



Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

**The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts**

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## Registration is open for annual Diocesan Convention

Share your leadership skills!  
Nominations for open positions  
accepted until Sept. 6.

Online registration is open, [here](#), for the 239th annual Diocesan Convention, to take place on *Saturday, Nov. 9* at the Marriott Boston Quincy Hotel in Quincy. Early registration is encouraged.

**The submission deadline for all materials is *Friday, Sept. 6***, including nomination forms for elected positions, resolution submission forms and written reports. Find more information at [www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2024](http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2024). Questions may be e-mailed to [convention@diomass.org](mailto:convention@diomass.org).

Delegate changes should be reported by filling out the delegate substitution form, [here](#), by *Friday, Nov. 1*; after Nov. 1, e-mail [convention@diomass.org](mailto:convention@diomass.org).

Do you or others in your congregation have leadership skills to share and a desire to serve the Diocese of Massachusetts and wider church? **Diocesan Convention will be electing members of numerous diocesan governing bodies and groups:** the Standing Committee; the Diocesan Disciplinary Board that carries out certain requirements of the clergy disciplinary canons; officers of the diocese, including secretary and treasurer; the Cathedral Chapter; the Provincial Conference of New England dioceses; the Barbara C. Harris Center Board of Directors; and the Trustees of Donations. More information about open positions and the nomination form are available at [www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2024](http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2024). Nominations for diocesan elections are due by *Friday, Sept. 6*.

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## Preparations underway for consecration of Bishop-elect Whitworth

Sign up to volunteer [here](#).

Preparations are underway for the ordination and consecration of Bishop-elect Julia E. Whitworth, to take place on *Saturday, Oct. 19 at 11 a.m.* at Trinity Church in Boston. She will be seated as the 17th bishop diocesan of the Diocese of Massachusetts the following day, *Sunday, Oct. 20 at 5 p.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. **More details—including registration for general seating, livestreaming and regional watch parties—will be announced soon.**

Diocesan clergy and members of diocesan groups that will be part of the liturgical procession have been e-mailed registration information specific to their participation.

**Volunteers will be needed** throughout the consecration weekend, ranging from choir members, acolytes, crucifers, liturgical ministers, procession marshals, greeters, ushers, hospitality and watch party hosts and more. Anyone who is interested is invited to sign up to be considered for available roles. The online volunteer sign-up form is available at [www.diomass.org/consecration](http://www.diomass.org/consecration).

All questions may be directed to the Consecration Committee at [consecration@mabishopsearch.org](mailto:consecration@mabishopsearch.org).

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**Save Oct. 6 for  
celebration of  
Bishop Alan Gates &  
Tricia Harvey**

All are invited to come together in celebration and gratitude for Bishop Alan Gates and Tricia Harvey and 10 years of episcopal ministry, as Bishop Gates prepares to retire this fall.

A family-friendly celebration and reception is being planned for *Sunday, Oct. 6, 12-4 p.m.*, at the New England Aquarium in Boston. Everyone in the diocesan community is welcome to come for all or part of the afternoon, with aquarium admission included.

**RSVP online by Sept. 20 [here](#), and help share the invitation.** A flier and publicity graphic are available for download and sharing with congregations and communities at [www.diomass.org/celebrate-bishop-gates](http://www.diomass.org/celebrate-bishop-gates).

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**Season of Creation  
observed Sept. 1-Oct. 4**

With the *Sept. 1-Oct. 4* Season of Creation approaching, the Creation Care Justice Network offers an updated collection of resources and suggestions for use by congregations and individuals, available [here](#). Among them are:

- **Episcopal Path to Creation Justice now enrolling for fall:** After a successful pilot phase, [An Episcopal Path to Creation Justice](#) is growing this fall. Congregations around Province I can sign up by the end of August to explore their unique path. Participating congregations will have a trained companion walking with them as they discern how they can deepen their commitment to caring for creation by praying, learning, acting and advocating. Path participants will also be in fellowship with each other via monthly Zoom gatherings. Congregations interested in participating are invited to contact the project managers, the Rev. Rachel Field and Deb Baker, at [episcopalcreationpath@gmail.com](mailto:episcopalcreationpath@gmail.com).
- The 2024 edition of “**Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes**” is now available. Created in 2022 and first published for the dioceses of Western Massachusetts and Massachusetts, the liturgical guide has expanded this year to include a new Daily Office guide for lay-led services and expanded and diversified readings, among other additions and improvements. The guide has been authorized for use in more than 40 dioceses—including Massachusetts—and is available at <https://newcreationliturgies.org/season>.

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**Clergy Day registration  
opens soon**

All diocesan clergy are invited to gather on *Wednesday, Sept. 25, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston for Clergy Day, featuring as guest presenter the Rev. Karen Hering. Hering is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister in St. Paul, Minn., and the author of two award-winning books including the recently published *Trusting Change: Finding Our Way through Personal and Global Transformation*. The day also will include a lunchtime conversation with the bishop-elect, the Rev. Julia Whitworth, a Eucharist and leave-taking litany for Bishop Alan Gates, and an informal celebration with cake. Registration will be available [here](#) on Aug. 14.

*FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Administrator and Event Coordinator ([jgarrett@diomass.org](mailto:jgarrett@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 421).*

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## NEWS & EVENT NOTES:

- **Stories and a Call to Peace:** On *Wednesday, Sept. 4, 5:30-7 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston, join Bishop Alan Gates and the Rev. Max Sklar in welcoming the Rev. Fadi Diab, the rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Ramallah, to share an update on the situation for Christians in Palestine and the impact of war on all people in the region. The program will include prayers for a ceasefire and music for reflection by the Nightingale Ensemble, with a light reception following. All are welcome.  
*FOR INFORMATION: The Very Rev. Amy McCreath, Cathedral Church of St. Paul ([amccreath@diomass.org](mailto:amccreath@diomass.org)).*
  - Congregations with confirmands are reminded of **Confirmation services coming up in September and October**. While most congregations will choose a service in or near their deanery, they are welcome at any of the services. Congregations planning to participate should **register their candidates as soon as possible** by contacting Brad Rothrock, Cathedral Administrator, at [brothrock@diomass.org](mailto:brothrock@diomass.org). Find the schedule [here](#).
  - The diocesan membership allows congregations **free access to stewardship campaign materials** from [TENS \(The Episcopal Network for Stewardship\)](#), including reflections, a timeline for campaign implementation, artwork, pledge cards and more. Access the campaign resources via [www.tens.org/annual-pledge-campaigns/walk-in-love-2024](http://www.tens.org/annual-pledge-campaigns/walk-in-love-2024) using password Ephesians5:2  
*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Brian Raiche, Development Consultant ([braiche@diomass.org](mailto:braiche@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 515).*
  - The Office of Immigration and Multicultural Ministries is collaborating with [Episcopal Migration Ministries](#) to create community and partnership in the **ministry of refugee resettlement**. Congregations interested in joining this ministry are invited to contact the Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa ([jbntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org)) so that space can be reserved for training offered by Episcopal Migration Ministries. **Please respond with interest by Sept. 1.**
  - **Fall Dinner for BIPOC Episcopal Community:** The BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) Support Committee of the Racial Justice Commission invites all BIPOC Episcopal clergy and lay people to dinner on *Sunday, Sept. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m.*, at St. Stephen's Church in Boston. RSVP online [here](#) by Sept. 24.  
This is an occasion for BIPOC brothers, sisters, siblings in Christ from across the diocese to come together for fellowship and a time to support and share with one another over good food in the joy and gift of community as we enter the fall.  
Please share this invitation with others in this community who would enjoy participating, or, forward names and e-mail addresses so that an invitation can be extended directly.  
*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries ([jbntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 400).*
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- Diocesan staff will be offering a **webinar on Zoom for wardens and vestry members to review several diocesan policies**, e.g., Safe Church, the clergy disciplinary process, memorial garden guidelines and requirements, and more. So as to include as many people as possible, the webinar will be offered twice: *Saturday, Oct. 5 (9 a.m. to noon)* and *Saturday, Oct. 26 (1-4 p.m.)*. The hope is that at least two members of the elected lay leadership from each congregation will attend one of the webinars—to include short presentations on the policies, break-out group time for discussion and time for questions and answers, with a break built into the schedule. Registration information will be available in mid-August. *FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation ([mgardner@diomass.org](mailto:mgardner@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 403).*
- Save the date for the annual **Indigenous Peoples' Day Celebration** on *Monday, Oct. 14*, to be held this year at Christ Church in Andover (time and details to be announced). *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries ([jbntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 400).*
- The **Province I Indigenous Peoples' Justice Network will host two online book discussions** this fall: *Wednesday, Sept. 25, 7-8:30 p.m.*, focused on *Healing Haunted Histories* by Elaine Enns and Ched Myers (register in advance [here](#)); and *Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7-8:30 p.m.*, focused on *Massacre on the Merrimack: Hannah Duston's Captivity and Revenge in Colonial America* by Jay Atkinson (register in advance [here](#)). All are welcome to participate. *FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation ([mgardner@diomass.org](mailto:mgardner@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 403).*
- The Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H., will host a day program, **"Becoming an Episcopal Outdoorswoman,"** for those curious about expanding their outdoors skill set or who are looking to deepen their wilderness practices, all in an environment of cooperation and community. It takes place on *Saturday, Oct. 5, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.* Find registration [here](#). *FOR INFORMATION: Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center ([info@bchcenter.org](mailto:info@bchcenter.org) or 603-547-3400).*
- [Episcopal City Mission](#) has announced a **fall offering of the "A Stolen Beam" course** led by Dr. Constance Holmes and the Rev. Steven Bonsey and tailored specifically for Episcopal Church members. It will be a Monday course of 1 1/2 hours every week between *Oct. 21 and Dec. 2*.  
 "A Stolen Beam" is a course of educational engagement and personal reflection, originating from the Jewish Community of Amherst, and focusing on the legacy of African enslavement and 400 years of anti-Black racism, what was stolen and what may be

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owed. It examines the historical case for reparations; global and national precedents for reparations; practical proposals for national and local reparations; and theological reflections on reparations from Jewish and Christian sources. Watch a course overview [here](#). Space is limited; register [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Derek Wong, Episcopal City Mission ([Derek@ecmteam.us](mailto:Derek@ecmteam.us)).

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## CHURCHWIDE:

- As [announced](#) at the close of the 81st General Convention, the **investiture of Presiding Bishop-elect Sean Rowe** will be a simpler, scaled-down event this fall with a view toward reducing carbon footprint and increasing virtual engagement and participation. The investiture service will take place on *Saturday, Nov. 2* at the Chapel of Christ the Lord in The Episcopal Church Center in New York City with a prelude beginning at 10 a.m. ET and the service starting at 11 a.m. ET. There will be an extensive livestream production to support churchwide access and participation. All are welcome and encouraged to attend virtually. More information will be available in the coming months.
- Seeking to grow and strengthen The Episcopal Church's ministries that support members of Generation Z (those born between 1997 and 2012), The Episcopal Church's Department of Faith Formation is launching a **churchwide survey geared toward young people and those who serve them**. "The Episcopal Church Leadership Project: Toward a New Generation of Leaders" is a proposed three-phase, three-year project to identify the gifts and challenges of ministry with and by Gen Z within the church; and to evaluate, revise and test resources and practices to help ministers reach and support this generation of leaders. Find "The Episcopal Church Leadership Project" survey for ordained and lay leaders online in English and Spanish [here](#). Read more about it [here](#).

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## GRANTS & LOANS:

- The Mission Strategy Committee of Diocesan Council encourages congregations, organizations and networks in the Diocese of Massachusetts to apply for **Wicked Good Idea Microgrants** of up to \$2,500 to take on a ministry idea in their mission settings. The application is available [here](#). Questions may be e-mailed to [missionstrategy@diomass.org](mailto:missionstrategy@diomass.org).
  - The Church Home Society has launched a three-year pilot grant program, allocating up to \$40,000 a year to support **youth ministries in Episcopal churches**. Grant awards will be between \$1,000 and \$2,000. Applications (form available [here](#)) are due the last day of the month, August 2024 through April 2025, and they will be reviewed at the following monthly board meeting.
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## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

At its July 18 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Voted to approve naming the African ministry center that is taking shape at the former Grace Church in Everett The Bishop Alan M. Gates African Anglican Episcopal Mission Center in The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

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

Voted to approve a 2024 diocesan staff clergy housing allowance.

Voted to approve the Mission Initiatives Committee recommendations for 2024 funding allocations to new mission initiatives as submitted.

Heard a report from the chair of the Nominating Committee, the Rev. Dr. Regina Laba Walton.

Voted to endorse Bishop Gates's appointment of the secretary, Julie Shea, to the Budget Strategy and Governance Committee.

Heard a report from the Executive Committee.

**Next Council Meeting:** *Thursday, Aug. 15, 6 p.m., via Zoom.*

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

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## **CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:**

Please direct inquiries about this report to the [regional canons](#).

### **CLERGY CHANGES:**

**The Rev. Stephanie Bradbury** will begin as interim priest at St. Mark's Church in Southborough on Sept. 1.

**The Rev. R. John Brockmann** began as priest-in-charge at Christ Church in Medway on Aug. 1.

**The Rev. Won-Jae Hur** will begin as rector of St. Paul's Church in Brookline on Sept. 3.

**The Rev. Mia Kano** will begin as rector of St. Andrew's Church in Ayer on Oct. 6.

**The Rev. Christa Moore-Levesque** will begin as rector of St. Michael's Church in Holliston on Sept. 1.

**The Rev. Eva Ortez** is serving as priest-in-charge at St. Stephen's Church in Boston.

**The Rev. Amy Whitcomb Slemmer** began as priest-in-charge at St. Andrew's Church in Hanover on Aug. 1.

### **CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

DORCHESTER, All Saints' Parish, Ashmont

### **RECTOR SEARCHES**

#### **CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

NORWOOD, Grace Church

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

SHARON, St. John's Church

#### **CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

*None at this time.*

### **Central Region**

Regional Canon Gregory Perez  
[gperez@diomass.org](mailto:gperez@diomass.org)

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**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.  
BURLINGTON, St. Mark's Church 1/2 time**INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** Contact the regional canon.

None at this time.

**OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**

None at this time.

**Northern and Western Region**Regional Canon Martha Hubbard  
[mhubbard@diomass.org](mailto:mhubbard@diomass.org)**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

SOUTHBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church

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

HUDSON, St. Luke's Church

LYNN, St. Stephen's Memorial Church

ROCKPORT, St. Mary's Church

**CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

None at this time.

**CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** (Apply directly to parish.)[READING, Church of the Good Shepherd](#) 3/4 time**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

None at this time.

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** Contact the regional canon.  
DANVERS, All Saints Church of the North Shore 1/2 time**INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:**

None at this time.

**OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**

None at this time.

**Southern Region**Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell  
[koconnell@diomass.org](mailto:koconnell@diomass.org)**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

SWANSEA, Christ Church

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

None at this time.

**CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

None at this time.

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

[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) 1/2 time

[CHATHAM, St. Christopher's Church](#)

**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

*None at this time.*

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

ATTLEBORO, All Saints' Church 1/4 time

FALL RIVER, St. Luke's Church 1/8 time

MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church *full time*

**INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*

*None at this time.*

**OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**

*None at this time.*

**Clergy Supply List:** To request a copy of the most up-to-date Clergy Supply List, or to be added to it, e-mail Jocelyn Collen, Administrator for Congregations and Development, at [jcollen@diomass.org](mailto:jcollen@diomass.org).

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**NEXT *fyi*:**

*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the September issue is **Wednesday, Aug. 28 at noon**. E-mail submissions to [tjs@diomass.org](mailto:tjs@diomass.org).

Find the newsletter **deadline schedule for 2024** [here](#).

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