
F.Y.I.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 4, 2009

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, 482-5800 / (800) 696-6079 / FAX: (617) 482-8431

Prepare for a Holy Lent through Good Friday Offering & invitation to Lenten common prayer

In her Epiphany letter to all congregations, Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori asked for support for the **annual Good Friday Offering** as an opportunity to demonstrate solidarity with Anglicans and all Christians in the Holy Land. For the past 87 years, the Episcopal Church has taken up a Good Friday Offering for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. The offering supports hospitals, schools, orphanages and other programs that serve Christians, Jews and Muslims alike.

Good Friday Offering materials—posters, bulletin shells and offering envelopes—are available from Episcopal Books and Resources (800/903-5544 or www.episcopalbookstore.org); the poster and bulletin shell are also available, in English and Spanish, along with additional information about the Good Friday Offering, at www.episcopalchurch.org/gfo.

The bishops invite the diocesan community to **join in common prayer during Lent on issues of national concern** that they have identified: the environment, peace, health care, the economy, racism and the Holy Land. Beginning the last week in February, weekly prayers, with resource lists, will be available via www.diomass.org, for use by individuals, groups and congregations.

FOR INFORMATION: Tracy Sukraw, Communications
(617/482-4826, ext. 493); tjs@diomass.org.

Join church's 20th anniversary celebration of Barbara Harris's consecration

Advance online registration (www.diomass.org) is recommended for those planning to attend this month's celebration of the 20th anniversary of Bishop Barbara C. Harris's historic consecration as the first female bishop in the Anglican Communion. Join the Episcopal Church's presiding bishop, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, on *Saturday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. The celebration will include a program focusing on what this momentous change meant 20 years ago and how the church is changing now. A celebratory Eucharist will follow, with Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori preaching and celebrating.

Registration should be made via www.diomass.org. **Donations in Bishop Harris's honor will be directed to the B-SAFE (Bishop's Summer Academic and Fun Enrichment) program**, and can be made through the online registration process.

FOR INFORMATION: Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston
(617/482-4826, ext. 221); elc@diomass.org.

NEXT F.Y.I.:

The submission deadline for the March 4 issue is **Wednesday, Feb. 25 at noon**. Address e-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.

Registration is open for March 7 learning event with Brian McLaren

Online registration is open for the diocesan spring learning event on Saturday, March 7, featuring Brian McLaren, a leading evangelical voice in the emergent church movement. The program takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (check-in begins at 9:30 a.m.) at Boston University's Sherman Union. Advance registration is required at www.diomass.org. Cost is \$15 (\$9 for students); lunch is \$10 extra. Bulletin inserts presenting excerpts and study questions from McLaren's book *Everything Must Change* are available to help individuals and groups prepare for the event (see March 7 on the www.diomass.org events calendar).

FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Resource Center (617/482-4826, ext. 645); acook@diomass.org.

Relational evangelists & Micah Project interns being sought for new program year

The diocese's two **young adult internship programs are now accepting applications for the 2009-2010 program year.**

The Micah Project is an 11-month residential internship program in which interns live together in Christian community, discerning their own vocational calls while serving the Boston area in social justice-related projects.

The Relational Evangelism Pilot Project is also an 11-month internship program through which eight young adult women and men work part time as relational evangelists, trained as community organizers to engage other young adults (18-35 years old) in God's mission through assigned church or chaplaincy sites. Their work entails one-to-one relational meetings, building a leadership team and implementing actions to engage other young adults.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Noah Evans, *The Micah Project* (781/396-7215 or noah@gracemedford.org) or The Rev. Arrington Chambliss, *Relational Evangelism Pilot Project* (617/277-5523 or achambliss@diomass.org).

Registration for pre-Confirmation retreats open until Feb. 22

Confirmation classes can still sign up for the pre-Confirmation retreats held at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H., March 20-21 and April 3-4. These overnights for diocesan teens are geared toward opening up Christian practices and leave lots of room for conversation about the journey toward Confirmation. Registration should be made by Feb. 22 at www.diomassyouth.org; scholarships are available.

FOR INFORMATION: Kit Lonergan, *Youth Ministries* (617/482-4826, ext. 215); klonergan@diomass.org.

Partner churches needed for B-SAFE this summer

Fifty partner churches and more than 700 volunteers made it possible last summer for St. Stephen's Church in Boston to sponsor B-SAFE (Bishop's Summer Academic and Fun Enrichment), serving 530 at-risk youth at six sites. **B-SAFE seeks partners for summer 2009.** An orientation meeting for new and returning partners will be held on Sunday, March 15, 1-3 p.m., at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill.

FOR INFORMATION: Jane Tierney (617/262-9070, ext. 13); jltier@aol.com.

**Gulf Coast Partnership
art show to benefit
New Orleans medical
van**

The diocesan **Gulf Coast Partnership** will present a **benefit art show titled “heArts Alive!” on March 27-28** at Trinity Church (Copley Square) in Boston. Proceeds will support the medical van operated by St. Anna’s Church in New Orleans. Artist and hurricane survivor Lori K. Gordon will travel to Boston to present her art at the show; other artists from around the diocese have also pledged donations of work in media of sculpture, painting, stained glass, iconography and photography, centering on the theme of resurrection and reclaiming broken pieces.

The show opens in the undercroft of Trinity Church on *Friday, March 27 at 4 p.m.*, with a wine and cheese reception for artist Lori K. Gordon from *6 to 8 p.m.* The show will be open on *Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Michael Hamilton, Gulf Coast Partnership (617/482-4826, ext. 354); gulfcoast@diomass.org.

**New dean is serving
Taunton River Deanery**

The Rev. Becky Brown, Rector of St. Mark’s Church in Foxboro, **has been appointed dean of the Taunton River Deanery**. She succeeds the Rev. Dana Boynton, retired rector of St. Thomas’s Church in Taunton. In making the announcement, Bishop Bud Cederholm offered his gratitude for both priests’ gifts for leadership and pastoral care and for their willingness to serve.

NOTES:

Please share the contents of *F.Y.I.* with your parish leadership and congregation through your parish bulletin, announcements, newsletters and Web sites. The contacts listed in *F.Y.I.* welcome your inquiries for more information.

■ Congregational Leadership Report and Lay Delegate Certification forms have been mailed to all rectors or other priests in charge of congregations. The forms were preprinted with the information currently held in the diocesan database. **Updated forms should be returned to the Office of Convention and Council within 10 days of annual meetings**, as required by diocesan canon.

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

■ The diocesan Congregational Business Consultants will offer **workshops on business practices and parish audits** on these upcoming *Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*: **Feb. 28** at Trinity Church (131 West Emerson Street) in Melrose; **March 21** at the Parish of St. Paul (1135 Walnut Street) in Newton Highlands; and **March 28** at St. Mary’s Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable.

The workshops are aimed at treasurers, especially new ones, but will be of interest to all clergy and lay members with church business responsibilities. Organizers hope congregations will send teams. A nominal fee will apply; registration can be made at www.diomassevents.org.

FOR INFORMATION: Beth Dixon, Congregational Business Consultants (781/910-7103); beth.dixon1@verizon.net.

**F.Y.I. is online at www.diomass.org (News/Events/Media → Publications).
Sign up for monthly “E-news” at www.diomass.org (Quick Links → Subscribe to E-News).**

■ **Safe Church Training sessions** have been scheduled on these upcoming *Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*: **March 7** at St. John's Church (95 Deerfield Avenue) in Westwood; and **Sept. 19** at Grace Church in Vineyard Haven. Cost is \$40 per person; some scholarship support is available. Registration is required 14 days prior to the training date and can be done online via www.diomass.org (see "Training & Learning Opportunities" under "Inside the Diocese").

FOR INFORMATION: Dick Vanderlippe, Safe Church Training coordinator (978/263-1895); rvan@aol.com.

■ All who are interested in **reconstituting the diocesan Recovery Committee** are invited to gather on *Saturday, March 14, 11 a.m.-12:45 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (Copley Square) in Boston. Keeping in mind recovery from all types of substance abuse, participants will talk about needs in the diocese, contributions they feel prepared to make and available resources from the Recovery Committee of the Episcopal Church. This meeting is being sponsored by the diocesan Disability Concerns Committee and is intended to function as a get-acquainted session and a realistic assessment of current options.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Kathryn Piccard, Disability Concerns Committee (617/242-4734); kapiccard@comcast.net.

■ The **Clergy Sabbatical Program** seeks to ensure that clergy in the diocese have an opportunity for a time of sabbath, for spiritual renewal and reaffirmation of life with God and for opportunities for creativity and discovery. All canonically resident clergy who have been in active, ordained ministry for a minimum of 10 years and in their current parish for at least five years are eligible to apply. Clergy who are interested in engaging in a communal, collegial discernment process, and whose parishes are willing to engage in such a process but are not able to fully fund a sabbatical, are invited to apply. Specific information is available at www.diomass.org (go to "Inside the Diocese," then see "Clergy Sabbatical Program" under "Parish & Clergy Support").

Deadlines for 2010 sabbaticals are: March 31, 2009, for vestry letters of support and May 31, 2009, for applications.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Maggie Geller, Clergy Sabbatical Program coordinator (617/482-4826, ext. 351); mgeller@diomass.org.

■ **"Mary, Companion and Guide," a meditative Lenten retreat**, will take place on *Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*, at St. Dunstan's Church (18 Springdale Avenue) in Dover. The retreat is sponsored by the Charles River Deanery and will be facilitated by Brother Eldridge Pendleton, SSJE. The registration fee is \$10 (\$15 for those who wish to stay for lunch).

TO REGISTER/FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Charles River Deanery staff liaison (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

■ St. Margaret's Convent (17 Highland Park Street) in Boston will host several **upcoming Lenten events**: *Saturday, March 14, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Lenten Day of Prayer* led by Sister Emily Louise, SSM and featuring the Gospel of Mark and writings of Julian of Norwich (suggested donation is \$35); and *Saturday, March 28, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., "Into Great Silence" film and discussion program* (suggested donation is \$35).

TO REGISTER/FOR INFORMATION: *St. Margaret's Convent, Boston (617/445-8961); www.smbos.com*

■ **Author and Episcopal Church leader Phyllis Tickle will lead "The Great Emergence,"** a learning event based on her new book, *The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why*, on *Thursday, March 26, 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Tickle has stirred liturgical and evangelical Christians with her series *The Divine Hours: A Manual for Prayer* and her keen insights about religion in America for *Publishers Weekly*. At this gathering, she will explore emerging shifts in the Christian landscape, along with lessons and opportunities for the mainline liturgical church.

All are welcome to attend Tickle's keynote and practical discussions from 2 to 6 p.m. and worship from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Episcopal clergy, seminarians, postulants and candidates may attend lunch and Q&A with Tickle from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Program cost is \$25 (free for seminarians, postulants and candidates). The lunch Q&A session costs \$15. Register at www.thecrossingboston.org or www.diomass.org. The event is co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Episcopal Clergy Association, The Crossing at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul and Episcopal Divinity School.

FOR INFORMATION: *Marie Harkey (419/346-4549 or mharkey@gmail.com) or The Rev. Mark McKone-Sweet (508/655-5880 or mark.mc-s@comcast.net).*

Parish EXCHANGE:

St. Elizabeth's Church (1 Morse Road) in Sudbury has 110 metal **folding chairs**, used but in good condition, to give away.

FOR INFORMATION: *Dave Wallingford (978/443-2579) or Joe Meeks (978/443-3395).*

JOB POSTINGS:

Go to www.diomass.org
(Quick Links → Employment).

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site are: **nursery caregivers** at the Church of Our Redeemer in Lexington; part-time **property maintenance sexton** at Emmanuel Church in Boston; **youth ministries coordinator** at Grace Church/Iglesia de Gracia in Salem; **preschool director** at Christ Church in Andover; **professional child-care provider** at Christ Church in Cambridge; **Sunday morning infant-care provider** at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Reading; and **organist** at St. Gabriel's Church in Marion.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Jan. 24 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

- Authorized withdrawal of funds from agency endowment funds as needed to accomplish the HVAC improvements at the 138 Tremont Street facilities.
- Heard reports on the program, facilities and finances of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center from its executive director, John Erdman, and Finance Committee member Bill Luke.
- Heard a report from the treasurer, including status updates on pending property sales.
- Voted to allocate \$120,000 from the available House of Mercy monies to the B-SAFE program to fund the Chelsea and Mattapan sites for 2009.
- Heard Bishop Shaw's report on his appointments to the committee charged with making recommendations regarding the use of the proceeds from the sale of St. Andrew's Church in Belmont.
- Voted to appoint Candice Caines to the Budget Committee.
- Elected the Rev. Jeffrey Mello to the Executive Committee.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, Feb. 26, 6-8:30 p.m., Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.*

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

PARISH SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

For detailed information go to www.diomass.org (Inside the Diocese → Parish and Clergy Support).

Communication regarding deployment and parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Canon Cynthia Hubbard (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or chubbard@diomass.org).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

PLYMOUTH, Christ Church
SOMERSET, Church of Our Saviour

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

SAUGUS, St. John's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

AYER, St. Andrew's Church
NEWTONVILLE, St. John's Church
SOUTH YARMOUTH, St. David's Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

HINGHAM, Church of St. John the Evangelist
LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church
ORLEANS, Church of the Holy Spirit
OSTERVILLE, St. Peter's Church
TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

BROOKLINE, St. Paul's Church
EDGARTOWN, St. Andrew's Church
ROCKLAND, Trinity Church
WINCHESTER, Parish of the Epiphany

OTHER POSITIONS:

MARBLEHEAD: St. Andrew's Church: assistant to the priest-in-charge. Contact: The Rev. Susan H. Russell (781/631-4951); srussellstandrews@verizon.net.

PLYMOUTH: Christ Church: interim assistant, half time. Contact: The Rev. Ted Cole (508/747-5627); tcole@christchurchplymouth.org.