



IN CHRIST, CALLED TO COLLABORATE

238th Annual Convention
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
Oct. 27-28, 2023

To: Clergy, Delegates, and Lay Leadership of the Diocese
From: Rachel Wildman, Secretary of Convention
Date: September 29, 2023
Re: 2023 Diocesan Convention Logistics

The 238th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts is a two-day convention, taking place on **Friday, October 27 and Saturday, October 28** at the **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Boston North Shore (50 Ferncroft Road) in Danvers**. For the Saturday business session details, please refer to page H-3 of the handbook. The following information is offered to help you plan for Convention. Please read each section carefully and contact us with any questions at convention@diomass.org.

CONVENTION OVERVIEW: Convention 2023 includes both business and non-business programming. Convention's Friday programming is open to all and will explore collaboration as a central component of Christian discipleship, with guest keynote speaker the [Rev. Katie Nakamura Rengers](#), Presiding Bishop's Staff Officer for Church Planting. Convention Saturday begins with Convention Eucharist and the Bishop's Address, followed by our morning and afternoon business sessions.

REGISTRATION: All convention attendees must pre-register. If you have not already done so, please register online [here](#).

CONVENTION MATERIALS: All materials (including the handbook) can be accessed online at <https://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2023>. Printed materials will not be provided onsite, so please plan accordingly.

CHECK-IN: For in-person attendees, please pick up credentials on Saturday, October 28, from 7:30-11:00 a.m. For security purposes, all attendees will need a badge in order to access the convention area. This includes diocesan staff, volunteers, vendors, and visitors.

COVID PRECAUTIONS: For in-person attendees, the following COVID precautions will be in effect. Please plan accordingly.

- Attendees will be asked to attest to the **absence of symptoms** at check-in.
- Attendees will be asked to attest that they are **fully vaccinated and boosted**, except when medically precluded.
- Attendees will be asked to attest that they have obtained a **negative result on an at-home COVID test** within the prior 24 hours of hotel arrival.
- Masking will be voluntary in all business and non-business sessions. A supply of masks will be available.
- Attendees should bring an extra layer of clothing, in the event that supplemental air circulation lowers temperatures in any space.

ELECTRONIC VOTING: Voting for positions to be filled by election will be done electronically using a QR code that will be given to voting members at check-in. Voting stations will be set up outside of the ballroom and volunteers will be on site to assist voting members with the process. Alternatively, those who are comfortable with the electronic voting mobile app may vote utilizing their own device. Voting will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Clergy and lay delegates are welcome to vote any time during this period. Please note voting is limited to in-person attendees.

ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: For those who will not be attending Friday's programming in person, an email with relevant information and links for hybrid participation will be sent in early October. Likewise, for those who will watch the livestream of Saturday's business sessions, an email with relevant information and links will be sent in early October.

PRE-CONVENTION DELEGATE FORUMS: Please plan to attend one of the following pre-convention delegate forums via Zoom:

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 7:00-8:30 p.m.: Central Region ([Zoom Link](#))

Thursday, Oct. 5, 7:00-8:30 p.m.: Northern and Western Region ([Zoom Link](#))

Friday, Oct. 6, 2:00-3:30 p.m.: Any Region ([Zoom Link](#))

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7:00-8:30 p.m.: Southern Region ([Zoom Link](#))

The forums are a time to discuss resolutions, the proposed 2024 budget, and other Convention business. All presentations to be discussed at the pre-convention forums are pre-recorded and voting members are asked to view them ahead of the pre-convention forums. These videos will not be shown at the forums. Rather, in response to your feedback, the forums will be fully devoted to discussion and Q&A.

To view the pre-recorded videos, please visit the diocesan YouTube Pre-Convention Video Playlist [here](#).

CLERGY CERTIFICATION DEADLINE: In accordance with Diocesan Canon 1, Sec. 3, all **clergy desiring to vote at Diocesan Convention must be canonically resident two weeks prior to the start of Convention.** Clergy in the process of becoming canonically resident please contact Laura Simons at lsimons@diomass.org to complete this process by **Friday, Oct. 13.**

CHANGES IN LAY DELEGATES: **Delegate changes** should be reported to the Convention Office via the substitute delegate form found [here](#). Substitute delegate forms will be accepted in the Convention Office until **Friday, Oct. 20.** After that date, please contact the Convention Office (convention@diomass.org) to ensure the change is processed.

QUESTIONS may be directed to the Convention Office:

617-482-4826 x229

E-mail: convention@diomass.org