



Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of
The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org
(617) 482-4826 / (617) 482-5800 / FAX: (617) 451-6446

Registration is open for Ministry Discernment Conference

Register by Jan. 15 [here](#).

The annual Ministry Discernment Conference takes place on *Saturday, Feb. 3, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. This conference is offered by the bishops and the Commission on Ministry and is intended to provide an in-depth look at the 2018 Ministry Discernment Handbook and to give potential applicants to the ordination process an opportunity to explore their sense of call and whether that call is to ordained ministry or committed lay ministry.

Any person considering applying for admission to the ordination process in 2018 is required to attend the conference, along with his or her sponsoring priest and at least one member of the Parish Discernment Committee.

Find more information and register online by Jan. 15 [here](#).

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

New priests to be ordained

The diocesan community's prayers and presence are requested for these upcoming services of ordination to the priesthood:

- The Rev. Emily Garcia on *Saturday, Dec. 9 at 2 p.m.* at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill;
- The Rev. Amanda March on *Thursday, Jan. 4 at 6 p.m.* at the Parish of St. Paul (1135 Walnut Street) in Newton Highlands; and
- The Rev. Duncan Hilton on *Saturday, Jan. 6 at 10:30 a.m.* at St. Michael's Church (16 Bradley Avenue) in Brattleboro, Vt.

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

Bishop Sutton to lead pre-Lenten clergy retreat

Register by Dec. 26 [here](#).

Online registration is open until Dec. 26 for the 2018 Pre-Lenten Clergy Retreat, this year to be held *Tuesday-Thursday, Feb. 6-8* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Register online [here](#). Colleagues from the Diocese of Western Massachusetts are being invited to join Diocese of Massachusetts clergy at the retreat this year.

The retreat presenter will be the Rt. Rev. Eugene Sutton, Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland, who will focus on "How to Preach in These Difficult Times." Sutton is nationally known for his commitment to nonviolence, reconciliation, the environment and the practice of centering prayer. He is a sought-after preacher and a contributor to the book, *The Diversity of Centering Prayer*.

FOR INFORMATION: Liza Zayas, Office of the Bishop Suffragan (617-482-4826, ext. 445 or lzayas@diomass.org).

[Visit the Events calendar here.](#)

NOTES:

- Bishop Alan M. Gates will be among the leaders participating in a **vigil honoring victims of gun violence**, taking place on *Thursday, Dec. 14, 6:15 p.m.*, at First Church (66 Marlborough Street) in Boston. The service will include special candle lighting for 2017 Boston victims of gun violence, and is envisioned as a memorial to all victims and as a call for further commitment to work to reduce gun violence in all communities. The diocese's B-PEACE for Jorge antiviolence campaign and the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence are sponsors of the vigil. All are invited to come and join in prayer and a call to action.

- The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston will host a Confirmation service open to confirmands from all deaneries, on *Saturday, Jan. 27*. The service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Bishop Alan M. Gates will meet with the confirmands at 9:30 a.m. **Those intending to participate should register their confirmands as soon as possible** by contacting the cathedral administrator, Ethel Crawford. Confirmands' names, as they should be printed in the bulletin, are needed at least two weeks prior to the service.

FOR INFORMATION/TO REGISTER: Ethel Crawford, Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 221 or elc@diomass.org).

- **Online filing for the 2017 Parochial Report begins on Jan. 4.** Again this year, each congregation will receive a mailing from the Episcopal Church that includes the congregation's online ID and PIN information for accessing the filing site; paper copies of the Parochial Report form are no longer being mailed.

The Parochial Report form (including instructions and workbooks for each page) will be available [here](#) for those congregations that are not able to file online or that need to submit a paper copy.

Changes to the 2017 Parochial Report form mandated by General Convention Resolution A084 include a revised membership page, an opportunity to report the languages in which worship is conducted and an "Outreach Ministries and Volunteer" section.

FOR INFORMATION: Iris DiLeonardo, Executive Office of the General Convention (212-716-6017 or click [here](#)).

- The **Boston University School of Theology has announced the formation of two new denominational learning communities**, one in collaboration with the Diocese of Massachusetts and another with the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ.

The Anglican Episcopal Community of Learning is a collaboration with the Diocese of Massachusetts and other interested dioceses, churches and organizations that wish to network and partner with the School of Theology. The learning community mission is to form a community of students, faculty

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and staff dedicated to nurturing and preparing Episcopalians and other Anglicans for future leadership and service in and through the church. It seeks to nurture the next generation of leaders, equipping them in both Anglican and ecumenical traditions of Christianity and providing them with curricular and co-curricular opportunities to ground their academic, spiritual, ecclesial, professional and social-global growth.

This community of learning will be initiated and developed in communication with Episcopal dioceses that are willing to collaborate in developing a program that serves the needs of their students, particularly those students preparing for ordination. The collaboration is initially focused in the Diocese of Massachusetts and in others in Provinces I and II. More details are available at www.bu.edu/sth/ecl.

CHURCHWIDE:

- A **new Advent resource, “Preparing to Become the Beloved Community,”** has been developed by the Episcopal Church’s Racial Reconciliation Team and is designed for group use among all ages. Every congregation will receive in the mail “Preparing to Become the Beloved Community,” as well as a poster and resource pack with prayers, reflections and activities for each week of Advent. The resource can also be downloaded [here](#).

Throughout Advent, an Episcopal Church social media campaign also aims to stir hope, reflection and action around racial reconciliation; join or follow using the hashtag **#adventbeloved**.

Episcopal Migration Ministries is offering a six-week Epiphany curriculum designed for adult Christian formation and ideal for congregations, individuals, adult forums, discussion groups and other church-based gatherings. It aims to help participants come away with a deeper understanding of Episcopal Migration Ministries, refugee resettlement, the stories of new American neighbors and God’s call to this work. Find the curriculum online [here](#).

- Episcopalians across the church are invited to **review and provide input on the preliminary draft of the 2019-2021 triennium budget**. Following the comment period, the preliminary draft budget will be prepared for approval by the Episcopal Church’s Executive Council at its January 2018 meeting. From there, the Executive Council will present the draft budget to the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance in February, which will then prepare a final budget for approval at General Convention next summer. The preliminary draft budget is available [here](#). Comments can be submitted [here](#). The deadline for providing comments is Jan. 10.
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- Applications are being accepted through Dec. 15 for **Episcopal Church Evangelism Grants**. Application information is available [here](#). The grant program is designed to fund local and regional evangelism efforts in the Episcopal Church. Episcopal institutions (congregations, dioceses, provinces, schools, monastic communities, Episcopal organizations and other Episcopal Church-affiliated entities) are eligible to receive these funds. Grants are available for up to \$2,000 for an individual congregation and up to \$8,000 for multichurch, diocesan and regional collaborations. Groups receiving funding are expected to make a significant financial contribution toward the project.

FOR INFORMATION: Kayla Massey (212-716-6022 or kmassey@episcopalchurch.org).

- The United Thank Offering (UTO) promotes and receives thank offerings churchwide and distributes the money through annual grants to support mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church and provinces of the Anglican Communion. **UTO grant applications for 2018 are now available** online [here](#).

All completed applications must be sent to diocesan UTO coordinator Betty Murray at eg.murray102@gmail.com by Friday, Jan. 26.

FOR INFORMATION: Betty Murray (617-332-5939 or eg.murray102@gmail.com).

- The **Episcopal Church Foundation awards annual fellowships** to individuals pursuing advanced academic studies and special ministries, with the aim of educating and equipping future clergy and lay leaders. Applications for the 2018 Fellowship Partners Program are now being accepted; the deadline is March 16. A strong application requires a significant investment of time and effort, so the foundation encourages all applicants to begin the process early. Awards will be announced in late May. Learn more about the fellowship program and the application process [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Brendon Hunter, Episcopal Church Foundation (212-870-2849 or bhunter@episcopalfoundation.org).

- Episcopalians are invited to save the dates for the next **Evangelism Matters conference**, to be held *March 15-17* for anyone excited to learn about sharing and growing loving, liberating, life-giving relationships with God. Hosted this year by St. Paul's Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, Evangelism Matters is a churchwide event co-sponsored by the Episcopal Church's Evangelism Initiatives Team and Forward Movement.

Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry will address the conference, and a diverse team of evangelism leaders will lead plenary sessions and workshops. Many sessions will be Webcast live and available for download, and individual and satellite group participation is welcomed. Registration and sponsor sign-ups are available online [here](#).

Upcoming youth ministry events:

Questions about these events may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617/482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

- Space is limited and time is running out to apply to join the 2018 **Las Fronteras youth pilgrimage**, Aug. 3-10. Building on the success of recent youth mission trips to the borderlands of Arizona and Sonora, Mexico, the program, open to current 9th and 10th graders, will include several mandatory organizational meetings ahead of the trip along with meetings after the trip to connect the new understandings gained with activities ongoing around the diocese. The focus of the program will be helping young people put their faith into action. Details and the online application are available [here](#). Applications are due Dec. 28.
- Join Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the congregation of St. Luke's-San Lucas Church in Chelsea on *Saturday, Dec. 16, 6:30-9 p.m.*, for **Las Posadas, a traditional Advent event** at which those gathered will trace Mary and Joseph's traveling search for shelter. This is a bilingual and multicultural celebration with processions, music, food and hospitality. As the group celebrates this well-known story from the Christian tradition, it will hold close in heart and mind the serious situation of modern-day refugees seeking shelter. The event is free, but advance registration, available online [here](#), is important to ensure there will be enough food.
- Registration is now open for the 2018 **High School Retreat weekend**, *Friday-Sunday, Feb. 2-4* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. The retreat's theme is "An Ocean of Possibilities." Participants will explore how they are formed by their culture and by their faith for action in the world. Led by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend features small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, lively music and some much-needed time away from the rush of everyday routines. Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation. Registration closes when capacity is reached, or on Jan. 25. Register online [here](#). A recruiting flier is available for download [here](#).

TRAINING & LEARNING:

- Clergy interested in elder issues are invited to earn a **free certificate in behavioral health and aging**, sponsored this winter by Boston University's Center for Aging and Disability Education and Research. The 19-hour online course runs from the end of January through May, and includes five subject areas: mental health and aging issues (four hours in length); suicide prevention among older adults (four hours); mental wellness and resilience among older immigrants and refugees (three hours); substance abuse among older adults (four hours); and Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias (four hours). An additional in-person session may be added at the end of the program.
FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Colette Wood (617-922-9664 or coletewood@comcast.net).

- The U.S. Attorney's Office, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice, FBI and Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security are sponsoring a **day-long forum on public safety crises specifically for houses of worship and faith communities**. Faith leaders and other individuals responsible for emergency management at houses of worship are invited to attend the forum, to be held on [Thursday, Jan. 11](#) at the Holiday Inn in Taunton and again on [Friday, Jan. 19](#) at the Reading Public Library. The forum aims to increase participants' understanding of various public safety concerns and knowledge about planning and preparing for an active threat, and to provide tools to build an emergency operations plan. Issues like vandalism, arson, Internet scams, cyber threats, bomb threats, active shooter situations and hate crimes will be covered. Pre-registration is required via the date links above.

- The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston will be a host location for a **live broadcast of the annual Trinity Institute Conference**, this year focusing on the theme "Values in Action." The live stream event will take place on *Saturday, Feb. 3, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.* Online registration for the Boston live stream will open on Wednesday, Jan. 10, [here](#).

Participants are invited to come for speeches, panels, reflection groups and networking, and will leave with new skills, ideas, inspiration and a greater capacity to take action rooted in core values and powerful partnerships. Trinity Institute offers one Continuing Education Unit (CEU) for all persons who complete this year's conference.

For more information about this year's Trinity Institute Conference, including speaker bios, schedule and videos, visit www.TI2018.org.

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on *Saturday, Feb. 17, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*, at St. John's Church (95 Deerfield Avenue) in Westwood. Register online [here](#).

Eucharistic Visitors are lay people who have been trained to administer the Holy Eucharist to those who are unable to attend church services. This training provides the needed licensing to be a Eucharistic Visitor in the Diocese of Massachusetts.

Those interested in hosting Eucharistic Visitor Training at their parish or becoming a trainer are invited to contact coordinator Connie Melahoures at conmel@aol.com.

- **Congregational Business Practices Workshops:** New vestry member? Treasurer? Want to understand the business aspects of your congregation? The diocesan Congregational Consultants are once again offering Business Practices Workshops several times this winter and spring. These workshops are important for vestry members, officers and clergy—anyone involved in the business matters of the congregation.

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Workshops will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on:

- [Saturday, Feb. 24](#) at St. Mary's Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable;
- [Saturday, March 10](#) at St. Paul's Church (127 Summer Street) in Lynnfield;
- [Saturday, March 17](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; and
- [Saturday, March 24](#) at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston.

Use the date links above to register online.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants (617-482-4826, ext. 305 or cmeyer@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN GRANTS & LOANS:

- The deadline for **2018 Congregational Development Grants** will be earlier than in previous years. A version of the application cover page will be due on March 1 to demonstrate intent and concept, and full applications will be due on April 23. Further details and application materials will be available on the diocesan Web site in January.

FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org)

- Applications are being accepted monthly for **Mission Tithe Matching Grants**, with separate applications available for pilgrimages and for second and third-year grants for work with the same mission partner as a previous grant. Concept papers and applications from congregations with previously approved concepts are due on the 15th of each month for review at the end of the same month. Staff assistance with discernment and document preparation is available. Application materials are available [here](#). FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Mission Projects (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or lwalta@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: Thursday, Dec. 7, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406 or lsimons@diomass.org).

JOB POSTINGS:

Go to www.diomass.org
(Resources for Congregations & Clergy > [Employment](#)).

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: [music director](#) at St. Paul's Church in Nantucket; [Sunday nursery care provider](#) at Trinity Church in Concord; [special events coordinator](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston; [nursery teacher](#) at St. Andrew's Church in Wellesley; two positions, [lay assistant](#) and [parish administrator](#), at Grace Church in Medford; and [interim director of music](#) at Grace Church in Newton.

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

Communication regarding deployment and parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or jbntagengwa@diomass.org).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church
LYNN, St. Stephen's Church
TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

BOSTON, Trinity Church
DUXBURY, Church of St. John the Evangelist
MEDFORD, Grace Church
WRENTHAM, Trinity Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

COHASSET, St. Stephen's Church
FALMOUTH, St. Barnabas's Church
VINEYARD HAVEN, Grace Church
WALTHAM, Christ Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:

LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church: [Curate/Assistant](#)

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Tom Barrington has been appointed interim priest at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn and began there on Nov. 12.
The Rev. Jane Gould has left St. Stephen's Church in Lynn to accept the call to be the rector of St. Luke's Church in Long Beach, Calif.
The Rev. Patricia Handloss has been appointed bridge priest at St. Thomas's Church in Taunton and started there on Nov. 19.
The Rev. Kathleen McAdams has been called as rector of St. John's Church in Franklin starting in January.

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. Please note that the deadline for the Jan. 3 issue is a week earlier than usual because of the holidays: **Wednesday, Dec. 20 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.
