



**Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017**

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)  
(617) 482-4826 / (617) 482-5800 / FAX: (617) 451-6446

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### **Clergy and delegates to gather for Nov. 4 Diocesan Convention**

Response to climate change and a commitment to developing new ministry with elders are among the issues coming before delegates and clergy at the upcoming Diocesan Convention.

The convention will also hear recommendations from the team that has been working over the past year to organize the implementation of the new mission strategy that the convention adopted last year. And, it will vote on the \$8.8-million budget proposed for 2018 and elect alternate deputies to next summer's General Convention of the Episcopal Church, among other business.

The 232nd annual Diocesan Convention takes place on *Saturday, Nov. 4* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. A link to the live Webcast will be posted at [www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2017](http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2017), where all convention materials also are posted.

Follow along on social media using **#DioMassCon2017**.  
*FOR INFORMATION:* Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).

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### **New priests to be ordained**

The diocesan community's prayers and presence are requested for these upcoming services of ordination to the priesthood:

- **The Rev. Emily Garcia** on *Saturday, Dec. 9* at 2 p.m. at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill;
- **The Rev. Amanda March** on *Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018*, at 6 p.m. at the Parish of St. Paul (1135 Walnut Street) in Newton Highlands; and
- **The Rev. Duncan Hilton** on *Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018*, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael's Church (16 Bradley Avenue) in Brattleboro, Vt.

*FOR INFORMATION:* Contact the hosting church or the Rev. Canon Edie Dolnikowski, Ordained Vocations (617-482-4826, ext. 514 or [edie@diomass.org](mailto:edie@diomass.org)).

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### **"All seasons are Creation Care Season"**

Read and share a reflection for Creation Care Season from retired bishop suffragan the Rt. Rev. Bud Cederholm, available online [here](#), which includes among suggested resources the upcoming day-long retreat, "Making the Creation Connection," on *Saturday, Nov. 11*, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center in North Andover. Registration can be found online at [www.rollingridge.org](http://www.rollingridge.org).

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[Visit the Events calendar here.](#)

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Led by the Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, the retreat aims to help Christians connect their faith with environmental justice, and to connect Christians with other Christians who care for the planet. Retreat registration questions may be directed to the Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center (978-682-8815 or [thestaff@rollingridge.org](mailto:thestaff@rollingridge.org)).

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**"A Future and A Hope":  
Barbara C. Harris Center  
Sunday is Dec. 3**

This year, as a part of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center's "A Future and A Hope" annual fund campaign, congregations of the diocese are invited to observe Dec. 3 as Barbara C. Harris Center Sunday.

Ways to participate in Barbara C. Harris Center Sunday include taking up a collection to bolster the camp's annual fund (bulletin inserts and donation envelopes are available); including the Barbara C. Harris Center in the Prayers of the People; making an announcement from the pulpit; and inviting a member of the board or staff to be present for a service or forum.

Read an invitation to participate from Bishop Alan M. Gates and find more information [here](#).

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

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**NOTES:**

- The **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** for the current year, from Advent 2017 through Pentecost season 2018, is now available online [here](#). The Anglican Cycle of Prayer is available [here](#).

- **Grace Chapel in Brockton will celebrate its seventh anniversary as a strategic ministry** in the Diocese of Massachusetts with a Prayer and Healing Service on *Friday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m.*, and a Thanksgiving Service on *Sunday, Nov. 19 at 10 a.m.*, at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church (900 Main Street) in Brockton. The theme for the anniversary celebration, "The Helper Will Come," is from John 14:16-18.

"God has always been mindful of the helpless and has promised to help. Grace Chapel is grateful for all the help and the resources we have received from people and organizations inspired by God, in the last seven years, and we are confident that God's help will remain available for us and for all who call on God's holy name," the Rev. Moses Sowale, Grace Chapel's missioner, said in extending an invitation to the diocesan community to join in celebrating the Brockton ministry's anniversary milestone.

Grace Chapel began with a small group of people in 2010 before the closing of St. Paul's Church in Brockton. The ministry obtained space at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, where it has its offices and holds its weekly Sunday services. Along with the Sunday services, Grace Chapel has an active youth program, The Brigade Youth Program, and a women's ministry, The Abigail's Project. Both programs are open to youth and women in the community alongside youth and women of Grace Chapel.

**CHURCHWIDE:**

- Episcopalian are invited to save the dates for the next **Evangelism Matters conference**, to be held *March 15-17, 2018*, for anyone excited to learn about sharing and growing loving, liberating, life-giving relationships with God. Hosted this year by St. Paul's Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, Evangelism Matters is a churchwide event co-sponsored by the Episcopal Church's Evangelism Initiatives Team and Forward Movement.

Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry will address the conference, and a diverse team of evangelism leaders will lead plenary sessions and workshops. Many sessions will be Webcast live and available for download, and individual and satellite group participation is welcomed. Registration and sponsor sign-ups are available online [here](#).

**TRAINING & LEARNING:**

- Join the Metrowest Mission Hub-ProGente Connections on *Saturday, Nov. 18, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.*, at St. Andrew's Church (3 Maple Street) in Framingham for **an introduction to its easy-entry English as a Second Language program, English Plus**. The program offers a means for teaching English effectively while involving the entire parish through carefully facilitated social interactions designed to cross the cultural gaps that can seem so very wide in today's national climate.

**Available to teach English in Metrowest in January?** On *Sunday, Dec. 3, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.* (includes light lunch), the hub starts ESOL teacher training to orient potential teachers to English Plus policy and procedure, and prepare participants to follow up on their own schedule with online teacher training and coaching.

There is no cost to attend these events, but advance registration is requested to assist with planning.

*FOR INFORMATION/TO REGISTER: The Rev. Lori Mills-Curran, Metrowest Mission Hub-ProGente Connections (508-873-1881 or [lmillscurran@diomass.org](mailto:lmillscurran@diomass.org)).*

**Upcoming youth ministry events:**

Questions about these events may be directed to the Rev.

H. Mark Smith (617/482-4826, ext. 215 or [hsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hsmith@diomass.org)).

- Registration is open for the 2017 **Middle School Retreat**, *Friday-Sunday, Nov. 17-19*, taking place at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. The retreat's theme is "An Ocean of Possibilities," and participants will explore how they are formed by their culture and by their faith for action in the world.

Led by the Diocesan Youth Council (DYC), the weekend features small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, lively music and some much needed time away from the rush of everyday routines in order to pay more attention to the Spirit of God in our lives. Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation. Registration closes when capacity is reached, or on Nov. 13. Register online [here](#). A recruiting flyer is available for download, [here](#).

- Building on the success of recent **youth mission trips to Las Fronteras**, the borderlands of Arizona and Sonora, Mexico, the Office of Youth Ministry is now offering the experience to a broader range of young people in 2018. The new program, open to current 9th and 10th graders, will include several mandatory organizational meetings ahead of the trip along with meetings after the trip to connect the new understandings gained with activities ongoing around the diocese. The focus of the program will be helping young people put their faith into action. Details and the online application are now available [here](#). Applications are due Dec. 28. Space is limited.
- Join Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the congregation of St. Luke's-San Lucas Church in Chelsea on *Saturday, Dec. 16, 6:30-9 p.m.*, for **Las Posadas, a traditional Advent event** at which those gathered will trace Mary and Joseph's traveling search for shelter. This is a bilingual and multicultural celebration with processions, music, food and hospitality. As the group celebrates this well-known story from the Christian tradition, it will hold close in heart and mind the serious situation of modern-day refugees seeking shelter. The event is free, but advance registration, available online [here](#), is important to ensure there will be enough food.

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## **GRANTS & LOANS:**

- Applications are being accepted monthly for **Mission Tithe Matching Grants**, with separate applications available for pilgrimages and for second and third year grants for work with the same mission partner as a previous grant. Concept papers and applications from congregations with previously approved concepts are due on the 15th of each month for review at the end of the same month. Staff assistance with congregational discernment and document preparation is available. All application materials are available [here](#).

*FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Mission Projects (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or [lwalta@diomass.org](mailto:lwalta@diomass.org)).*

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## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

At its Oct. 26 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Participated in a mock election using the electronic system that will be used to vote for positions to be filled by election at this year's Diocesan Convention.

Heard an update from the Mission Strategy Implementation Organizing Team co-chairs, the Rev. Nancy Gossling and the Rev. Joe Robinson.

Confirmed the appointment of Ted Ts'o as chair of the Budget Committee.

Reviewed year-to-date financial results for the 2017 diocesan budget.

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Heard a report from the mission hub program director, Jin Min Lee.

Voted to approve a one-year (Sept. 1, 2017-Aug. 31, 2018) operating budget of \$133,723 for the Roxbury-Dorchester Mission Hub, with the condition that \$20,000 designated for community-based social-emotional support through a qualified provider and \$4,500 designated for consulting fees be retained until the Mission Hub Implementation Committee receives an action plan, a memorandum of understanding and a job description for the aforementioned; and with the condition that the Life Together internship program distribution be contingent upon the mission hub being designated as an approved site for an intern placement in the next cycle.

Thanked outgoing members of Diocesan Council whose terms expire at Diocesan Convention 2017.

**Next Diocesan Council Meeting:** Thursday, Dec. 7, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

**FOR INFORMATION:** Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).

## **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: [special events coordinator](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston; [nursery teacher](#) at St. Andrew's Church in Wellesley; two positions, [lay assistant](#) and [parish administrator](#) at Grace Church in Medford; [interim director of music](#) at Grace Church in Newton; [director of children's ministries](#) at St. Andrew's Church in Framingham; [parish administrator](#) at St. Mark's Church in Burlington; [parish administrator](#) at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn; and [music director](#) at St. Elizabeth's Church in Sudbury.

## **CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:**

Communication regarding deployment and parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or [jntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jntagengwa@diomass.org)).

## **CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:**

BOSTON, Trinity Church  
CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church  
TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church  
WRENTHAM, Trinity Church

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

DUXBURY, Church of St. John the Evangelist  
MEDFORD, Grace Church  
VINEYARD HAVEN, Grace Church

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**CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

COHASSET, St. Stephen's Church  
FALMOUTH, St. Barnabas's Church  
WALTHAM, Christ Church

**CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:**

*None at this time.*

**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

FRANKLIN, St. John's Church  
HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church

**OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**

LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church: [Curate/Assistant](#)  
WABAN, Church of the Good Shepherd: [Assistant rector](#)

**CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Grant Barber has retired from St. Luke's Church in Scituate and has been appointed acting chaplain at Boston College starting Oct. 1.

The Rev. Billie Mae Gordon has been appointed bridge priest at St. Luke's Church in Scituate starting Oct. 1.

The Rev. Megan Holding has been appointed acting chaplain at Northeastern University starting Oct. 1.

The Rev. Judith Stuart has taken leave as Episcopal chaplain at Boston College and Northeastern University for an extended sabbatical.

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**NEXT *fyi*:**

*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the Dec. 6 issue is **Wednesday, Nov. 29 at noon**. E-mail submissions to [tjs@diomass.org](mailto:tjs@diomass.org).

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