



Wednesday, March 7, 2018

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

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“From Lamentation to Action”: MA bishops urge March 14 & 24 prayer & action

The bishops of the dioceses of Massachusetts and Western Massachusetts jointly issued on March 1 a call “From Lamentation to Action.” In it they urge a **Day of Lamentation** on *Wednesday, March 14*, in response to a call for unity in prayer on that day from the Bishops United Against Gun Violence coalition. Liturgical resources for use in special or regularly scheduled services are available [here](#). The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston will incorporate a Litany of Lamentations into the 10 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist and the 12 p.m. Santa Misa that day. Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield will hold a Service of Lamentation at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome.

The bishops also encourage participation, locally and nationally, in the *Saturday, March 24* **March For Our Lives**. Episcopal City Mission is in the process of determining whether there is sufficient interest to book a charter bus to the Washington, D.C., event and will decide by March 10. Find more information and register commitment [here](#).

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New dean appointed for Cathedral Church of St. Paul

The Rev. Amy Ebeling McCreath, the rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Watertown and dean of the Alewife Deanery, has been appointed by Bishop Alan M. Gates as the new dean of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. The Cathedral Chapter approved the appointment at its Feb. 27 meeting. McCreath will be the ninth dean of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul and the first woman to serve as cathedral dean in the Diocese of Massachusetts. She begins in her new position on *Sunday, April 22*. Read the full announcement [here](#).

Regional canons search process is now underway

The search process is now formally underway for three regional canons to serve in the Diocese of Massachusetts. The job description for the three regional canons is being distributed churchwide and is available on the diocesan Web site [here](#).

Each of the regional canons will serve a geographic area of the diocese encompassing four deaneries and will have three primary responsibilities: lay leadership support and development in congregations; transition ministry with congregations and clergy; and clergy wellness and clergy family support. The three regional canons will live and work within their respective geographical regions and serve as members of the bishop’s senior leadership team.

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[Visit the Events calendar here.](#)

From Lamentation to Action...Continued from page 1

In solidarity with those taking part in the Washington, D.C., March For Our Lives, more than 100 sister marches are taking shape in locations across the country, including Boston, Northampton, Springfield and Worcester. In Boston on March 24, the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) will offer hospitality and gathering space, beginning at 10 a.m., in partnership with the Diocese of Massachusetts and its B-PEACE antiviolence campaign and Episcopal City Mission.

Those interested in marching with other Episcopalians should plan to meet at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul by 11:30 a.m. Organizers also hope to offer youth-led trainings or other organizing activities, including a B-PEACE postcard-writing campaign to legislators, corporate decision-makers and other stakeholders. Details will be posted [here](#) as they emerge. For more information on activities at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul on March 24, or to offer help with planning, contact the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

Regional canons...Continued from page 1

The deadline for making application for one or more of the regional canon positions is *Tuesday, April 10*. Bishop Alan M. Gates, working with a search advisory team, hopes to announce the new canons in late spring. He envisions that they will begin their work in the diocese by mid to late summer.

Bishop Gates is grateful for the feedback he received at the three listening sessions that preceded the formal opening of the search. About 200 people attended those sessions, held in January at Christ Church in Andover, Christ Church in Plymouth and St. Mary's Church in Newton Lower Falls.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Libby Berman, Canon for Congregations (617-482-4826, ext. 430 or lberman@diomass.org).

Holy Tuesday Renewal of Vows and Blessing of Holy Oils

All are invited to join the bishops for the *Holy Tuesday service, March 27, 11 a.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston, which includes renewal of vows for the clergy and the blessing of holy oils. Lunch with the bishops will follow (\$12 per person). To make lunch reservations, e-mail cathedral@diomass.org or call 617-482-4826, ext. 221.

Cathedral Lenten Preaching Series focuses on "From Fear to Hope"

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul's "From Fear to Hope" Lenten Preaching Series continues on *Thursdays through March 29*, with a simple worship service with sermon at 12 p.m., followed by conversation with the preacher over a brown-bag lunch. All are welcome. Upcoming preachers are:

- *March 8*—Bishop Bud Cederholm;
- *March 15*—Bishop Gayle E. Harris;
- *March 22*—The Rev. Jeff Mello, Dean, Charles River Deanery;
- *March 29*—Bishop Barbara C. Harris.

FOR INFORMATION: Ethel Crawford, Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 221 or elc@diomass.org).

NOTES:

- The Rev. Sarah Robbins-Cole, the rector of St. Michael's Church in Holliston and Protestant chaplain at Wellesley College, has been appointed **dean of the Concord River Deanery**. She succeeds the Rev. Kate Malin, who has left St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church in Lincoln to accept a call to Christ's Church in Rye, N.Y. The bishops are grateful to both for their leadership and willingness to serve.

- Online registration is open, [here](#), until March 23 for the annual diocesan **Clergy Conference**, *Monday-Wednesday, April 23-25* at the Ocean Edge Resort in Brewster. This year's guest presenter will be Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School.

FOR INFORMATION: Diane Pound, Office of the Bishop (617-482-4826, ext. 407 or dpound@diomass.org).

- **Congregational Leadership Reports and Lay Delegate Certification forms** for 2018 are due no later than *Friday, March 30* to lsimons@diomass.org. The forms and instructions are available [here](#). Electronic forms are being used this year to collect all information; paper copies will not be mailed. The information gathered will be published in the 2018 Diocesan Directory.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Bill Parnell (617/482-4826, ext. 205 or bparnell@diomass.org).

- **Spring 2018 Diocesan Confirmation Services:** Any congregation anticipating bringing candidates to any of these services should contact cathedral administrator Ethel Crawford (617-482-4826, ext. 221 or cathedral@diomass.org) no later than three weeks before the service. Those unable to attend their own deanery's service are welcome to come to another location.

All services are on *Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.*, unless otherwise noted.

- *March 31:* Diocesanwide service, Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston (Easter Vigil, 7 p.m.);
- *April 14:* Merrimack Valley Deanery, St. Paul's Church in North Andover;
- *April 28:* Boston Harbor Deanery (location to be announced);
- *April 28:* Cape and Islands Deanery, Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans;
- *May 5:* North Shore Deanery (location to be announced);
- *May 5:* Neponset River Deanery, All Saints' Church, Ashmont in Dorchester;
- *May 19:* Concord River Deanery, Trinity Church in Concord;
- *June 9:* Taunton River Deanery (location to be announced);
- *June 16:* Diocesanwide service, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston; and
- *June 23:* Mystic Valley Deanery, Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester.

FOR INFORMATION: Ethel Crawford, Cathedral Church of St. Paul (617-482-4826, ext. 221 or cathedral@diomass.org).

- The **Annual Meeting of the Diocesan Altar Guild** will be held on *Saturday, April 28* at St. Peter's-on-the-Canal Church (165 Main Street) in Buzzards Bay. Registration opens at 10:30 a.m., with Eucharist at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon, speaker and short business meeting. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Matthew Potts of St. Barnabas's Church in Falmouth. RSVP by April 18 to Diane Grondin, as below. The luncheon fee is \$20. *FOR INFORMATION: Diane Grondin, Diocesan Altar Guild (781-335-2198 or dmgrondin@comcast.net).*

- **It's not too early to get ready for camp:** Registration is now open for summer camp at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Five one-week camp sessions run from *July 1-Aug. 3* for junior campers entering grades 4-9 and senior high campers in grades 10-12. Find program, financial aid and registration information at www.bchcenter.org.

Clergy who are interested in volunteering as camp chaplains for a week are invited to contact camp registrar Abby Holmes (abby@bchcenter.org) for more information.

- The **Life Together program is recruiting applicants:** young adults (ages 21-32) searching for spiritual growth, meaningful work and connection to community. Life Together is a diocesan-supported, Boston-based program of the Episcopal Service Corps focused on cultivating the next generation of prayerful and prophetic leaders, through spiritual practice, social justice, leadership training and community building. To apply, interested young adults can fill out the common Episcopal Service Corps [application](#). To learn more about Life Together visit www.lifetogethercommunity.org, follow on Instagram and Facebook, or e-mail to apply@diomassintern.org.

CHURCHWIDE:

- Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry encourages generous giving by congregations to the annual **Good Friday Offering** as an effective way to express support for the ministries of the dioceses of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Pastoral care, education and health care continue to be primary ministries through which the reconciling spirit of the Christian faith serves all in need. The Good Friday Offering supports the Christian presence in the Holy Land as a vital and effective force for peace and understanding in the region. Find information and offering resources [here](#).

- The Episcopal Church Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance (PB&F) **invites comments on the current draft of the churchwide budget** for the 2019-2021 triennium. Find the draft budget that PB&F received from Executive Council in February [here](#). Feedback can be recorded [here](#) until *Thursday, May 31*. PB&F's next step will be to prepare a final budget for approval at General Convention in July.

Upcoming youth ministry events:

Questions about these events may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617/482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

- The diocesan Office of Youth Ministry has scheduled two Friday-Saturday **Pre-Confirmation Retreats** to help prepare young people for Confirmation: *March 16-17 and April 6-7*. Both retreats will be held at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Confirmands and their mentors will gather to meet other young people and explore their call to Confirmation, its promise and challenge. The retreats are led by the members of the Diocesan Youth Council who will lead small groups and give reflections on their own spiritual journeys. Retreats also provide potential confirmands a chance to meet one of our bishops and to ask them questions. Advance registration is required. Register online [here](#).
- The diocesan Office of Youth Ministry is partnering again with Trinity Church in Boston to offer the **Good Friday Overnight** for youth and youth leaders, set for *March 30-31*. Join young people from across the diocese to experience the practice of compassionate witness through creative expression, contemplation and the exploration of prayer, worship and reflection inspired by the traditions of the Taizé community in France. The highlight for many is the candle-lit worship late at night in the darkened chancel of Trinity's magnificent sanctuary. Register online [here](#).

TRAINING & LEARNING:

- **Congregational Business Practices Workshops:** New vestry member? Treasurer? Want to understand the business aspects of your congregation? The annual series of Business Practices Workshops offered by the diocesan Congregational Consultants is underway and offers an important learning and networking opportunity for vestry members, officers and clergy—anyone involved in the business matters of the congregation
Workshops will be held from *9 a.m. to 1 p.m.* on:
 - [Saturday, March 10](#) at St. Paul's Church (127 Summer Street) in Lynnfield;
 - [Saturday, March 17](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; and
 - [Saturday, March 24](#) at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston.

Use the date links above to register online.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants (617-482-4826, ext. 305 or cmeyer@diomass.org).

- The Metrowest Mission Hub (ProGente Connections) has partnered with the Consulate General of Brazil in Boston and Espaco da Mulher Brasileira em Boston to provide a **free immigration legal clinic** on *Monday, March 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m.* at Bethel Presbyterian Church (83 Pleasant Street) in Marlborough. The event will be in Portuguese. There is no need to pre-register. Find the event on Facebook [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Raquel Riberti-Bill, Metrowest Mission Hub (413-636-9245).

- An **Episcopal Relief & Development disaster preparedness training** will be offered on *Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. The training will focus on the disaster preparedness planning process and will facilitate the development of a ministry that helps congregations anticipate and prepare for local, unexpected disastrous events, as well as how to respond effectively to national disasters. The session will explore how members of congregations can create and become familiar with various models and approaches, what resources and tools are available, and what supports and structures already exist to use when doing this important work. At the conclusion of the session, participants will be prepared to function as the ER&D point person for the congregation. Clergy are welcome and lay participation encouraged. RSVP by e-mail to jay@stpauls-nbpt.org (please indicate any dietary restrictions).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Jay Jordan (978-465-5351 or jay@stpauls-nbpt.org).

- A **Global Mission Summit** is planned for *Saturday, April 21, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. The event will offer workshops on mission formation, discernment, models of mission, relationship building, mutuality and social justice—all from the dual perspective of the theological and the practical. Whether new to mission engagement or experienced, participants will hear from thought-provoking speakers, take part in interactive workshops, have plenty of time for networking and participate in a joyous international celebration of the Eucharist. Online registration is open [here](#). Early registration rates end on *Saturday, March 17*.

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

- **Clergy Safe Church Refresher Training** will be offered on *Tuesday, May 15, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*, at St. Andrew's Church (3 Maple Street) in Framingham. There is no fee for this training, but pre-registration is required. Register online [here](#). All clergy canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts are expected to attend Safe Church Training once every three years.

An **additional Safe Church Training event, open to all**, takes place on [Saturday, May 12](#) at St. John's Church (23 High Street) in Sharon. Click on the date link to register.

This training is designed to increase awareness regarding sexual misconduct and abuse of power, to outline steps toward preventing abuse and to offer ways to intervene when misconduct occurs. The diocese is committed to healthy church environments and needs the shared wisdom and experience of everyone to make them so.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Karen Montagno, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 413 or kmontagno@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN GRANTS & LOANS:

- Applications for **2018 Deanery Grants** (Sending Serving and House of Mercy Grants) are now available [here](#). Award decisions must be submitted from deaneries to the diocesan office by *Monday, Oct. 15*.
FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

- 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 discernment and document preparation is available. Application materials are available [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Mission Projects (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or lwalta@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Feb. 15 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Received a letter of retirement from the secretary of the diocese, Leon Brathwaite, and voted to appoint Sister Kristina Frances, SSM as secretary pro-tem.

Heard a report on the regional canons listening sessions.

Heard a treasurer's report, including end-of-year budget results for 2017 and selection of an auditing firm to conduct the 2017 audit.

Voted to amend and approve a charter for the Mission Strategy Committee and to appoint Louise Gant as the chair of the working team on the Indaba conversation project and Hilary Greene as chair of the working team on the Mission Match asset mapping project.

Heard a report from the Strategic Ministries Committee on the site visit and evaluation process that is underway.

Welcomed Tom Ferguson as ecumenical officer and Tom Phillips as a new member of Council from the Concord River Deanery.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, March 22, 5:30-8:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Bill Parnell, Canon to the Ordinary (617-482-4826, ext. 205 or bparnell@diomass.org).

JOB POSTINGS:

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

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: several positions on the diocesan staff, including [regional canons](#), [missioner for networking and formation](#) and [director of development](#); [investment coordinator](#) for the Trustees of Donations; [office administrator](#) at Episcopal City Mission; [parish administrator](#) at All Saints of the North Shore Church in Danvers; [music minister](#) at St. David's Church in South Yarmouth; [church musician](#) at Church of Our Saviour in Milton; three positions, [dean of academics](#), [lead science teacher](#) and [school nurse](#), at Esperanza Academy in Lawrence; [staff accountant](#) at Trinity Church in Boston; [music director](#) at St. John's Church in Franklin; [director of youth ministry](#) at St. Mark's Church in Southborough; and [Sunday school teacher](#) at the Parish of the Good Shepherd in Waban.

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 jbntagengwa@diomass.org).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church
HARWICH PORT, Christ Church
HAVERHILL, Trinity Church
LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church
LYNN, St. Stephen's Church
NANTUCKET, St. Paul's Church
NATICK, St. Paul's Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

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

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church
MEDFORD, Grace Church
WALTHAM, Christ Church
WRENTHAM, Trinity Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

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

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the April 4 issue is *Wednesday, March 28 at noon*. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.