



**Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2014**

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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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**Registration is open  
for Feb. 7 Ministry  
Discernment Conference**

The Ministry Discernment Conference offered by the bishops and the Commission on Ministry will be held on *Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (Copley Square) in Boston. (The snow date is Feb. 14. Please check [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) for announcement.) The conference provides an in-depth look at the 2015 Ministry Discernment Handbook, and gives potential inquirers an opportunity to learn about the ordination process in the Diocese of Massachusetts and to explore whether their call is to ordained ministry or committed lay ministry.

Any person considering applying for admission to the ordination process in 2015 is required to attend the conference, along with his or her sponsoring priest and at least one member of the Parish Discernment Committee. Discernment Committees are appointed by the sponsoring priest and should be named before the conference so that as many members as wish to may attend. One member of the Discernment Committee must be a member of the vestry. Inquirers are also encouraged to bring their spouses or partners to the conference.

**Online registration is required and is available [here](#) through Jan. 16, 2015.** The cost per person is \$20 and includes registration, materials and lunch. Payment can be made by check or credit card. Checks payable to the Diocese of Massachusetts, designated Discernment, should be mailed to Attn: Edie Dolnikowski, Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111, to be received no later than Jan. 23.  
*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Edie Dolnikowski, Office for Ordained Vocations (617-482-4826, ext. 514 or [edie@diomass.org](mailto:edie@diomass.org)).*

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**B-PEACE invites witness  
at Vigil for Gun Violence  
Victims, Dec. 11**

The diocese's B-PEACE for Jorge antiviolence campaign is partnering with First Church Boston and other local organizations for a **Vigil for All Gun Violence Victims** on *Thursday, Dec. 11, 7:30-9 p.m.*, at First Church Boston (66 Marlborough Street). The event is one of many being organized nationally in collaboration with the Newtown Action Alliance. The evening will include music, reflections and prayer, and organizers are looking for several young people to speak briefly.

To learn about Massachusetts' new gun law and see what B-PEACE is working on now, read this [blog post](#).

*FOR INFORMATION: Christine Duggan, B-PEACE for Jorge ([christine@ststephensbos.org](mailto:christine@ststephensbos.org)).*

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Coverage and actions from the Nov. 8 Diocesan Convention, including video of the bishops' presentations, are available at [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) [here](#).

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**NOTES:**

- The bishops' visitation schedule for December 2014 through November 2015 is finalized and available on the [Bishops' Visitations page at www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org). Clergy and wardens of congregations with a visitation on the schedule have been notified; the visitation schedule was not mailed to all clergy and wardens as it has been in the past. Anyone who needs a copy of the schedule mailed to them or who has questions may contact the bishops' offices, as below.

*FOR INFORMATION: Diane Pound, for Bishop Gates and Bishop Cederholm (617-482-4826, ext. 407 or [dpound@diomass.org](mailto:dpound@diomass.org)) and Marsha Searle, for Bishop Harris (617-482-4826, ext. 445 or [msearle@diomass.org](mailto:msearle@diomass.org)).*

- The diocesan and cathedral offices at 138 Tremont Street in Boston will be **closed for the holidays** *Wednesday, Dec. 24 through Friday, Jan. 2*. The offices will reopen for regular business hours on Monday, Jan. 5.

- The 2015 **Congregational Leadership Report** (pink) and **Lay Delegate Certification Form** (blue) will be mailed to all congregations this month, to the attention of the rector, priest-in-charge, interim priest or other parish leadership. The forms are pre-printed with the information currently in the diocesan database. **Congregations are asked to update their information on these forms and return them** within 10 days of their annual meeting, as required by diocesan canon, and no later than *March 6, 2015*.

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

- Foundation Cristosal, recipient of last year's diocesan Mission Tithe Council Grant, and St. Paul's Church (39 East Central Street) in Natick will host an **evening forum and celebration of the church's work in El Salvador**, to take place on *Saturday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m.* Since 2001, Cristosal has been working with marginalized communities, Central American governments and the international community to strengthen the ability of the poor to act for justice and development as equal citizens in a democratic society. The forum will be an occasion to learn from members of the diocesan Youth Leadership Academy who have traveled to El Salvador to learn about Salvadoran youth leadership and violence prevention through Cristosal's Global School; connect with other parishes and individuals in the diocese in solidarity with the people of El Salvador; and celebrate Cristosal's work in 2014 on protecting victims of violence, LGBT advocacy and community development. *FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Mission (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or [lwalta@diomass.org](mailto:lwalta@diomass.org)).*
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- **Regional Youth Event “Building the Dream/Construyendo el Sueño”:** *Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015, 3-7 p.m.*, at St. Luke’s-San Lucas Church (201 Washington Avenue) in Chelsea. This event is an opportunity for young people from across the diocese to join in a cross-cultural exchange to showcase youth-led justice-seeking efforts. The program will include workshops, games, dinner and bilingual worship. Register online [here](#).

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

- **High School Retreat Weekend, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 6-8, 2015,** at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.: Don’t delay in registering online [here](#)—the recent Middle School Retreat filled quickly and this one likely will, too.

Designed and run by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend for high school students and their adult mentors includes small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship that gets everyone moving and thinking, the live band Fever Fever 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—but a late fee is charged for registration after Jan. 28, and registration after Feb. 1 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)).*

- Registration is open for winter camp programs at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.: **Winter Camp for 7th-9th graders and Winter EDGE for 9th-11th graders**, both taking place during the Massachusetts school vacation week, *Sunday, Feb. 15-Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015*. Registration and “campership” information is available at [www.bchcenter.org/camp](http://www.bchcenter.org/camp).

*FOR INFORMATION: Alessia Doss, Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center (603-547-3400 or [alessia@bchcenter.org](mailto:alessia@bchcenter.org)).*

## **TRAINING & LEARNING:**

- Two “Talking Shop” sessions on **“Youth Ministry and The Internet,”** *Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (91 Main Street) in Bridgewater, and *Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015, 3-5:30 p.m.*, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.: Young people are digital natives, but their adult mentors may feel like strangers in a strange land. These sessions will give youth workers, ministers and mentors an occasion to discuss with one another how to use (and not abuse) social media and other Web-based resources as tools for ministry with young people. The workshop leader will be social media consultant and local youth minister Kate McKey-Dunar. Registration is open, [here](#).

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

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on *Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015*, at All Saints' Church (121 North Main Street) in Attleboro. 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)).*
  
- **Safe Church Training** events will be offered on *Saturdays in early 2015: Jan. 31* at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth; *Feb. 28* at Trinity Church (26 White Street) in Haverhill; and *March 28* at St. John's Church (322 South Franklin Street) in Holbrook. 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)).*
  
- The Society of St. John the Evangelist will offer a **workshop for seminarians and priests on "Reconciliation: The Pastoral Art of Hearing Confessions,"** on *Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.* (including lunch), at the SSJE Monastery (980 Memorial Drive) in Cambridge. The workshop will explore the meaning of the Rite of Reconciliation in *The Book of Common Prayer*, and offer practical guidance for hearing confessions in a sacramental context—the need, the setting, the relationships and the boundaries. Preparation and outcome, both for the confessor and the penitent, will be discussed. Workshop leader will be Brother Curtis Almquist, SSJE. Registration can be made by e-mail to [guesthouse@ssje.org](mailto:guesthouse@ssje.org). *FOR INFORMATION: Society of St. John the Evangelist (617-876-3037 or [guesthouse@ssje.org](mailto:guesthouse@ssje.org)).*
  
- How does the church's mission in the world today intersect with justice, human rights and development? How does biblical witness undergird the integration of mission and justice? Ten scholarships are available to **join with others in El Salvador for an interactive course, "The Theologies of Mission and Development,"** *Oct. 9-16, 2015*. A diocesan Mission Tithe Matching Grant covers all expenses in El Salvador. Leaders from small churches and those with little mission experience are encouraged to apply. *FOR INFORMATION/TO APPLY: Laura Walta, Global Mission (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or [lwalta@diomass.org](mailto:lwalta@diomass.org)).*

**GRANTS & LOANS:**

- United Thank Offering (UTO) grant criteria and application process 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 Web 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 Dec. 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)).*

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## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

**Next Diocesan Council Meeting:** *Thursday, Dec. 4, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at Emmanuel Church (15 Newbury Street) in Boston.*  
*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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## **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; [caretaker](#) at St. John's Church in Arlington; [secretary](#) at Trinity Church in Melrose; [sexton](#) at the Church of Our Saviour in Milton; [organist](#) at All Saints' Church in Belmont; [Sunday maintenance custodian](#) at Christ Church in Cambridge; [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.

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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:**

DOVER, St. Dunstan's Church  
NORTH BILLERICA, St. Anne's Church  
WABAN, Church of the Good Shepherd

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

DEDHAM, St. Paul's Church  
SANDWICH, St. John's Church

### **CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

JAMAICA PLAIN, St. John's Church  
LYNNFIELD, St. Paul's Church  
NANTUCKET, St. Paul's Church  
SOUTH YARMOUTH, St. David's Church  
SWANSEA, Christ Church

### **CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:**

MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church

### **CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

AMESBURY, St. James's Church  
WESTWOOD, St. John's Church

### **CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Paul Bresnahan began at St. John's Church in Sandwich as interim priest on Nov. 22.

## **NEXT fyi:**

*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of each month. The submission deadline for the January issue is earlier than usual because of the holidays. The deadline for the Jan. 7, 2015, issue is **Wednesday, Dec. 17 at noon**. E-mail submissions to [tjs@diomass.org](mailto:tjs@diomass.org).