



**Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2014**

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

**The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts**

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org)

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**Diocesan Convention is  
Nov. 8 in Lynn**

This year's annual Diocesan Convention takes place on *Saturday, Nov. 8* at St. Stephen's Memorial Church (74 South Common Street) in Lynn. Resolutions on financial divestment as a social justice strategy will come before the convention, as will a proposal for multifaith education. Convention will also vote on the proposed \$8.2-million budget for 2015 and elect alternate deputies to next summer's General Convention of the Episcopal Church, among other business. Bishop Alan M. Gates will deliver his first convention address, and Bishop Gayle E. Harris will give a sermon presentation at the midday service of Holy Eucharist. Convention actions and coverage will be posted at [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org).  
*FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of the Canon to the Ordinary (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).*

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**"Being Church" video  
parable study series now  
available online**

In 2013, 14 small congregations in the diocese took part in a study to learn more about what helps churches grow and thrive, and what hampers positive efforts to change. Working with diocesan congregational development staff and the Hartford Institute for Religion Research, the congregations identified projects they believed would help to energize their churches, and received mentoring support in trying to implement their ideas. The Mission Institute agreed to capture and disseminate some of the compelling learnings from this collaborative project. The result is "Being Church: A Video Parable Study Series."

Central to the five-part video series and accompanying study guide are stories of people engaged in the transformative and often difficult work of building community right where they are. The videos invite congregations and communities to reflect on the struggles, fears, hopes and courage of people bringing new life to their churches and neighborhoods. The "Being Church" series and study guide are available at [www.themissioninstitute.org](http://www.themissioninstitute.org).

*FOR INFORMATION: Diane D'Souza, The Mission Institute (617-682-1505 or [ddsouza@eds.edu](mailto:ddsouza@eds.edu)).*

**Editor's note:** Video of the complete Sept. 13 service of ordination and consecration of the diocese's 16th bishop, the Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, is now available at [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org), [here](#). Also available is a [photo gallery](#) in remembrance of the diocese's late 15th bishop, the Rt. Rev. M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE, and the text of the [sermon](#) given at his All Saints' Day funeral. There is a way in which these online offerings show forth something of the beauty of things being made new through a complex season of continuity and change weathered with grace and hope by God's people in this place, and so we highlight them here, together, with gratitude.

**NOTES:**

● **Gerry Sullivan has joined the diocesan staff as chief business officer**, filling a position vacant since last November. Most recently he served, for eight years, as the chief operating officer for the Sisters of Mercy Northeast, a women's religious community ministering through numerous educational, health care, housing and other social service programs. Prior to his work with the Sisters of Mercy, he held the positions of chief operating officer and chief financial officer in computing and software companies.

"I look forward to working with the staff in support of the mission and ministries of the diocese and implementing the vision of Bishop Gates, along with the directions from the upcoming convention," Sullivan said. "The warm welcome and cordiality from all is much appreciated."

Gerry Sullivan can be reached in the diocesan Treasurer's Office at 617-482-4826, ext. 554 or [gsullivan@diomass.org](mailto:gsullivan@diomass.org).

● Online registration is now open, [here](#), for the 2014 **Middle School Youth Retreat**, *Friday-Sunday, Nov. 21-23*, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. The theme of this year's retreat is "The Tree of Life." Designed and run by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend includes small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship that gets everyone moving and thinking, the live band The Spark and time away from the stress of everyday life in order to pay a little more attention to the Spirit of God. Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation. A late fee is charged for registration after Nov. 12; registration after Nov. 19 cannot be guaranteed.

*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. H. Mark Smith, Office of Youth Ministry (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or [hmsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hmsmith@diomass.org)).*

● **"Talking Shop: Engaging Young People in the Word and Worship"** will be offered on *Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*, at the Church of the Holy Spirit (160 Rock Street) in Fall River. Join the Rev. Paula Toland, Priest-in-Charge, St. John's Church in Franklin, and Ethan Doss, Associate Director, Office of Youth Ministry, for an interactive workshop introducing activities and approaches to youth-centered Bible study and worship. The workshop is designed for those working with junior and senior-high-aged young people. Bring questions and success stories to share with colleagues, and learn from the collective wisdom in the room. The workshop is free, but advance registration is greatly appreciated and can be done online [here](#). Those unable to make the Nov. 15 session are welcome to attend the offering at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center on *Saturday, Nov. 22, at 3 p.m.*, as part of the Middle School Youth Retreat. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. H. Mark Smith, Office of Youth Ministry (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or [hmsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hmsmith@diomass.org)).*

- The **2011 Journal of Convention is now available** for distribution to clergy and Diocesan Convention delegates who would like a copy. For a printed copy or CD-ROM version, contact Laura Simons (as below). The journal is also posted online [here](#). Convention journals for 2012 and 2013 will be available by the end of the year.

*FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Canon to the Ordinary's Office (617/482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).*

## **TRAINING & LEARNING:**

- The Mission Institute will present two workshops this month: **"Eat and Share: Next Steps in Food Ministries"** on *Saturday, Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*, at St. Mark's Church (75 Cold Spring Road) in Westford; and **"Share Your Web Site"** on *Saturday, Nov. 22, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at Grace Chapel at First Evangelical Lutheran Church (900 Main Street) in Brockton. More information and online registration is available at [www.themissioninstitute.org](http://www.themissioninstitute.org).

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on *Saturday, Nov. 22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at St. Mary's Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable, and again on *Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015*, at All Saints' Church (121 North Main Street) in Attleboro. This course meets the training portion of the requirements for licensing as a Eucharistic Visitor.

Registration information is available online [here](#).

*FOR INFORMATION: Connie Melahoures, Eucharistic Visitor Training coordinator (508-746-3805 or [conmel@aol.com](mailto:conmel@aol.com)).*

- **"The Church's One Foundation" Building Workshop** will be held on *Saturday, Dec. 6 (rescheduled from Oct. 18), 9 a.m.-12 p.m.*, at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston. This half-day workshop will cover a wide range of building issues, from "greening" your church for both environmental and financial benefits, to the basics of buildings and grounds upkeep, building safety and accessibility. Bishop Alan M. Gates will give the opening address.

Free registration is requested and can be done online [here](#).

*FOR INFORMATION: Esther Powell, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or [epowell@diomass.org](mailto:epowell@diomass.org)).*

- Two group **Safe Church Training** events have been scheduled on Saturdays in early 2015: *Jan. 31* at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth; and *Feb. 28* at Trinity Church (26 White Street) in Haverhill. Registration can be done online [here](#).
- FOR INFORMATION: Esther Powell, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or [epowell@diomass.org](mailto:epowell@diomass.org)).*

**GRANTS & LOANS:**

- **United Thank Offering (UTO) grants** criteria and application information are now available at [www.unitedthankoffering.org](http://www.unitedthankoffering.org). All UTO grant applications must be submitted to the diocesan screening committee by *Jan. 5, 2015* (please note that the Jan. 16 screening date listed on the UTO site does not apply in this diocese). Grant recipients are announced in June 2015. *FOR INFORMATION: Betty Murray, diocesan UTO coordinator (617-332-5939 or [eg.murray@verizon.net](mailto:eg.murray@verizon.net)).*

- Applications are being accepted monthly for **Mission Tithe Matching Grants**, and there are new, separate applications available for youth mission trips and second-year grants for work with continuing mission partners. Concept papers and applications from congregations with previously approved concepts are due Nov. 15, and on a rolling basis by the 15th of each month thereafter. Staff assistance with congregational discernment and document preparation is available, and all application materials are available [here](#). *FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Mission (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or [lwalta@diomass.org](mailto:lwalta@diomass.org)).*

- **Green Loans** are a new program in 2014 and make available low-interest loans of up to \$100,000 to enable congregations to make energy-efficient changes to their buildings. The program is administered by the Diocesan Loan Committee in coordination with the [Creation Care Initiative](#). *FOR INFORMATION/APPLICATIONS: Esther Powell, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or [epowell@diomass.org](mailto:epowell@diomass.org)) or Dana Courtney, Treasurer's Office (617-482-4826, ext. 553 or [dcourtney@diomass.org](mailto:dcourtney@diomass.org)).*

**DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

At its Oct. 16 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard a report from Bishop Alan M. Gates on his time in Taiwan at the House of Bishops meeting.

Heard a report from the Creation Care Task Force on its work over the last year.

Heard a report from the Rev. Sam Rodman on the Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation and voted to accept the foundation's request to return to the diocese all unspent funds from the \$250,000 grant approved by Council in October 2011.

Heard a planned giving update from the director of development, Lynd Matt.

Heard a report from the treasurer, Jim Gammill.

Voted to authorize the following five people to sign checks drawn on the operating, electronic payment and payroll accounts at Eastern

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Bank: The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, The Rev. Canon Margaret Ewing Lloyd, James F. Gammill Jr., Gerry Sullivan and Laura H. Simons.

Voted to authorize the following four people to sign checks drawn on the Fidelity cash reserves account in the brokerage account ending in 545, the Fidelity cash reserves account in the mutual fund ending in 846 and the Fidelity cash reserves account in the mutual fund ending in 854: The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, The Rev. Canon Margaret Ewing Lloyd, James F. Gammill Jr. and Gerry Sullivan.

Voted to appoint the chief business officer, Gerry Sullivan, as the assistant treasurer of the diocese.

Heard an update about the balance in the Use of Proceeds Fund.

Heard an update about Grace Church in North Attleboro and voted to accept that the revision of the arrangement with Grace, North Attleboro be suspended for 2015, with no payments required and no interest accruing on outstanding debt, to be reinstated in 2016 according to the current payment plan.

Heard updates about Diocesan Convention, the construction project at St. Luke's/San Lucas in Chelsea and the cathedral renovations.

**Next Diocesan Council Meeting:** *Friday-Saturday, Jan. 23-24, 2015, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.*

*FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Canon to the Ordinary's Office (617/482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).*

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## **PARISH SEARCH & CALL REPORT**

Go to [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) for details (*Resources for Congregations & Clergy > Congregation & Clergy Support > [Clergy Deployment/Transition Ministry](#)*).

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](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org)).

### **CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:**

DEDHAM, St. Paul's Church  
DOVER, St. Dunstan's Church  
WABAN, Church of the Good Shepherd

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

LYNNFIELD, St. Paul's Church  
SANDWICH, St. John's Church  
SOUTH YARMOUTH, St. David's Church

### **CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

JAMAICA PLAIN, St. John's Church  
NANTUCKET, St. Paul's Church  
SWANSEA, Christ Church

### **CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:**

AMESBURY, St. James's Church  
MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church

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*Continued from page 5***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

WESTWOOD, St. John's Church

**CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Gale Davis begins at St. Paul's Church in Nantucket as interim priest on Nov. 30.

The Rev. Peggy Howell retires as rector of St. Anne's Church in North Billerica on Nov. 30.

The Rev. Cynthia Hubbard began at St. David's Church in South Yarmouth as interim priest on Oct. 1.

The Rev. Elibariki Phillip Kutta began at Grace Church in North Attleboro as a bridge priest on Oct. 1.

The Rev. Richard Loring began at Trinity Church in Wrentham as a bridge priest on Oct. 1.

The Rev. Brian Murdoch began at Grace Church in Vineyard Haven as a bridge priest on Oct. 1.

The Rev. Ronald Ramsey leaves St. John's Church in Arlington to become the rector of St. Cyprian's Church in Hampton, Va., on Nov. 30.

The Rev. Margaret Schwarzer begins at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban as interim priest starting on Nov. 3.

The Rev. G. Truman Welch retires as rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban on Nov. 2.

The Rev. Bailey Whitbeck began at St. Mark's Church in Foxborough as a bridge priest on Oct. 1.

The Rev. Deborah Woodward began at Trinity Church in Marshfield as a bridge priest on Oct. 1.

**JOB POSTINGS:**

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

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: [human resource and benefits manager](#) for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts; [parish coordinator](#) at St. Mark's Church in Southborough; [minister of music](#) at St. Paul's Church in Bedford; [organist-director](#) at St. Paul's Church in Natick; [parish sexton](#) at St. Michael's Church in Milton; [music director](#) at St. John's Church in Franklin; [director of children's formation](#) at Christ Church in Waltham; [organist](#) at the Church of Our Saviour in Middleborough; and [event sexton](#) at Emmanuel Church in Boston.

**NEXT *fyi*:**

*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of each month. The submission deadlines for the December and January issues are earlier than usual because of the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays: The deadline for the Dec. 3 issue is **Wednesday, Nov. 19 at noon**. The deadline for the Jan. 7 issue is **Wednesday, Dec. 17 at noon**. E-mail submissions to [tjs@diomass.org](mailto:tjs@diomass.org).