is earlier than usual because of the holidays:

Wednesday, Dec. 14 at noon. E-mail submissions to

tjs@diomass.org.
