



Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023

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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Mark MLK Day at annual Boston breakfast, in person and livestream

St. Cyprian's & Union United Methodist churches continue 50+ year collaboration

See also page 3: Jan. 13 gathering prior to the unveiling of the new "The Embrace" memorial on Boston Common

Registration is open for Ministry Discernment Conference

New priests to be ordained

Join Bishop Alan M. Gates at the 53rd annual Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast, which takes place on *Monday, Jan. 16 at 9 a.m.* at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, featuring this year as guest speaker Jelani Cobb, a writer for *The New Yorker* magazine and Columbia Journalism School dean. A livestream will be available also. Find details and purchase tickets [here](#).

The breakfast represents over 50 years of commemoration and collaboration between St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church and Union United Methodist Church to present this annual event dedicated to King's life and legacy. The MLK Breakfast Committee also recognizes extraordinary contributions to diversity and inclusion efforts through service and scholarships.

Registration is now open, [here](#), for the annual Ministry Discernment Conference offered by the bishops and the Commission on Ministry, to be held online 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).

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

- **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.](#)

Contact each hosting congregation directly about service details.

Parochial Report filing site now open

New question reports count on race/ethnicity

Zoom seminars scheduled to assist with Parochial Report preparation

The filing site for the 2022 Parochial Report is now open for congregations to begin reporting their data. The General Convention Office sent an e-mail on Dec. 6 to congregation leaders with instructions. Reports from congregations are **due by March 1** and must be submitted on the filing site. See the [Parochial Report Information page](#) on the General Convention website for forms and instructions. If log-in assistance is needed, contact diocesan staff member Nathaniel Fasman, Human Resources Administrator (nfasman@diomass.org).

The Parochial Report is the oldest continuous gathering of data by The Episcopal Church. For the 2022 Parochial Report, qualitative data will again be collected through narrative questions along with the quantitative data that has been gathered historically. **New this year:** “Sacraments and Services” will be reported by in-person, hybrid or online services. Additionally, under “Membership, Attendance and Services,” a new Question 3 asks for a count and percentage of total active participants within a list of racial/ethnic categories.

Please note the **Parochial Report preparation seminars (listed below)** that the diocesan Congregational Consultants will be offering in upcoming weeks.

Interested in vital information on your congregation? The Episcopal Church’s General Convention Office provides [online tools for exploring Parochial Report trends](#), including 10-year history of attendance, pledge and plate income and membership for individual Episcopal churches.

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, longtime priest and former canon for transition ministry, will make a 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).

NEWS & EVENT NOTES:

- **Survey for helping professionals and spiritual leaders:** Do you work in mental health or chaplaincy? Are you a spiritual or religious leader of any tradition? If so, [Boston University's Danielsen Institute](#) needs your help to understand how professionals who work in these fields navigate stressful jobs, prevent burnout and thrive in their work. Information obtained from a survey will be fully confidential, while providing the institute with invaluable guidance as it develops resources and interventions designed to promote flourishing for these professionals. All participants will receive a \$25 gift card. [Click here](#) to check eligibility to participate. Questions may be directed to George Stavros, Executive Director, The Danielsen Institute at Boston University, at stavros1@bu.edu.

- All are invited to join the Massachusetts Episcopal Network for the Poor People's Campaign and the Poor People's Campaign of Massachusetts on *Friday, Jan. 13 at 11 a.m.* for refreshments, conversation and fellowship at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston prior to the **unveiling of "The Embrace"** at *1 p.m.* on the Boston Common. Designed by Hank Willis Thomas, an internationally acclaimed African American conceptual artist, the new memorial commemorates the legacies of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King and the civil rights leaders who worked alongside them in Boston.
FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Paul Shoaf Kozak (pshoafkozak@diomass.org) or Amelia Slawsby (amelia.slawsby@gmail.com).

- **"Ways to Join the Campaign to Shrink The Racial Wealth Gap in MA":** On *Wednesday, Jan. 25, 6-7 p.m.*, come learn about Episcopal City Mission's new statewide campaign on shrinking the racial wealth gap in Massachusetts, and find out ways to get involved in the three areas of work: reparations; solidarity economy and investing; and state-level policy change.

This spring, ECM will be hosting a 3-6 month program for Episcopal groups and individuals with a focus on action toward reparations and the wealth gap. This program will be a particularly good fit for individuals and groups that have already done some racial justice education, such as the [Sacred Ground series](#) or the [Reparations Toolkit](#) offered by the Diocese of Massachusetts, and who are looking for what action steps they can take next.

The program will be a spiritually grounded space for personal transformation, relationship building, both joy and reckoning and, most of all, concrete and bold action in the world. Plans include space for caucus groups by race and possibly class identity, to recognize that, while we all have ways we can contribute, the responsibility of closing the racial wealth gap most directly falls into the hands of white communities who have benefited from unfair advantages throughout this nation's history.

[Register here](#) for the Zoom link; those who can't make it are welcome to register and the session recording will be sent later.
FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Edwin Johnson, Director Of Organizing, Episcopal City Mission (edwin@ecmteam.us).

- 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.

- **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, on *Wednesdays, Jan. 4 and 18 at 7 p.m.* E-mail CreationJusticeEpisMa@gmail.com for more information and the Zoom link.

Find **seasonal resources** from the network posted at www.diomass.org/creation-care.

- The Diocese of Massachusetts and Western Massachusetts Indigenous Peoples’ Justice Network invites all who are interested to join an **online book discussion** on *Thursday, Feb. 2 at 7 p.m.*, focused on [Ladder to the Light: An Indigenous Elder’s Meditation on Hope and Courage](#) by the Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston. As both Choctaw elder and bishop, Charleston serves as an advocate and Indigenous prophetic voice in The Episcopal Church and beyond. Find more details [here](#), and contact Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation, at mgardner@diomass.org to register.

- Calling young adults looking for a year of spiritual and vocational discernment: **Life Together is now accepting applications for 2023-2024.** Life Together is looking for people with a commitment to social justice and spiritual formation to join its next cohort.

Life Together strives to create a supportive space for the next generation of prayerful and prophetic leaders to grow and thrive. An initiative of the Diocese of Massachusetts and a member of the Episcopal Service Corps, Life Together is a 10-month fellowship that matches young adults (21-32 years of age) with mission-based nonprofit organizations, schools and churches in the greater Boston area. Fellows live in intentional communities, receive training

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in shared leadership and community organizing, participate in facilitated racial justice conversations and take part in diverse spiritual practices. Life Together is a queer and trans-affirming community committed to dismantling white supremacy and oppression.

Young adults may apply to Life Together or one of its sibling Episcopal Service Corps programs across the country [here](#). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Questions may be emailed to apply@diomassintern.org.

CHURCHWIDE:

- **New, certified [Spanish](#) and [French](#) translations of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer** are available online. Printed copies will be available Jan. 20. An additional translation into Haitian Creole is forthcoming. The translations were prepared under the supervision of the Task Force for Liturgical Translations, a subcommittee of the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music. The new translations were called for by the 2018 General Convention through resolution A070 and included an opportunity for churchwide feedback last fall. Find more information [here](#).

- Presiding Bishop Michael Curry invites applications for Episcopal delegates age 19 and up to **represent The Episcopal Church at the 67th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW67)** in New York City, *March 6-17*. The presiding bishop's hybrid delegation will consist of a small number of in-person delegates who will attend UNCSW at the UN headquarters in New York as well as virtual delegates who will participate remotely and meet online periodically with the in-person delegates.

Applications are due by *Jan. 13*; nominations will be announced by mid-February. Find criteria and links to applications, in English and Spanish, [here](#).

- As The Episcopal Church reckons more deeply with its past involvement in Indigenous boarding schools, the Office of Indigenous Ministries invites all Episcopalians to register to watch **Winter Talk 2023**, an annual conference that highlights Indigenous and Native American traditions and contributions within the church.

The *Jan. 21-23* event will be hosted by the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, which recently marked its 200th anniversary in that state. In-person and interactive Zoom attendance is by invitation only. Those wishing to view the livestream can register online [here](#).

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and House of Deputies President Julia Ayala-Harris will join activities on Jan. 21, which include conversations with the Oneida people, video viewing of and discussion about "Native Voices: Speaking to the Church and the World," a welcoming ceremony and Evening Prayer.

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).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Dec. 1 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard a report from the treasurer of the diocese, Ted Ts'o.

Voted to approve 2023 diocesan staff housing allowances.

Heard a presentation from the development consultant, the Rev. Brian Raiche, about the Bishops' Annual Appeal.

Heard a report from the secretary of the diocese, the Rev. Rachel Wildman, on the 2022 Diocesan Convention.

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:

Please direct all inquiries to the [regional canons](#), who produce this report.

See also [www.diomass.org/clergy transition](http://www.diomass.org/clergy-transition).

Central Region

Contact regionalcanons@diomass.org.

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Michael Bousquet has been called as rector at St. John's Church in Westwood beginning Jan. 2. He has been the assistant at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban.

The Rev. Sarah Brock concluded her ministry as assistant vicar at St. John's Church in Beverly Farms on Dec. 31 and will begin as vicar at Erie Episcopal in Erie, Penn., on Jan. 15.

The Rev. David Rider began as interim priest at the Church of the Messiah in Woods Hole on Jan. 1.

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

NEWTON, Grace Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

BOSTON, St. Stephen's Church

LEXINGTON, Church of Our Redeemer

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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](#)**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

HUDSON, St. Luke's Church

MARBLEHEAD, St. Michael's Church

WESTON, St. Peter's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

BEVERLY, St. Peter's Church

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.*

LOWELL, St. Anne's Church 1/2 time

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

MELROSE, Trinity Church 3/4 time

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

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

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Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell
koconnell@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

HINGHAM, 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

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*
[HOLBROOK, 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 February issue is **Wednesday, Jan. 25 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.