



**Wednesday, June 2, 2021**

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)  
617-482-5800 / 617-482-4826

[Sign up for E-news](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Job Postings](#)

---

### **Planning for Nov. 12-13 Diocesan Convention gets underway**

Visit [www.diomass.org/  
diocesan-convention-2021](http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2021) for  
updates.

The annual Diocesan Convention will take place *Friday-Saturday, Nov. 12-13*. If COVID-19 metrics allow for an in-person gathering, the convention will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Danvers.

Highlights will include Friday afternoon and evening programs open to all, with Saturday business sessions developed primarily for voting members. **Watch for a June 22 e-mail announcing guest speakers and more details.** Everyone is invited to mark their calendars and spread the word.

Congregations that have not yet submitted their **2021 Lay Delegate Certification Form** are urged to do so at their earliest convenience. Submitting the leadership reporting forms ensures that contact information gets updated for those who need to receive diocesan communications. The forms are available [here](#).

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

---

### **Transitional deacons to be ordained June 5**

The diocesan community's prayers are invited for the new transitional deacons to be ordained on *Saturday, June 5 at 10:30 a.m.* at Emmanuel Church in Boston. Bishop Gayle E. Harris will officiate. In-person attendance is by invitation; a livestream will be available via [www.stpaulboston.org](http://www.stpaulboston.org).

The ordinands are: Marcia Chanta Bhan (sponsored by Christ Church in Cambridge), Benjamin David Crosby (St. Paul's Church in Malden), Hailey Robison Jacobsen (Trinity Church in Boston), Brett Randall Johnson (Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester), Lauren Banks Killelea (Grace Church in Newton), Rowan Julian Larson (The Crossing, Boston) and Kevin Gordon Neil (St. Stephen's Memorial Church in Lynn).

*FOR INFORMATION: Kevin Vetiac, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston ([kvetiac@diomass.org](mailto:kvetiac@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 221).*

---

### **Diocese celebrates role of deacons on "Diaconate Sunday" June 13**

On *Sunday, June 13*, the Diocese of Massachusetts will celebrate "Diaconate Sunday." Congregations have been invited to request a deacon to preach on June 13, when the church calendar celebrates St. Efreem the Syrian, a deacon venerated in both Eastern and Western traditions. A video will also be available for viewing on Diaconate Sunday, and beyond, via [www.youtube.com/ediomass](http://www.youtube.com/ediomass).

Congregations still wishing to request a deacon for June 13 may contact David Ames, Executive Assistant to Bishop Gayle E. Harris ([dames@diomass.org](mailto:dames@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 445), to inquire about availability.

---

---

**Join online for Juneteenth celebration with Bishop Harris**

All are invited to gather online with Bishop Gayle E. Harris for a **virtual Juneteenth celebration** on *Saturday, June 19 at 4:30 p.m.*, commemorating the ending of slavery in the U.S. and also marking the Feast of Bernard Mizeki, catechist and martyr in Mashonaland in 1896. Register online [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: *The Rev. Canon Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries ([jbntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 400).*

---

**Confirmation services to be offered in August, September & October**

Registration is now open for a series of Saturday **Confirmation services at locations around the diocese in August, September and October:**

- *Aug. 14 at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.* at Trinity Church in Topsfield (*note location change from May FYI announcement*);
- *Aug. 21 at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.* at St. Barnabas's Church in Falmouth (*note location change from May FYI announcement*);
- *Sept. 18 at 10:30 a.m.* at Christ Church in Swansea;
- *Sept. 25 at 10:30 a.m.* at the Church of Our Redeemer in Lexington; and
- *Oct. 23 at 10:30 a.m.* at St. Andrew's Church in Framingham.

August services will prioritize those who are leaving the area in the fall for school or military service.

FOR INFORMATION/TO REGISTER: *Kevin Vetiac, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston ([kvetiack@diomass.org](mailto:kvetiack@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 221).*

---

**NOTES:**

- Clergy, wardens and treasurers are invited to join the **Finance Forum for Congregational Leaders** that has been meeting monthly online as an opportunity to share information on current finance-related topics. The Finance Forum for Congregational Leaders next gathers on *Tuesday, June 22, 5:30-6:30 p.m.* Register for the meeting link [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: *Cynthia Hallenbeck, Interim CFO ([challenbeck@diomass.org](mailto:challenbeck@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 554).*

- **Congregational Consultants host session on managing investments and endowments:** As part of an ongoing series of Zoom calls on the practical aspects of congregational leadership, the Congregational Consultants are sponsoring a one-hour session on managing investments and endowments. The session will cover tracking, accounting and investing long-term funds, including some of the basics of asset allocation and different investment vehicles. It will be given *Saturday, June 5 at 9 a.m.* ([register here](#)), conducted by Chris Meyer, longtime coordinator of the Congregational Consultants, and Charlie Jordan, Trustees of Donations Investment Coordinator and Clerk.

FOR INFORMATION: *Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants coordinator ([chris@centrestent.com](mailto:chris@centrestent.com)).*

---

- **“Alive in the Spirit” Morning Retreat:** This online retreat on *Saturday, June 12, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.*, is being offered for the people of both Episcopal dioceses in Massachusetts, and will explore ways of prayer that make us available to the healing and enlivening power of the Spirit. The time together will be led by the Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, and will include presentations and guided meditation, with options for solitary reflection and small group conversation. Find online registration [here](#).

- As congregations start to regather, the diocesan Lifespan Ministry with Older Adults invites participation in an interactive Zoom-based **conversation on becoming an age-friendly and dementia-friendly congregation**, on *Saturday, June 12, 9:30-10:30 a.m.*, with additional time after for discussion.

All are welcome—including clergy, lay leaders and church regathering team members. Discussion will be facilitated by deacons serving as missionaries for the Lifespan Ministry, the Rev. Phil Flaherty and the Rev. Marilee Comerford. Register online [here](#).  
FOR INFORMATION: *The Rev. Phil Flaherty, Lifespan Ministry with Older Adults* ([philflaherty@outlook.com](mailto:philflaherty@outlook.com)).

- **Clergy Professional Development Days** continue online via Zoom for all diocesan clergy, in two parts.

Part I focuses on the topic “Antagonistic People: Dealing with Bullies in the Church,” with upcoming sessions scheduled on:

- *Tuesday, June 15, 12:30-3 p.m.*
- *Friday, Sept. 10, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.*

Part II comprises the Safe Church review for Diocese of Massachusetts clergy due for a refresher, with upcoming sessions on:

- *Wednesday, June 23, 12:30-3 p.m.*
- *Friday, Sept. 17, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.*

Clinical psychologist Trudy Good, founder of [Good Havens](#), will give a presentation and facilitate discussion about boundaries. Find more details and registration links [here](#).

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

- **Sermon videos available to congregations:** Bishop Gayle E. Harris and designated diocesan staff members will be self-recording video sermons for use by congregations in their online worship offerings, beginning *Sunday, July 4 through Sunday, Sept. 5*. These are intended as a gift of support to clergy and congregations. Sermons will be available mid-week prior to each assigned Sunday, for download via [this link](#), where the roster is also posted, or for viewing at [www.youtube.com/ediomass](http://www.youtube.com/ediomass).  
FOR INFORMATION: *Bridget Wood, Communications Assistant* ([bwood@diomass.org](mailto:bwood@diomass.org) or 617-482-4826, ext. 558).

- **Music for the Ministry of the Steps:** Come sing on the steps of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston, as part of its Ministry of the Steps this summer: *Thursday, July 8* and *Thursday, Aug. 12, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.* Those who come will sing for one another and the busy crowds on Boston Common. Bring prepared music if your choir comes, or sing familiar hymns with new friends from around the diocese. The group will pray together and have lunch provided by the cathedral. Sign up by July 1 (for July 8) and Aug. 5 (for Aug. 12) by contacting the cathedral's music director, Louise Munding ([lmunding@diomass.org](mailto:lmunding@diomass.org)).
  - **Diocesan Sung Compline:** *Each Friday at 8 p.m.* the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston hosts Sung Compline via Zoom. The service features a brief reflection and music from churches being prayed for in the [Diocesan Cycle of Prayer](#). The service also includes remembrance by name of those who have died from COVID-19. To feature music from your church in an upcoming service, contact the cathedral's music director, Louise Munding, at [lmunding@diomass.org](mailto:lmunding@diomass.org). To volunteer to offer a 2-3 minute reflection, contact Dean Amy McCreath at [amccreath@diomass.org](mailto:amccreath@diomass.org). Names of those who have died of COVID-19 can be sent to [cathedral@diomass.org](mailto:cathedral@diomass.org).
  - **Diocesan Musicians Learning Community:** Each week on Wednesday at 11 a.m. music directors from congregations around the diocese meet to check in with each other and discuss matters both musical and technical as remote worship continues. Those who would like to be added to the distribution list are invited to contact Louise Munding at [lmunding@diomass.org](mailto:lmunding@diomass.org).
  - **Online gatherings for children's formation colleagues** are taking place a few Thursdays a month. Direct questions and suggestions for the children's formation sessions to Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation, at [mgardner@diomass.org](mailto:mgardner@diomass.org).
  - **Life Together accepting applications for 2021-2022 fellows:** This 10-month fellowship program matches young adults ages 21-32 with mission-based nonprofit organizations, schools and churches in the Greater Boston area. Fellows live in intentional communities, receive training in shared leadership and community organizing, participate in facilitated racial justice conversations and take part in diverse spiritual practices.  
Interested applicants can apply to Life Together or one of its sibling Episcopal Service Corps programs across the country [here](#). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until the August cohort has been selected. Learn more about Life Together [here](#).
-

---

**CHURCHWIDE:**

- All are welcome to join **Episcopal Migration Ministries for a virtual prayer vigil in honor of World Refugee Day**, to be broadcast on Episcopal Migration Ministries' [Facebook page](#) on *Sunday, June 20, 7-8 p.m. ET*. The vigil will offer a time of prayer, reflection and celebration in honor of refugees around the globe. A downloadable order of service will be available [here](#). The vigil will be available on demand following the event.

- The Episcopal Church's Office of Latino/Hispanic Ministries, Episcopal Migration Ministries and Forward Movement will host an **online conversation about *No Longer Strangers: Exploring Immigration Issues***—a 20-page bilingual booklet (English and Spanish) that encourages discussion of migration and immigration through the lens of Scripture and shared Christian values. Developed by Forward Movement in consultation with staff from Episcopal Migration Ministries and the Office of Government Relations, *No Longer Strangers* presents opposing viewpoints and invites people to talk about the issues with civility and respect. It includes biblical references on hospitality, examples of migrations as they appear in Scripture and thought-provoking questions that can be used for both group discussion and personal study.

The meeting will be conducted in English on *June 15, 7-8 p.m.* ([register here](#)) and in Spanish on *June 22, 7-8 p.m.* ([register here](#)).

---

**Youth and Young Adult Ministries:**

Questions may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith at [hmsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hmsmith@diomass.org) or 617/482-4826, ext. 215

- **Applications are now available, [here](#), for the upcoming Diocesan Youth Council.** Diocesan Youth Council (DYC) is open to young people in grades 9-12 looking to build community with other young people, engage in the work of justice and service, ask big questions about their faith and take on positions of leadership and responsibility. Please help recruit young people who might be ready to step up—or be raised up—to active ministry on the diocesan level. Read about the experience of DYC from participants and mentors in this [recent E-News article](#). Questions may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith at [hmsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hmsmith@diomass.org).

- **Online youth worker gatherings:** The ongoing online gatherings for youth workers in the diocese are held on the **first Thursday of every month at 3 p.m.** The next meeting will be *Thursday, June 3*, when the focus will be regathering blessings and challenges, summer plans and what sort of support youth workers might need as they contemplate a new program year (whatever it will look like). For information, contact the Rev. H. Mark Smith at [hmsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hmsmith@diomass.org).

On the *third Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.*, the Episcopal Church's Youth Ministry Network holds a meeting for anyone engaged with any level of youth ministry in the church. The online room is open for 90 minutes with program time or featured guests in the first 45 minutes of the meeting and informational networking time to follow. Register for those meetings [here](#).

---



**GRANTS & LOANS:**

- **Mission Strategy “Wicked Good Idea” Microgrants:** The Mission Strategy Committee of Diocesan Council is receiving applications for “Wicked Good Idea” microgrants to help congregations, networks or diocesan organizations try out a great idea that’s meant to further our shared [mission strategy](#).

In 2021, a total of \$15,000 is set aside for individual grants from \$500 to \$2,000. There is no application deadline; applications are received and grants awarded on a rolling basis until the funds are gone. Find more information and the application form [here](#).

**DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

At its May 20 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard a report from the Mission Strategy Committee about progress on the mission strategy refresh.

Voted to approve the creation of a diocesan Nominating Committee for proactive identification and recruitment of leaders for various diocesan leadership bodies.

Voted that the formula for 2022 assessments revert to the income-based formula presented to Diocesan Council on March 18, 2021, with an aggregate assessment request of \$5,148,299 (a nearly flat year-over-year request), with tiers ranging from 0.5% to 14.5%, and that any assessment abatement or adjustment due to a review of Line A income on a parish’s 2019 Parochial Report or due to other unforeseen circumstances be offset by the availability of alternative resources.

Voted to approve an allocation of \$150,000 from the anticipated sale of 40 Prescott Street in Brookline for phase one property development at 5-7 St. Luke’s Road, Allston.

**Next Diocesan Council Meeting:** *Thursday, June 17, 6 p.m., via Zoom.*

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

**CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:**

[www.diomass.org/clergy transition](http://www.diomass.org/clergy_transition)

**Central Region**

Regional Canon Carol Gallagher  
[cgallagher@diomass.org](mailto:cgallagher@diomass.org)

**CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Bret Hayes completed his service at St. John’s Church in Gloucester on May 30 and begins his new ministry at the Church of the Advent in Tallahassee, Fla., on July 19.

**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

CAMBRIDGE, St. Bartholomew’s Church  
ROXBURY, St. Cyprian’s Church

**RECTOR SEARCHES****CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

*None at this time.*

*Continued on page 7*

Continued from page 6

**CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:***None at this time.***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)**None at this time.***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

CAMBRIDGE, Christ Church

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*MEDWAY, Christ Church *part-time***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.**None at this time.*

**Northern and Western Region**  
 Regional Canon Martha Hubbard  
[mhubbard@diomass.org](mailto:mhubbard@diomass.org)

**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**

GLOUCESTER, St. John's Church

WAKEFIELD, Emmanuel Church

**RECTOR SEARCHES****CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

CHELMSFORD, All Saints' Church

**CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

TOPSFIELD, Trinity Church

**CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)**None at this time.***CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:***None at this time.***PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*HOPKINTON, St. Paul's Church *quarter-time*METHUEN, St. Andrew's Church *quarter-time***INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*GLOUCESTER, St. John's Church *three-quarters-time***OTHER CLERGY POSITIONS:**LINCOLN, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church: [Curate/Assistant](#)

**Southern Region**  
 Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell  
[koconnell@diomass.org](mailto:koconnell@diomass.org)

**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:**ORLEANS, Church of the Holy Spirit *full-time***RECTOR SEARCHES****CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:***None at this time.***CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:***None at this time.*

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

**CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)*

[BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church](#) *half-time*

[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) *half-time*

[SOUTH WEYMOUTH, Church of the Holy Nativity](#) *half-time*

**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

SOMERSET, Church of Our Saviour

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*

*None at this time.*

**INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*

MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church *quarter-time*

---

***NEXT fyi:***

*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the July 7 issue is **Wednesday, June 30 at noon**. E-mail submissions to [tjs@diomass.org](mailto:tjs@diomass.org).

---