



Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org

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**Diocesan Convention
registration now open
online**

*Plan to attend a pre-
convention forum in October*

Diocesan Convention registration is now open online; complete information and materials for delegates and clergy will be sent by e-mail on Oct. 3. To register, visit www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2019, where updates and materials will be posted as they become available.

This year's Diocesan Convention takes place on *Saturday, Nov. 2* in Boston at the Back Bay Events Center (180 Berkeley Street), with the service of Holy Eucharist at Emmanuel Church (15 Newbury Street).

For convention participants who wish to stay in Boston overnight, a limited block of rooms is available until Oct. 11 at the Courtyard by Marriott at 275 Tremont Street. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel [here](#), or call 800-321-2211 and mention the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts annual convention room block. After Oct. 11, rooms are available as space allows.

Pre-Diocesan Convention forums in October offer an important opportunity for learning and discussion about the issues and business to come before the convention, including resolutions and the proposed budget. All are welcome; voting members of the convention are especially encouraged to participate. Forums are scheduled to take place *from 7 to 9 p.m. on:*

- *Tuesday, Oct. 8* at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth;
- *Wednesday, Oct. 9* at Trinity Church (124 River Road) in Topsfield;
- *Wednesday, Oct. 16* at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston; and
- *Thursday, Oct. 17* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: Chelsea Smith, Assistant for Governance and Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or csmith@diomass.org).

**Network highlights
resources as Creation
Care Season gets under-
way**

Creation Care Season is observed by many in the Diocese of Massachusetts beginning with the Feast of St. Francis, Oct. 4 through the last Sunday after Pentecost, Nov. 24.

Members of the Creation Care Justice Network of the diocese are available to make visits, speak with congregations and convene conversations about next steps.

In addition:

- All are invited to sign up for "How to Talk about Climate Change So People Will Engage," a workshop on *Saturday, Oct. 19* at All

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[Visit the Events calendar here.](#)

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Saints' Church (121 North Main Street) in Attleboro, hosted by Alex Chatfield of St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church in Lincoln with speaker John Anderson, former education director of the New England Aquarium. The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required by e-mailing adchat@aol.com.

- The Episcopal Church's online carbon tracker at www.sustainislandhome.org is a user-friendly, congregation-focused tool to help households reduce carbon output. The Creation Care Justice Network is rolling this out in the diocese, and all are encouraged to join. Questions about how to get a congregation started with the tracker may be directed to the Rev. Laurie Rofinot (larofinot@gmail.com).
- Contact Dawn Tesorero (rangerdawn@gmail.com) to learn about other resources, such as the Fossil Fuel Free Fund for congregational investments, tree planting for Confirmation and "Creation Tithing."

Falmouth event to take up immigration topics

A diocesan-sponsored educational program—"Immigration Crises: We Are In This Together, Aren't We?"—is being organized for anyone who wants to learn more about immigration topics and ongoing issues, including Temporary Protected Status, as well as opportunities for involvement. It will take place on *Saturday, Oct. 26, 4-6 p.m.*, at St. Barnabas's Church (91 Main Street) in Falmouth. Dinner and childcare will be provided. All are welcome. RSVP to the Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries, at jbntagengwa@diomass.org.

NOTES:

- The **annual enrollment period for clergy and lay employee health coverage** for 2020 is fast approaching. *Oct. 7-25, 2019*, is the time to review current coverage and continue it or select a different plan for 2020. Enrolled clergy and lay employees will receive a mailing from the Episcopal Church Medical Trust with important information on how to evaluate and choose 2020 benefits. Be on the lookout for the green "Annual Enrollment" envelope.
FOR INFORMATION: Nathaniel Fasman, Compensation and Benefits Coordinator (617-482-4826, ext. 413 or nfasman@diomass.org).
 - Retired clergy of the diocese, as well as their spouses and surviving spouses, are invited to gather at one of two **luncheon programs to be hosted this fall by the chaplains to retired clergy**: *Tuesday, Oct. 8* at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston and *Tuesday, Oct. 15* at St. David's Church (205 Old Main Street) in South Yarmouth. Each will take place *from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.* RSVP to the Rev. Skip Windsor: tuckernuck2@comcast.net.
FOR INFORMATION: David Ames, Office of the Bishop Suffragan (617-482-4826, ext. 445 or dames@diomass.org).
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- **Episcopal City Mission** (ECM) invites clergy members, lay delegates and interested lay leaders to participate in its **annual corporation meeting** on *Saturday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at St. Cyprian's Church (1073 Tremont Street) in Roxbury. Each year ECM members gather to conduct business and learn how to partner in the work of God's transforming love in the world. Canonically resident and licensed clergy working in the Diocese of Massachusetts are members of the corporation of ECM.

FOR INFORMATION: Episcopal City Mission (617-879-6304 or info@episcopalcitymission.org); www.episcopalcitymission.org.

- The diocesan **20s and 30s Task Force is launching a new series of house Eucharist gatherings**, intended to nurture Christ-centered relationships among young adults and others across the diocese. The first house Eucharist will be hosted by the Rev. Rita Powell in Belmont on *Thursday, Oct. 24*. The second will be hosted by Max Sklar in Salem on *Thursday, Dec. 12*. These house Eucharists are organized by young adults and are open to people of all ages and backgrounds. Space is limited for each, so advance registration is required. For more information or to register, contact the Rev. Greg Johnston at greg@stanneslincoln.org. More of these gatherings are being planned for 2020; those interested in hosting are invited to e-mail greg@stanneslincoln.org.

- The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston invites everyone to the opening night of the **exhibition "ABRAHAM: Out of One, Many"** on *Sunday, Oct. 27 at 4 p.m.* Three Middle Eastern contemporary visual artists from the faith traditions of Islam, Christianity and Judaism have each created five paintings that interpret Abraham's life and faith journey, serving as a guide toward creating cultures of peace, harmony, justice and healing—all as descendants of a shared heritage.

The cathedral church will host docent-led tours and other events throughout the exhibition, which will be open through Dec. 6. To learn more about this exhibit visit: www.oncaravan.org/abraham. To schedule a group visit, contact Roger Lovejoy at 617-482-4826, ext. 309 or rlovejoy@diomass.org.

- The Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center would like to thank all the churches that hosted staff or board members for a Sunday visit during the center's outreach initiative this past spring.

The **Barbara C. Harris Center welcomes opportunities for staff and board members to visit churches** for a Sunday service or special event, to spread the word about the center and how congregations of the diocese can make use of it, year-round, in countless ways. Anyone interested in having someone from the Barbara C. Harris Center visit their congregation for a Sunday service is invited to contact the executive director, John Koch, at 603-547-3400 or john@bchcenter.org.

CHURCHWIDE:

- **Data from the 2018 Parochial Reports** have been compiled and are now available through a number of reports, in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). The newly posted documents include: fast facts and trends; baptized membership by province and diocese; Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) by province and diocese; statistical totals by province and diocese; domestic plate and pledge income and average pledging by province and diocese; and financial and ASA totals by diocese. The reports can also be found on the General Convention website at www.generalconvention.org/research-and-statistics/#PR-Results.

FOR INFORMATION: Office of General Convention (gcoffice@episcopalchurch.org or pr@dfms.org).

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).

- Online registration is now open for the **2019 Middle School Retreat**, Friday to Sunday, Nov. 15-17, taking place at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.

Led by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend features small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, music by a live band 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. 10. Register online [here](#).

- **Recruiting young people for 2020 Faith in Action Las Fronteras Pilgrimage:** This program for young people in grades 9-12 will begin with an organizational meeting in January, and will include several site visits around the diocese to see faith in action. At each site, participants will explore issues of security and hospitality, stranger and neighbor, privilege and disadvantage, discipleship and servant leadership, all while participating in community service projects and developing a community of faith and support among themselves. The program will culminate in the group's pilgrimage to the U.S.-Mexico borderlands in August 2020. Find application information [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. H. Mark Smith, Youth Missioner (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

TRAINING & LEARNING:

- The **fall Clergy Safe Church Refresher Training** will be offered on Saturday, Oct. 19, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. All clergy canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts are expected to attend Safe Church Training once every three years. There is no fee for this refresher training but pre-registration is required. Find information and register online [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (617-482-4826, ext. 403 or mgardner@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN GRANTS & LOANS:

- The application form and program information for **2020 Clergy Sabbatical Program Grants** are available online [here](#). Applications are due by *Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2019*, for sabbaticals in 2020; award decisions will be announced by Nov. 15. Please submit applications to David Ames, Executive Assistant to the Bishop Suffragan, by e-mail at dames@diomass.org or by mail to him at the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Michael Hodges, Sabbatical Grant Committee (978-475-0529 or mhodges@christchurchandover.org).

- Applications for **2019 Deanery Grants** (Sending Serving and House of Mercy Grants) are available [here](#). Congregations should contact their deanery co-conveners for information on deadlines and how to submit applications. Award decisions must be submitted from deaneries to the diocesan office by *Tuesday, Oct. 15*.

FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administrator (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

- Applications for the second round of **2019 Sustainable Development Grants** are now available [here](#). They are due on *Monday, Oct. 21*.

FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administrator (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

- Applications for the second round of **2019 Mission Tithe Relationship Grants** are now available [here](#). They are due on *Monday, Nov. 25*.

FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administrator (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

- Applications for **2020 Episcopal Church United Thank Offering Annual Grants** are now available at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto-grants. They are due to the diocesan UTO coordinator, Betty Murray, by *Friday, Dec. 20*.

FOR INFORMATION: Betty Murray, Diocesan UTO Coordinator (617-332-5939 or eg.murray102@gmail.com).

- Applications for **2020 Episcopal Church United Thank Offering Young Adult and Seminarian Grants** are now available at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto-young-adult-and-seminarian-grants. They are due to the diocesan grants administrator, Lauren Zook, by *Friday, Jan. 24, 2020*.

FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administrator (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

For more information visit the [Diocesan Council webpage](#).

At its Sept. 7 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Voted to approve a clergy housing allowance for the remainder of 2019 and future years unless otherwise provided.

Voted to approve the financial terms of the lease between the Diocese of Massachusetts and CRECHE, whereby CRECHE will not be responsible for any rent payment for the use of 7 St. Luke's Road, Boston for a term from Oct. 1, 2019, to and through Sept. 30, 2029 (a five-year base period, and a five-year option to renew). All utilities, maintenance and other operating expenses will be paid by CRECHE.

Heard Mission Initiatives site visit reports about St. Peter's Church in Salem and The Bridge, Dartmouth.

Heard an update about proposed changes to Safe Church requirements.

Heard an update from the Mission Strategy Committee about new programming plans.

Voted to approve nominations of the Rev. Canon William C. Parnell and Nelia Newell to the Financial Advisory Committee.

Voted to approve the 2019 assessment adjustment of \$5,000 for St. John's Church in Sandwich.

Voted to endorse the proposed 2020 budget narrative and summary, as amended to include a line item for young adult initiatives, and to recommend favorable action by Diocesan Convention on the proposed budget resolution to come before it in November.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, Oct. 24, 5:30-8:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: Chelsea Smith, Assistant for Governance and Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or csmith@diomass.org).

JOB POSTINGS:

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

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan website: two positions, [lead social studies teacher](#) and [long-term substitute math teacher](#), at Esperanza Academy in Lawrence; [church school coordinator](#) at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Acton; [music director](#) at St. Gabriel's Church in Marion; three positions, [director of philanthropy, learning and evaluation](#), [communications and events specialist](#) and [community organizer](#), at Episcopal City Mission; two positions, [assistant director of Christian education](#) and [classroom assistant](#), at St. Mary's Church in Newton Lower Falls; [music director-church organist](#) at Christ Church in Waltham; [front desk assistant](#) at Trinity Church in Boston; [parent organizer](#) at St. Stephen's Church in Boston; two positions, [nursery care attendant](#) and [Godly Play teacher](#), at St. John's Church in Charlestown; [Sunday nursery care provider](#) at Trinity Church in Concord; [executive administrator](#) at Christ Church in Cambridge;

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[nursery care provider](#) at St. John's Church in Arlington; [nursery worker](#) at St. Paul's Church in Brookline; [organist-music director](#) at Emmanuel Church in West Roxbury; [director of faith formation](#) at the Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester; [director of family ministries](#) at St. Michael's Church in Milton; [director of family ministries](#) at St. Barnabas's Church in Falmouth; [music director-organist](#) at St. Paul's Church in Hopkinton; [Godly Play coordinator](#) for Trinity Church in Canton and Trinity Church in Stoughton; [choir director](#) at St. James's Church in Groveland; and [church school teacher](#) at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban.

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

Northern and Western Region
Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.org

Inquiries may be directed to the regional canons by e-mail to regionalcanons@diomass.org or individually as listed below. Please also visit the [Transition Ministry webpage](#).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:
NORTH BILLERICA, St. Anne's Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:
WINCHESTER, Parish of the Epiphany

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:
ACTON, Church of the Good Shepherd
MELROSE, Trinity Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:
None at this time.

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:
LYNN, St. Stephen's Church
NATICK, St. Paul's Church
SUDBURY, St. Elizabeth's Church

Central Region
Regional Canon Carol Gallagher
cgallagher@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:
CAMBRIDGE, Christ Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:
CHARLESTOWN, St. John's Church
SHARON, St. John's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:
BURLINGTON, St. Mark's Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:
MEDWAY, Christ Church
NEWBURYPORT, St. Paul's Church
WATERTOWN, Church of the Good Shepherd

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:
BOSTON, Church of the Advent

OTHER CLERGY POSITIONS:
MILTON, St. Michael's Church: [Director of family ministries](#)

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*Continued from page 7***Southern Region**

Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell

koconnell@diomass.org**CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:**

BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church
 FALL RIVER, Church of the Holy Spirit
 MARION, St. Gabriel's Church
 NEW BEDFORD, St. Martin's Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:*None at this time.***CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church
 NEW BEDFORD, St. Andrew's Church
 QUINCY, Parish of St. Chrysostom
 SOMERSET, Church of Our Saviour
 WHITMAN, All Saints' Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

HARWICH PORT, Christ Church
 TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:*None at this time.***CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Sarah Conner began as interim priest at the Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester on Oct. 1.

The Rev. Lauren McLeavey completed her time as rector of St. Anne's Church in North Billerica on Sept. 22 and has been called as rector of St. Stephen's Church in Port Washington, N.Y.

The Rev. Geoffrey Piper retired as rector of St. Gabriel's Church in Marion on Sept. 30.

The Rev. Dr. Cara Rockhill began as assistant rector of St. Andrew's Church in Marblehead on Sept. 1. She comes from the Diocese of Rhode Island where she served on the bishop's staff.

NEXT *fyi*:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the Nov. 6 issue is **Wednesday, Oct. 30 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.