



IN CHRIST, CALLED TO COLLABORATE

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

Please read this notice thoroughly as it contains important information for this weekend's convention for those attending in person. (A separate notice will be sent to those planning to attend virtually.)

In-Person Attendees: COVID PRECAUTIONS

We are aware that our region has sustained an observable COVID surge in recent weeks. Our recent Clergy Day gathering was followed by numerous reports of positive COVID tests. Meanwhile, Esperanza Academy took the decision to go entirely virtual for a week. These events have reminded us of the need to be responsible and take care of the whole gathered community. In all cases, if you are feeling under the weather, err on the side of caution, exercise the option to attend events virtually, and test frequently for COVID.

For those attending DIOCESAN CONVENTION this month, here as a reminder are the COVID PRECAUTIONS for all who attend in person. Please plan accordingly!

- Attendees will be expected to attest to the absence of symptoms at check-in.
- Attendees will be expected to attest that they are fully vaccinated and boosted, except when medically precluded. The CDC recommends that people aged 12 years and older who got COVID-19 vaccines before September 12, 2023, should get 1 updated Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or Novavax COVID-19 vaccine. We understand that due to the scheduling difficulties, this might not be possible prior to convention, therefore those boosters available through 2022 will suffice.
- Attendees will be expected 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.

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

Convention Materials

All materials, including the 2023 Handbook and the Proposed 2024 budget, can be accessed online at <https://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2023>. Printed materials will not be provided onsite, so please plan accordingly.

Traffic on Friday and Saturday

Remember to check traffic ahead of Friday and Saturday. Expect heavier traffic than normal due to the high volume of tourists heading to Salem on Halloween weekend.

Interpretation for Saturday

Based on registration information collection, we will be providing simultaneous interpretation on Saturday for Spanish. Please let us know at check-in on Saturday if you would like a headset.

All-Gender Bathroom

There will be a designated, clearly marked all-gender bathroom located near the North Shore Ballroom.

Check-in Update

For in-person attendees, please pick up credentials on Saturday, October 28, from 7:30 AM – 11:00 AM.

Separate name tags will be given to in-person attendees on Friday, October 27, from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM or 5:00-6:00 PM for the Friday programming and dinner. *You will still need to pick up credentials on Saturday morning even if you receive a name tag on Friday.*

All attendees will need a badge to access the convention area. This includes diocesan staff, volunteers, vendors and visitors.

Materials to Bring

- Please bring a device to view all materials or print materials ahead of time. If bringing a device, please be sure to charge it ahead of time - outlets are limited. Printed materials will not be provided.
- Should you desire it, please bring a mask to wear during the business sessions. We will have masks available for those who do not have their own.

Amendment Process

Please remember that all amendments to resolutions must be submitted in writing and sent to convention@diomass.org (including on Saturday). This guarantees that the amendment appears exactly as you intend and helps us quickly present the amendment language on the projection screens.

If you intend to present an amendment on Saturday, please let us know as soon as possible.

Electronic Voting for Elected Positions

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 Grand Ballroom and volunteers will be on site to help voting members through 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 AM until 2:00 PM. Clergy and lay delegates are welcome to vote any time during this period. Please note voting is limited to in-person attendees.

Document Library

[Diocesan Convention 2023 October Secretary's Letter.pdf](#)

[Diocesan Convention 2023 Handbook \(English\) Updated 2023 10 02.pdf](#)

[Convención Anual 2023 Manual \(Español\) versión 2023 10 02.pdf](#)

[Diocesan Convention 2023 Proposed 2024 Budget.pdf](#)

[Diocesan Convention 2023 June Secretary's Letter.pdf](#)

[Diocesan Convention 2023 Positions to be Filled by Election.pdf](#)

[2023 Resolution Committee Guidelines.pdf](#)

[Diocesan Convention Delegate Guidelines Updated 2023.pdf](#)

Sent on behalf of the Convention Office of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Rachel Wildman

Secretary of Convention

secretary@diomass.org

The Rev. Margaret E. Lias, Deacon

Administrator for Governance and Grants

convention@diomass.org